**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5th Dec 2018 at 7:30 pm in Cannich Village Hall**

**Present:** Nigel Ellis (Chair), Paul Stirling, Alan Hood, Annette Sutherland and Humphrey Clarke.

**Apologies:** Kay Graham.

**In Attendance:** Carol Masheter and Jim McAuley by invitation, and twomembers of the public.

1. Mr Ellis took the Chair, noted that there was a quorum, welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open.
2. **Minutes:** The minutes of the SCC meeting held on 24 Oct 2018 were proposed for adoption, unanimously approved and signed by Mr Ellis.
3. **Matters arising from meeting on 24 Oct 18:**
   1. Defibrillators. Batteries and pads have been ordered and are expected imminently. Nigel Ellis to investigate training for interested individuals, everyone to consider inviting younger users to attend the training. Lucky2BHere have a trainer and a standard session lasts 2 hr. Alan Hood to suggest suitable times when the hall could be free.
   2. Fasnakyle cemetery wall and Cannich bridge painting: No further progress
   3. Glen Strathfarrar DMG have been notified that a public meeting is our preferred means of community engagement.
   4. Abandoned car: It has been removed
4. **Police Report:** Although PC Elliot was unable to attend the meeting, a Community Engagement Report had been received. In the Strathglass area, there was one incident of failing to report a Road Traffic accident, investigation is ongoing.
5. **Soirbheas Report,** (by Carol Masheter):
   1. Befriending scheme. The scheme will commence in Spring 2019. It is aimed at matching isolated or lonely people of any age group with a volunteer visitor. The scheme is a joint venture in partnership with the Hospice, the Care Centre, Beauly Care and Glen Urquhart Care. The pilot scheme will run for 2 years and recruiting of volunteers will begin shortly.
   2. Transport survey. A COBEN funded transport survey is planned to optimize the use of transport in the area. It is intended to improve matching of transport to needs and consider alternatives such as leasing, electric vehicles, car sharing and other options
   3. Soirbheas is reviewing its legacy and aspirations. It is considering how it can best help the community and whether for example it should help groups with bidding for grants.
   4. Grant deadlines are posted on the Soibheas website.
6. **SMG Report: Affric Kintail Way re-route proposal,** (by Jim McAuley):
   1. The new route was tabled showing the only option now available. Some land owners had been accommodating, one had not, requiring an additional stretch of track to be added. The route is approximately 50% new build.
   2. An application has been made for Tier 2 funds to cover planning, an initial response from THC is anticipated imminently.
   3. The route does pass close to Iron Age circles and so there may be a requirement for archaeological surveys at unknown cost.
   4. There may be funding available from the National and Cultural Heritage Fund which is looking for projects of over £230k to fund or part fund.
   5. If funds are available it is anticipated work should begin in 2020 and be complete in one season.
   6. Humphrey Clarke suggested that the 39 Engineer Regiment at Kinloss might be approached to undertake some of it free of charge as training or Military Aid to the Civil Community.

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1. **SACC activities report:**
   1. Local Action Plan. Community Group and Business Questionnaires have been returned and first meeting of steering group to be arranged for New Year.
   2. Cannich Village Hall. Hall requires volunteers to help manage. Applications received for cleaner position and appointment to be made in next weeks
   3. Affric Land Use. Nothing to report. Group to be invited to next meeting to give update on Trees for Life group
   4. Former Nurses House Cannich. Housing Needs Survey Community Questionnaires finalised and will be sent out in the New Year

8**. Ongoing SCC activities report:**

a. Public access defibrillators: See comments under “Matters Arising”.

b. Christmas lunch 12-12-18: 50 attending plus the volunteer helpers, catering for 60 in total. Ross’ Minibuses are doing a free-of-charge pick-up run.

9. **Treasurer’s report**: As previously reported after ring fenced and items awaiting clearance the balance available is £1502.87

10. **Correspondence:** The Chairman provided a review of all correspondence received since the last meeting.

11. **Planning matters:** (All details on THC website)

a. Affric Lodge have made an application for a Spa extension

b. There is an application to build a house up the glen on a previous bothy location

c. Hilton Lodge have applied for permission to install a 50 kW hydro generation scheme.

11. **Any other business:**

a. The Highland Council has had a workshop at the behest of the Scottish Government to review the working of Community Councils. Nigel Ellis attended and reports that CC budgets have been radically cut. One suggestion floated had been to consider following the model used elsewhere in UK where Parish Councils could set a precept.

b. A suggestion was made of a coordination meeting with Kilmorack CC. This proposal was agreed unanimously, dates and attendance to be agreed.

12 **Next meeting.** There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at approx. 8-30 pm and advised the date of the next meeting as Wednesday, 9th January 2019 at 7-30 pm in Cannich Village Hall.

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