**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th January 2020 at 7:30 pm in Cannich Village Hall**

**Present:** Nigel Ellis (Chair), Paul Stirling, Alan Hood, Lee Carlyle, Georgina Parker, Humphrey Clarke.

**In Attendance:** Carol Masheter (Soirbheas), Kate McKinley (SCF) and 5members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Helen Carmichael and Margaret Davidson, Police Scotland.

Mr Ellis took the Chair, noted that there was a quorum, welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 5-12-19 were proposed for adoption, unanimously approved and signed by Mr Ellis.

1. **Matters arising from the previous meeting on 5-12-19:**
2. A831 road signage and pavement issues in Cannich:

 John Taylor (THC) had agreed to undertake pavement repairs adjacent to the SSE compound and mount additional signage indicating that Bencharin View is a cul-de-sac – no action to date, Chair to follow up.

1. Stagecoach bus issues:

 No further information at present.

1. “Care in the community”:

 A joint NHS Highland / SCC / SACC open forum will be held at 7-00 pm on 27-1-20 in Cannich Village Hall. All are welcome to attend and make comment.

1. Damaged bottle bank fencing:

 Reported that the Chair had been in contact with Andy Hume (THC) and was progressing. AH advised the fencing had been erected some years ago by members of the community after consultation with THC representatives.

1. “Power for the People” – request for Local Electricity Bill support:

 Investigation had revealed that this organisation was UK wide green energy pressure group. It was agreed not to support.

1. **Police report:**

 The Chair presented a summary of the latest Police Scotland Community Engagement Report. There had been one incident of minor vandalism in Cannich that was still being investigated. We were advised that vehicle and speed checks would be carried out in the area in the near future, and that pertinent issues in neighbouring areas would be included in future reports.

1. **Soirbheas report:**

 Carol Masheter briefed the meeting:

* 1. Soirbheas grant deadlines have been published and are on the Hall notice board.
	2. Tier 1 category changes from April 2020.
	3. A series of “OpenNess” community events, to promote physical and personal accessibility, are being arranged. The first, regarding visual and hearing impairments, will take place later in January. Refer notice boards for further information.
	4. A pilot scheme to provide respite holidays at The Clansman at reduced rates will take place in February 2020.
	5. Funding applications are being made for the new Transport Hub at the Visitor Information Centre in Drumnadrochit.
	6. Grant applications had been received regarding the former District Nurses’ House and the Affric-Kintail Way.
	7. “Tattie Day” will be 30-4-20 and seed potatoes will be available. See notice boards for further information.
	8. A Soirbheas / SACC / THC meeting had taken place to establish the feasibility of positioning EV charging points at Cannich Village Hall.
1. **Strathglass Community Fund:**

 Briefing by Kate McKinley.

* 1. The fund is an SCIO charity, has 8 trustees and distributes the community benefit from local mini-hydro generation schemes. It is smaller than Soirbheas and only covers Strathglass Community Council area.
	2. The fund distributes approximately £26.5k per annum for projects, services and community development. It had, for example, contributed to the community Christmas Lunch and various Cannich School projects.
	3. KMcK suggested that the community should consider current and future needs and aspirations so that a plan could be established for use if funds became available. During a subsequent discussion, the meeting was reminded of the established SCC/GUCC/Soirbheas protocol regarding benefits distribution originating from renewable energy schemes involving both community councils.
1. **SACC projects and activities update:**
	1. NHS Highland has agreed a selling price for the former Nurses’ home and site. Grant applications for funding will be made later this month.
	2. As there are insufficient volunteers to assist with the village hall management, users will be encouraged to participate in managing the hall.
	3. It was anticipated that hall income would fall following the demise of the Whist Group.
2. **SCC activities:**
	1. The SCC Constitution text had been agreed to by THC and was signed at the meeting.
	2. The SCC scoping response regarding the proposed Fasnakyle Wind Farm had been submitted to the ECU. The Chair noted that many of the points made were similar to issues raised by GUCC, THC, SNH, SEPA and other statutory consultees.
	3. SCC Facebook page: after some discussion, it was agreed to pilot and review over the next few months. GP agreed to set-up and administer.
3. **Treasurer’s report:**

 After receipt of THC annual payment and deduction of a payments and Reserved Funds the balance of funds available is £1584.14.

1. **Planning:** (all details on THC website)

 THC scoping request response regarding the proposed Fasnakyle Wind Farm is referenced 19/05046/SCOP. An application for a house and garage in Knockfin had been approved and an application had been made for modifications to Comar Lodge, a listed building.

1. **Correspondence:**

 The Chair summarised the correspondence received since the last meeting which included:

* 1. Pre-planning application for a proposed Smart Meter telecommunications installation atGuisachan Farm, Tomich
	2. Scotland Wide Strategic Transport Review (STRP2), comment by 10-1-20.
	3. Inclusions Scotland requesting support for the proposed Disabled Children and Young Persons (Transitions) (Scotland) Bill.
	4. Advice from THC Planning regarding the new process for statutory consultee “Consultee Access for Planning Consultations”.
1. **Forestry matters:**

 Considerable concern was expressed by community councillors and public attendees regarding the quantity, timing and speed of some HGV movements (up to 17 vehicles per day had been noted from early morning to late evening, including Sundays and Boxing Day). It was agreed that restrictions regarding transit through Cannich and Tomich should be communicated to contractor’s drivers. PS advised that FLS representatives would attend our next meeting.

1. **Deer Management:**

 Nothing to report.

 14. **Any other business:** AH reported the power supply for the defibrillator to be located at the Hall was in hand.

 There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at approx. 9-00 pm and advised the date of the next meeting as Wednesday, 12th February 2020 commencing at 7-30 pm.

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