**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the meeting held at Cannich Hall on Monday, 5th December 2022 at 7-30pm**

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

**In attendance:** Cllr David Fraser, Kara Scott (Soirbheas) and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Georgina Parker, Cllr. Chris Balance.

**1. Welcome.**

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

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th October 2022 were proposed for adoption and unanimously approved.

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

a) GP surgeries at Cannich Hall:

The Practice Managers of both Beauly practices have advised that, after much discussion, they are unable to reinstate the weekly surgeries at Cannich Hall at this time and that they will be advising the health board of this decision. All agreed that this was a disappointing decision for the entire Strathglass community and the Chair was asked to follow-up with NHS Highlands.

b) Road traffic management:

The traffic monitoring strips that had been installed on a variety of local roads are to survey traffic volume and speed prior to the introduction of a pilot 20 mph scheme that will commence mid-2023. It is expected that the 18 month pilot will become permanent thereafter.

c) Beaver translocation: Though an update had been expected, none was available from any of interested parties.

**4. Police report.**

There was nothing of note to report. Vehicle winter safety checks will be conducted over the next few months as part of a national campaign.

**5. Soirbheas.**

a) Kara Scott, the recently appointed Assistant Community Development Officer, introduced herself.

b) Care-at-Home services (in partnership with Highland Hospice), are expected to commence in spring 2023 and it is hoped that the Care Co-ordinator role will also include co-ordinating the Befriending Service.

c) A Heritage Walking Weekend is planned for 24-26/3/23 and Heritage Trails are to be developed for launch in 2024.

d) Tattie Day will be 4/3/23.

e) The Food Larder in Drumnadrochit is still operational. Those in Cannich and Struy can be reinstated if required.

**8. SCC matters.**

a) Loch Liath WF:

A response to a Gatecheck Report, prepared by the developer and circulated by the ECU, is required by 8/12/23. Chair to respond pointing out that developer consultation with Soirbhes regarding community benefit does not constitute consultation with the Strathglass community.

b) Fasnakyle ES:

Application 22/04640/SCRE has been determined by HC as not requiring detailed Environmental Impact Assessments. DF undertook to ascertain from HC planners how this decision was reached.

c) Other WF:

No new information.

d) Glen Strathfarrar shelter:

A revised estimate has been obtained from the preferred supplier and a Tier 2 grant application has been made to Soirbheas for part funding. Determination is expected at the end of January 2023.

e) Cannich Xmas lighting:

An application for the provision of Xmas lighting in Cannich has been made to HC. Expected cost is £600.

f) 2023 SCC meeting schedule:

The previously circulated schedule, which includes a reversion to Wednesday evenings, was approved. The Chair will now circulate it to various interested third parties.

**9. SACC matters.**

a) A Christmas Craft Fair will be held at Cannich Hall on 11/12/22 and a Hogmanay Party is planned.

b) SACC AGM will be held in January 2023.

c) A Strathglass Community Action Plan will be discussed with Soirbheas in January.

d) AH noted that it is now one year since the new homes were completed and handed over to tenants.

**10. NP Working Group.**

a) The Scottish Government and NatureScot have both published consultations regarding sustainable tourism, biodiversity and the establishment of a new National Park.

b) Information has been provided to NatureScot for the consideration of Glen Affric as the site of a new NP.

c) Agreed that the TfL Chief Executive be invited to an SCC meeting in early 2023 to explain his vision for the Strathglass area.

d) The WG’s new website, Future Affric, is available to view on-line.

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

a) The bank balance is: £ 3002.96

b) The balance of available funds is £ 2579.41

**12. Planning**

a) AH provided details of applications submitted and decisions made in period.

b) It was noted that an application from VILN for the erection of advertising banners on lamp posts on the A831was not listed. Nevertheless, the SCC has objected on the basis that they are inappropriate for a rural landscape.

**13. Forestry matters.**

a) Extensive forestry works at Balmore Wood throughout 2023 will entail road closures and delays on the A831 to Struy. Where possible we will be given advance notification.

b) A GACP meeting is expected to be held before Xmas.

**14. Deer management.**

AKDMG have been renamed Affric and Kintail Land Management Group (AKLMG) and are working with TfL on deer mapping, deep peat surveys and venison promotion.

**15. Correspondence.**

a) The Chair provided a summary of correspondence received since the last meeting.

b) A new HC Ward 12 Manager, Mark MacKay, is now in post.

**6. Any other business.**

a) There was a question about a ban on oil fired boilers in 2024. This actually applies to new build installations and others where a Building Warrant is required. It is understood that there will be some flexibility to this proposal in rural areas for houses that are relatively poorly insulated and, therefore, not suited to heating by heat pumps.

b) There have been complaints about noisy pylons/overhead power lines; SSEN are investigating.

**17. Next meeting.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8-50pm. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 11th January 2023 commencing at 7-30 pm, at Cannich Hall.

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