**Strathglass Community Council Meeting Notes**

**Wednesday 18 June 2025 at 7.30pm @ Cannich Hall**

Attendees: David Tulloch

Georgina Parker – Vice Chair and Secretary

Gordon Beckley

Humphrey Clarke - Chair

Karl Falconer

Leeson Carlisle – Treasurer

In attendance: Councillor Chris Ballance

Public attendance: 15

1. Welcome, apologies and conflicts of interest
   * Apologies from Councillor David Fraser
   * There were no conflicts of interest declared
2. Approval of minutes and review of actions
   * Minutes approved
   * Objections to substations submitted as agreed
3. Partner updates:
   * Soirbheas – no update provided.
   * SACC board is now in place. We will seek an update for our next meeting in July.
4. Energy Infrastructure Proposals:
   1. The Chair gave a summary of the Convention of the Community Councils of the Highlands and Islands.
   2. Bingally & Fanellan Substations: SCC objections submitted. SCC to submit mitigation requests to reduce impact of: noise, traffic, pollution and other construction impacts upon people and nature.
   3. Bingally to Fasnakyle connection – communication received today - application is with ECU and we have 28 days to respond to the consultation - Councillor Balance suggested we could seek funding to hire a planning consultant Ian Kelly for advice upon this and other energy related applications.

ACTION: Chair to contact for costing.

* 1. Cnoc Farasd Windfarm – above Cannich to Bunloit. Consultation between 4pm and 7pm on Tuesday 24 June at Cannich Village Hall.
  2. Glen Earrach Hydro – discussion re community funds available for this but this does not extend to Cannich. Concerns re. an additional 1000 people in the glens. Concern regarding crime and drink driving, given issues arising from previous energy project developments.
  3. Fasnakyle BESS – concerns raised re changes to plans for the Fasnakyle BESS.

ACTION: Vice Chair to review changes to the plans.

1. Proposed Beaver Release (subject to attendance by Naturescot TBC)

* 2 representatives from NatureScot came out to visit a member of the public last week
* No response from NatureScot to requests to attend this meeting.
* Concern regarding the sustainability of any ranger service provided by TFL – no guarantee that this will continue

ACTION: DT took an action to contact NatureScot to arrange an extraordinary meeting with them focussed on the proposed beaver release.

1. Update on Community Action Plan and Local Place Plan for Strathglass:

* The application for 50% of the required funds for a consultant to develop a CAP and LPP was submitted by Karen Edwards (KE) to Soirbheas. This was approved in June. A further application for the remaining 50% has been prepared for Strathglass Community Fund by KE and signed off by the council this evening

1. SCC Member Updates:

* Forestry & Land Scotland looking at Wester Kerrow forest issue. Concerns raised regarding current state of remnants of forestry and in relation to the likelihood of the road to be inaccessible due to ice build-up as it was during last winter, if the lack of drainage is not addressed
* Deer Management – no update

1. Treasurer’s report – Balance is £2,300 (this includes reserved project funds which require to be paid)

* £570 per annum fixed running costs but only £473 received per annum from HC
* Additional funds to be applied for from ward funds to cover Christmas lights, printer paper and ink, together with

ACTION: LC to send through breakdown of operating costs to the Chair and Vice Chair requesting funds for consultancy regarding energy applications.

1. Additional items/community communications:

* Hazardous road conditions (inc. speed in Cannich)
* SSEN works: SCC was not advised of movement of heavy machinery by SSEN contractors on 18/06/25. No notice of road being closed by contractors.

1. Date/Time of the next meeting: 20th August: As usual, there is no meeting planned for July. We will convene a meeting if NatureScot makes someone available to attend the meeting.

ACTION: DT to request 2nd July same time same place.