**Strathglass Community Council - Meeting Notes**

**27 November 2024 at 7.30pm @ Community Room, Cannich Hall**

1. Welcome, apologies and conflicts of interest

Present:

Humphrey Clarke: Chair

Georgina Parker: Vice Chair and Secretary

Leeson Carlyle: Treasurer

David Tulloch

Gordon Buckley

10 members of the community

Apologies

Councillor David Fraser

Karl Falconer

No conflicts of interest declared.

Previous actions: All completed and on agenda.

1. Partner Updates
   1. Soirbheas: not attending
   2. SACC: not in attendance
2. Major Energy Infrastructure Updates

SCC members and members of the public expressed concerns regarding the significant cumulative impact of the energy infrastructure planning applications upon our landscapes, our flora and fauna, the adverse impact on mental health and wellbeing, together with concerns regarding local business interests.

* 1. Windfarms Update  
     Fiodhag - above Tomich. No further update. EIA required.

Cnoc Farasd – above Cannich to Bunloit. A member of the public had raised concerns regarding the accuracy of the surveying undertaken in preparing the planning documents. Although it was claimed that surveying work had been undertaken on site, it was clear from the incorrect representation of the Affric Kintail Way that it was done remotely using out of date information. SCC to submit an objection representing the concerns raised and requesting additional viewpoint information.

**ACTION:** SCC to submit objection in line with the views expressed by local residents and meeting attendees.

Loch Liath – additional info recently provided on planning portal.

**ACTION:** SCC to make further objection in relation to the cumulative impact and concerns for red listed species including nesting Golden Eagles. SCC to post link onto facebook.

Ballach -access via Cannich to Kilmorack Road. For information.

* 1. Fasnakyle BESS – still awaiting planning application to go to committee. Expected this may be before Christmas.
  2. Bingally Substation Update – THC decided that an EIA is not required. Particular concerns were voiced by the public re bore hole water supplies. DT advised that FLS have provided 104 acres to SSEN.

**ACTION**: SCC has requested copy of decision notice as this was not published on the planning portal – just the decision.

* 1. Tomchrasky Connection – no further update
  2. Loch Buidhe to Beauly Connection (Towers) – for information.
  3. Scottish Government Consultation on Major Energy Infrastructure

**ACTION:** SCC to submit response to consultation – deadline 29/11/24

1. Planning – General
   1. No concerns raised.
   2. Supportive of Cannich Stores’ planning application.
2. SCC Member Updates:
   1. Forestry (including FLS): David met Ian from FLS. Following up re income from car parks. Still an agreement on timings of hauling wood in and out. Felling from Tomich to Cougie still have 2.5 years to run. No commercial forestry after that. No money currently. FLS providing 50 hectares for the Bingally Substation.
   2. TFL – GP met with Alan. TFL will bring together a group regarding beaver releases.
   3. DMG – DT reported meeting postponed so nothing to report
   4. SSEN – CLG still in abeyance until SSEN agree to operate honestly and transparently.
   5. Email / website – GB has set up emails. Still to be tested. General info email set up.

**ACTION:** GP to update website.

1. Treasurer’s report – LC
   1. Current balance £2,248.59
   2. Expenditure for defibrillators incurred by LC
   3. Defibs all marked with new labels
   4. Highland Council and Siorbheas funds for national park applications, unspent funds from the funding application are likely to be repayable
   5. Contribution made to the playpark upgrade
   6. LC to have accounts checked and signed off

**ACTION:** All members to respond to the Chair’s request for contact details. This will enable THC annual funding to be released.

1. Additional items/community communications
   1. Winter gritting arrangements: Tomich roads not gritted early enough for people to travel to work and busses. Grit boxes required at Sawmill alongside passing place and another at the end of made-up road/turning point next to Achlane.
   2. Funding Proposals: N/A.
   3. Community Action Plan – no update
   4. Gravel Bike Race – event being planning for June 2025. Members and public attendees thought it a generally positive opportunity.
   5. Christmas Lights – will be turned on 1st December 2024
   6. Impact of SSE works at Tomich. Traffic going towards and through the village at speed. Concerns regarding impact on local working trails. Degrading of roads, passing and turning places.

**ACTION**: Chair attempting to set up public meeting with SSEN. Online meeting offered as they area based in central belt.

1. AOB

None.

1. Date/Time of the next meeting: January 22nd 2025 at 7.30pm