**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 7:30 pm in Cannich Village Hall**

**Present:** Nigel Ellis (Chair), Ian Campbell, Brad Collins, Kay Graham, Alan Hood, Paul Stirling and Annette Sutherland.

**Apologies:** The Beauly Police Office had advised that no officer would be available to attend.

**In Attendance:** Carol Masheter (Soirbheas)for part only and four members of the public.

1. Nigel Ellis took the Chair, noted that there was a quorum, welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open. No conflicts of interest were declared.
2. Minutes: The minutes of the SCC meeting held on February 21 2018 were proposed for adoption, unanimously approved and signed by Mr Ellis.
3. Police Report: There was no police representative attending the meeting. The last Beat Report received had been in February with no significant incidents noted.
4. Soirbheas Update: Carol Masheter advised that the Tattie Day held on March 3rd had been a success. New Tier 1 grant applications would be invited early in the next financial year and the closing date for the current round of Tier 2 applications was April 2nd. The closing date for enrolling in the apprenticeship programme was May 2nd. It was possible that a Tier 3 fund could be available later in 2018. The COBURN project in Drumnadrochit was in the phase of gathering data from the community and pertinent information would be shared in due course.
5. SACC Projects and Activities Update:

*Community Action Plan:* Mr Hood advised that there were no significant new actions to report.

*Cannich Hall:* Two people had volunteered to join the Hall Committee (John Dyce and Alan Speed). They would bring the number of committee members to five which was a welcomed strengthening of the group.

*Land Use (formerly Rewilding)*: The Land Use Group had finalised a prospectus summarising the group’s aims and actions and this would be distributed across the community in the near future.

*Former Nurses House Cannich:* The Nurses House Group was going out to tender for project management, survey and architectural services to take the project forward. The tenders would be used to support funding applications to cover those services and the aim was to have a draft business plan ready by May 16th.

1. Matters Arising from the SCC meeting on January 10 2018:

*Wall at Fasnakyle Burial Ground:* THC representatives had made a site inspection with the Secretary. It was agreed that the harling required replacement, some capping stones needed securing and cracks should be monitored to see if the wall was stable or if there was ongoing movement. The wall was not considered by the THC representatives to be unsafe. A member of the public who was at the burial ground raised concern about the trees lining the west end of the burial ground in terms of root incursion into the burial ground and potential damage if one were to come down. The Secretary had undertaken to bring this concern to the attention of the landowner (Mr Kwint) and he asked Mrs Marjory McCarthy (who was attending the meeting) if she could do this on behalf of the Community Council.

*Pre-existing liabilities:* In context of the land lease between SSE and SCC that had been signed in 2012, the Ward Manager had advised that liabilities entered into by previous Community Councillors rested with the current SCC office bearers. The Chair noted that if the current office bearers were unhappy with this situation they could stand down.

*Pavement damage at the SSE warehouse in Cannich:* It was agreed that the Secretary should notify the Roads Department at THC about the damaged pavement and also ask what was happening regarding the damaged lamp-post near the Caravan Park entrance, the generally poor state of the roads and the proposed work on the bridges in Cannich.

Other matters arising had been satisfactorily dealt with and closed.

1. On-going SCC Activity Updates:*Proposed First Responders Programme:* Mr Ellis advised that there was nothing new to report and it was agreed that the Secretary would contact Caroline Wilson at the Drumnadrochit First Responders to see if the two Cannich volunteers could become affiliated to the Drum’ programme.

*Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) and the Strathglass Shinty Club Defibrillator:* Mr Ellis reported that the insulated cabinet for the Shinty Club defibrillator was waiting collection in Inverness. It was understood that Mrs Jess Butler was following this up on behalf of the Shinty Club. The application to the ‘Your Cash, Your Choice’ fund to cover new pads and batteries for the units in Cannich, Struy and Tomich plus the transformer and connection for the Cannich unit had been successful. The defibrillator at the Cannich shop had now been properly hard-wired and appeared to be in good working order.

1. Treasurer’s Report and Financial Matters:

Mr Hood reported that the grant of £1,280 from THC for the defibrillator maintenance and the donation of £2,000 from Gumshoe Productions Ltd had both been received. The Secretary’s annual expenses of £120 had been paid and a payment of £350 was pending for the electrical work done on the Cannich defibrillator. The current bank balance was £4,715.94 but £3,740.34 of this was being held for specific projects and the available balance was £975.60.

1. *Community Benefit Monies from Gumshoe Productions Ltd:* It was noted that the donation from Gumshoe had been specifically for the benefit of the Cannich community in recognition of the extra traffic through the village associated with their filming in Glen Affric. A number of proposals were put forward and discussed before it was generally agreed to donate the money to four or five organisations and events which supported, involved or benefitted a broad cross section of the people in Cannich. After further debate and discussion the final recipients were agreed as Cannich Hall (SACC) £500, Cannich Sports and Recreation Ground Committee £500, 2018 Bonfire Party £500, 2018 Seniors’ Xmas Lunch £250 and 2018 Childrens’ Xmas Party £250.
2. Correspondence: The Secretary reviewed the correspondence since the previous meeting and noted that there was a continuing high level of Scottish Government driven surveys and consultations. The conditions associated with the ‘Your Cash, Your Choice’ award should be noted by the Community Councillors. No clarification or explanation had been received from the Soirbheas Board in respect of its allegation that item 5 in the minutes of SCC’s meeting December 6 2017 was factually and materially incorrect.
3. Planning Update: Mr Hood advised that there had been no new planning applications in the SCC area. The proposals for a new house on the Beauly road and a new house above Mullardoch road were still under consideration by the Planners.
4. Any Other Business: A member of the public had asked Brad Collins why the fibre optic lines had by-passed Kerrow. It was explained that the fibre optic cable was run to the exchange in Cannich and the junction box in Tomich. Local residential and business connections from there were still copper and Kerrow was the same as everywhere else in that regard. It was noted that a car sales business appeared to be underway on the Beauly road. After a brief discussion it was agreed that there was no action to be taken by SCC but the situation would be monitored. Mr Roddy MacLennan who was attending the meeting advised that Strathglass Development Fund was ready to consider grant applications and that full details would be found on the new SACC website once it was up and running. With his Cannich Sports and Recreation Ground Committee (CS&R) hat on Mr MacLennan advised that CS&R had public liability insurance for its own activities and buildings but that individuals or organisations holding events on the Cannich playing field should have their own insurance in place. The Chair asked about the relationship between CS&R and Strathglass Shinty Club and Mr MacLennan advised that the two organisations were completely separate. CS&R had a 99 year lease on the land (from SSE) and owned the buildings on site and the Shinty Club paid CS&R for using the facilities.

The meeting noted the sad passing of Mrs Cicely Ross whose extensive participation in the community and community events had included a lengthy period as Secretary for the Community Council.

There being no other business Mr Ellis advised that the next SCC meeting would be on Wednesday May 9th 2018 at 7:30 pm and declared the meeting closed at 8:55 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chair