**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the virtual meeting (via Teams) held on Wednesday, 8th September 2021 at 7-30 pm**

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

**Also attending:** Cllr. David Fraser.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Margaret Davidson, Georgina Parker, Alan Hood.

**1. Welcome.**

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

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting.**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th July 2021 were proposed for adoption and unanimously approved.

**3. Matters arising from the previous meeting.**

a) Joint SCC/GUCC/Soirbheas meeting: a venue and dates in October had been suggested but not yet confirmed. Chair to pursue with other parties.

b) Fasnakyle cemetery: there has been some changes of responsibilities within tHC and there has been no reply to date from the officer now responsible for cemetery maintenance. Chair to chase.

c) Planning rule queries: response from tHC Planning awaited. Chair to chase.

**4. Police report.**

No report provided

**5. SCC matters.**

a) Bhlaraidh Windfarm Extension: due to the size of this development, an application (ref. ECU00001900) to ECU was submitted 16-8-21. The consultation closing date for public comment is 27-9-21.

b) Fiodhag Windfarm: reporter has arranged a site visit for 15-9-21. Representatives of SCC and GUCC will be attending.

c) Tomchrasky Windfarm: no further information.

d) Crathaich Windfarm: no further information at this time. The Chair reminded the meeting that, further to a Scoping Response in March 2021, the SCC had been asked to provide any additional viewpoints thought necessary.

e) Loch Liath Windfarm: developer is following up comments and queries raised during the virtual exhibition held in June.

f) Cannich Hall defibrillator: an application for funding replacement pads and battery had been submitted to SCF.

g) Litter picking equipment: an application had been submitted to SCF for various items including PPE.

h) Cannich play park: Cllr. Fraser advised that he had held discussions with a group of local parents who would like to upgrade the existing park with new equipment and a cycle track. He further advised that some Ward Discretionary Funding would be available if an application, via SCC, was submitted in October 2021. PS agreed to meet with a group representative obtain more information and invite them to our next meeting.

i) Wild boar: further to reports some months ago, PS reported that wild boar had now been seen east of Tomich. It was noted that they can be dangerous and care should particularly be taken by dog walkers.

**6. SACC matters.**

No report

**7. Treasurer’s Report and financial matters.**

a) The bank balance is £2523.19 whilst unrestricted, available funds are £2013.65.

**8. Planning.**

a) An application to convert the C.O.S. church in Cannich into a residential property had been submitted.

b) An application to build four houses on the site of the old Glen Affric Hotel has been withdrawn.

c) Noted that the three house application for Knockfin (ref. 21/01776/FUL) now refers to another, nearby site. Chair to query with tHC Planning.

d) An application to build a house NW of Birchwood, Cannich had been permitted.

**9. Forestry matters.**

a) GACP meeting minutes from earlier this year were still awaited.

b) There will be continued extensive timber harvesting over the next year in the areas of Tomich and Cannich entailing circa 1400 HGV movements during the rest 2021 and another 880 in 2022.

c) FLS have proposed an extension of the Dog Falls car park to which we have provided a letter of support.

d) The income from the FLS car parks for 2021 to August end has been £10621.

e) The Snowman Rally will take place again in March 2022.

f) Phase 1 of the Affric Kintail Way upgrade had been completed and was considered a great success. Estimated Phase 2 costs are £205k.

g) Tree felling in Upper Guisachan will take place amongst some important archaeological sites. FLS are aware and will be taking care to avoid damage to these sites.

h) FLS have installed a new bridge at Upper Guisachan to facilitate timber removal.

**10. Deer management.**

Nothing to report.

**11. Correspondence.**

The Chair provided a summary of correspondence received since the last meeting. Of particular interest:

a) SEPA is interested in obtaining local resident’s actual information on flooding and is open to consultation until 31-10-21.

b) The Chair had been invited by Trees for Life to the official launch of the Affric Highlands (a rebranding of East-West Wild) initiative on 23-9-21.

c) A request for support from the Leader of tHC for her objection to the Ward 12 boundary change.

**12 Any other business.**

a) Concern had been expressed by Cannich residents regarding the damaged and inoperative lamppost near Cannich Bridge junction. Chair to contact THC.

b) AH had advised that Cannich Hall was now open and available for meetings in person, though COVID regs. still apply in communal areas.

c) There had been reports that a number of tourists had been misdirected by satnav to Knockfin instead of Plodda Falls. Without a proper survey of vehicle movements it is not clear how significant the problem is. There had been similar reports from other areas. Chair to check Google Maps using the SCC Gmail account.

d) There has been a proposal to create two additional National Parks in Scotland and Glen Affric has been named as a contender. PS agreed to sound out other local bodies to ascertain the level of interest in taking this forward as a community based and supported scheme.

**15. Next meeting.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00 pm. The date of the next meeting is Wednesday, 20 October 2021 commencing at 7-30 pm, at the Cannich Hall unless otherwise advised.

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