**Inaugural Meeting**

**Strathglass Community Council**

**25th September 2024 at 7.30pm**

**At Community Room, Cannich Hall**

**Chairperson: Councillor David Fraser**

**Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:**

Chairperson: David Fraser, Highland Councillor

Humphrey Clarke

Georgina Parker

Karl Falconer

Gordon Buckley

David Tulloch

Tina, Soirbheas

5 members of the community.

**Apologies:** Chris Ballance

1. DF thanked members of the public for attending and noted apologies from Chris Balance.
2. Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils in Highland
3. Appointment of Office Bearers
   1. Call for nominations for appointment of Chairperson
      1. Humphrey Clarke
   2. Call for nominations for appointment of Vice Chair
      1. Georgie Parker
   3. Call for nominations for appointment of Secretary
      1. Georgie Parker
   4. Call for nominations for appointment of Treasurer
      1. Karl Falconer
4. Councillor David Fraser handed over to HC as duly elected Chairperson

See meeting notes below for members’ agenda items, allocation of duties and time/date of next meeting.

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**Meeting Notes**

See inaugural meeting notes for attendance and apologies.

1. Soirbheas Update
   1. Heritage Trail project has been completed and will be launched in October. Information board and QR codes will be available.
   2. Community Connect event planned for Saturday 5th October at Cannich Hall from 10am to mid-day. Voluntary organisations in attendance (and cake).
   3. In previous years, Chair of Soirbheas and CCs have met. Jimmy has extended an invitation to do so.

**Action:** HC to contact Tina at Soirbheas to set up.

1. Major Energy Infrastructure Update
   1. Helen Crawford Motion:
      1. Realtime mapping showing all energy and related developments across the Highland Council Area – query regarding real time (DT asked for this to include access mapping)

**Action:** DF to raise at HC debate on motion on 30/9/24

* + 1. Additional training for community councils in dealing with planning matters specific to energy
    2. Salami slicing – consideration of cumulative impact
    3. Community Engagement

Members all support the motion and many have already urged Ward 12 Highland Councillors to support it.

* 1. Windfarms Update - Energiekontor
  2. Bingally Substation Update
     1. EIA on planning site currently
     2. PAN will be submitted shortly. Need to request extension over the Christmas
     3. DF confirmed that he is aware of the strength of opposition to the proposal from across the community
     4. Important to negotiate mitigation measures in the case that planning approved
     5. Concerns at lack of SSE transparency and unwillingness to meet reasonable request to extend the geographical spread of sound baselining equipment.

**Action:** DF to ask roads inspector to review SSE activity proceeding ahead of planning and the impact on the roads.

**Action**: HC to invite SSE to hold a community event with a panel so that questions can be asked

1. Planning
   1. Tomich - Proposed new road at Tomich. Concerns raised by residents.

**Action**: Concerns to be collated and submitted by GP

* 1. Tomich – plan for boat houses and bothies with small turbines. No concerns raised.
  2. Telecoms Masts – continuing to object against mast erection in unpopulated areas of natural beauty.

1. Liaison/Leadership
   1. Forestry (including FLS) – DT will take the lead on this
   2. TFL – GP will liaise as necessary
   3. DMG – DT will take the lead on this and update as necessary
   4. SSEN – Chair and Vice Chair will engage when agreement from SSEN is secured to local Community Councils’ terms of engagement.
   5. TRA – GP will liaise
   6. Emails – GB
   7. Website and Facebook - GP
2. SACC Update (provided by Allan Hood by email)

* Place Plan/Community action plan – insufficient volunteers to produce an action plan. Options being explored to secure more volunteers/funded support.
* Community Transport: There are currently 2 community volunteers to take the project forward but it has been put on hold as there is no SACC director that is willing to co-ordinate sub-group activities.
* Events/Social: Funding granted for Christmas meal and investigations underway to form a group to continue the Hogmanay event.
* Growing Project: Event undertaken and initial discussions with SSE to potentially secure land for a community garden project.
* Funding obtained and works instructed for village playpark improvements, including a zip line to be installed in 2025.
* Cannich Village Hall – attempts to increase community use and attendance continue with limited success. Acoustic improvement completed in main hall.
* Community houses: discussions continue with SSE re potential sale/transfer of additional housing unit adjacent to existing 2 community houses.
* Wednesday morning fitness class project funding secured.
* AGM scheduled to 28th October 2024. Additional Directors/Trustees are required to ensure SACC can continue to function. Current there are 5 trustees but 2 have expressed their intention to stand down at the AGM leaving only 3.

1. Role / Review of Community Councils is being undertaken. DF view is that community councils in their current format are useful.

**Action:** SCC to engage in the review. HC to forward review email to members.

1. Date/Time of the next meetings: 23/10/24 and 20/11/24

The chair and members thanked community members for their attendance and participation.