**Strathglass Community Council**

**19 February 2025 at 7.30pm @ Community Room, Cannich Hall**

**Meeting Notes**

1. There were insufficient members of SCC in attendance, so the meeting was not quorate. The Chair and DF confirmed that the meeting could proceed but that no voting on decisions could take place.

Apologies: Gordon Beckley

Attendees: Humphrey Clarke (Chair)

Leeson Carlisle (Treasurer)

Georgina Parker (Vice Chair & Secretary)

Councillor David Fraser – Highland Council

Non attendance: David Tulloch

Karl Falconer

10 Members of the public

1. Approval of February minutes had been agreed by email and these are on the website.
2. Partner Updates
   1. Soirbheas: No response
   2. SACC: Message from SACC to say they are still looking to replace the two trustees who stood down in December. They have some interest from local people stepping forward and will pursue this. GP outlined the ongoing projects that SACC emailed through, which are of importance to the local community
3. Major Energy Infrastructure Updates
   1. Windfarms Update  
      Blairaidh Extension - currently on hold

Fiodhag-above Tomich – no further application post-scoping

Cnoc Farasd – above Cannich - scoping opinion from THC Jan 25

Loch Liath - THC has objected. Now with SG ECU.

Ballach – north of Struy – scoping submitted Oct 24. HC fed back regarding the ‘consultation’ event which did not provide responses to the questions asked. DF confirmed that feedback had been poor in general regarding the quality of the ‘consultation’ events. HC and a member of the community raised concerns regarding the potential for a battery storage fire – particularly as there is no fire service in Cannich currently. LC raised concerns that the BESS projects are all about money and random sites are being explored in an attempt to exploit any loopholes. LC described some of the working models of potential developers. HC described massive additional payments being made to gas power stations to fill gaps in wind power. LC described a new process which might provide more clarity regarding strategic planning.

* 1. Fasnakyle BESS – not included in February planning committee. DF expecting it to come forward soon. A member of the public suggested that the delay could relate to potential H&S / Fire related legislation re BESS. GP requested that the member of the public forward this to them if possible.
  2. Bingally Substation – no further information. HC confirmed that SSEN will attend a zoom call with the community council and public at our next meeting. THC expecting application to be lodged imminently.

**ACTION**: GP to book larger room for March meeting if available and to promote on facebook. GB is arranging technical equipment including a large screen.

**ACTION:** Advise SSE of concerns regarding heavy vehicles using the Kerrow road. Concerns regarding littering along the road into Tomich.

* 1. Tomchrasky Connection - no further information
  2. 4CCs Meetings (inc. with Kate Forbes) HC

1. Planning – General – no new applications for Strathglass
2. Community Action Plan and Local Place Plan

* Already agreed that CAP and LPP is required
* SCC will apply for funding to secure the services of a consultant to conduct community engagement and draft the plans
* K Edwards has offered to join the community council as an associate to supervise any consultant to complete the plans
* Link in with SACC as necessary

1. SCC Member Updates:
   1. Forestry (including FLS) - DT meeting planned later in monty
   2. TFL / Beavers – Letter from SCC to FLS and NatureScot
   3. DMG – DT no update
   4. SSEN – HC See 4e above
   5. Email / website – GB no update
2. Treasurer’s report – LC

No change in balance since last meeting. Bank account has changed to be chargeable now, £50 per year and 50p per cheque. Awaiting response from Soirbheas to bid for defibrillator consumables. Need accounts to be signed off at next meeting in order to meet deadline for THC funding.

**ACTION:** GP to ask a member of TRA to review and sign.

1. Additional items/community communications:
   1. Hazardous road conditions: DF confirmed no update.
   2. Funding Proposals – see above re Community Action plan
   3. John Dyce has offered to attend a future meeting on the issue of retained fire service
   4. Gravel Bike Race – reconsidering route after refusal of access to A82.
   5. RTS Signal switch off – still advertising
   6. 4G - Data access – Tomich – access to 4G now available from EE following numerous communications between SCC and Kate Forebes.

**ACTION:** Email Kate Forbes re Vodaphone

* 1. Highland Broadband – member of the public advised there could be potentially a fibre connection moving towards Tomich.

1. AOB
   1. The Chair thanked members of the community for their attendance and contributions to the discussion, despite the meeting not being quorate
2. Next meeting: Wednesday 19th March at 7.30pm