**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the virtual meeting (via Zoom) held on Wednesday, 2nd December 2020 at 7-30 pm**

**Present:** Nigel Ellis (Chair), Paul Stirling, Georgina Parker, Humphrey Clarke, Leeson Carlyle (part meeting).

**Apologies**: Cllr. Margaret Davidson. Alan Hood and Carol Masheter were both unable to join via Zoom.

NE noted that there was a quorum, welcomed all those in virtual attendance and declared the meeting open.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21-10-20 were proposed for adoption and unanimously approved.

1. **Matters arising from the previous meeting (excluding agenda items):**
2. tHC has been asked to light the Tomich Xmas tree and to supply and light a Cannich tree.
3. Details of tHC 2020/21 winter resilience programme have been circulated.
4. tHC have been advised of the flooding of the A831 near the Cnoc hotel.
5. **Police report:**

No police report was available.

1. **Covid 19 and Resilience Planning:**

 No further information available.

1. **SACC projects and activities update:**

No further information available.

1. **SCC matters:**
2. Kerrow Energy Storage: No further information available.
3. Bhlaraidh Windfarm Extension: No new information.
4. Fiodhag (Fasnakyle) Wind Farm: vento ludens have circulated an information sheet, detailing current progress, to all residents of Strathglass and Glen Urquhart. Circumstances permitting, further public exhibitions may be held in the first half of 2021.
5. Windfarms in general: It was noted that, together with the proposed turbines for Tomchrasky (see para. 11, correspondence), if all the proposed windfarms are approved there will be approx. 130 turbines extending south from Cannich /Tomich to Invermoriston / Glenmoriston. It was agreed that the cumulative effect of all the proposals would need to be assessed when formal planning applications are considered.
6. “Capers in Cannich”: NE had met the organisers and provided a summary of their discussions. It is understood that the event(s), which will run from May to September 2021, will be targeted at a family group demographic and will aim to promote the Highlands as visitor destination for this group. The necessary licences will be applied for early 2021. If circumstances permit, the organisers will be invited to an SCC meeting before May 2021.
7. Defibrillators: New pads have been acquired and will be fitted in Jan/Feb 2021. Their expiry date is April 2023.
8. Boundary Commission Scotland proposals consultation; NE explained that tHC were objecting to the proposals that would reduce the number of Ward 12 councillors to three and redraw the Ward 12 boundary to exclude the communities south of Loch Ness. tHC considered the proposals for the entire Highland Council area to be incompatible with fair community representation for a geographically large, rural territory. It was agreed that the SCC would comment in support of tHC objections.
9. tHC Tourism Infrastructure Plan consultation: The plan attempts to address all aspects of current tourism infrastructure shortcomings that have become apparent over the last few years. Increasing numbers of vehicular based tourists are predicted over the next few years and the plan is an attempt to accommodate them. It was noted that a particular challenge would be the provision of adequate waste disposal facilities to treat chemical toilet waste from an increased number of camper vans. Whilst we agreed that an improved infrastructure was required, we felt that the wild areas of Glens Affric, Cannich and Strathfarrar should not have camping facilities added.

1. **Treasurer’s Report and financial matters:**

 Available funds, after deduction of liabilities and reserved funds are £2201.65.

 It was noted that the £40 cheque to the ICO had still not cleared. NE to follow up.

1. **Planning:**

 There were no new applications in our area, whilst three applications (regarding properties in Cannich and Plodda) had been granted.

1. **Forestry matters:**

 Nothing new to report.

1. **Deer management:**

Nothing to report.

1. **Correspondence:**

The Chair provided a summary of correspondence received since the last meeting. Of particular interest was notification of an EIA Scoping Opinion Consultation (20/04561/SCOP) regarding a 29 wind turbine (220m blade tip height) windfarm at Tomchrasky Estate, Dalchreichart, Glenmoriston.

1. **Any other business:**

None.

1. **Next meeting:**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8-35 pm. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday, 13-01-21, commencing at 7-30 pm. The meeting type will be determined in the light of the then existing guidance and advised when the agenda is published.

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