

## Struan Community Council

Chairperson  
Mr I Beaton  
Gesto Farm  
Struan  
Isle of Skye  
01470 572217

Secretary/Treasurer  
Mr A Morrison  
3 Coillore  
Struan  
Isle of Skye  
01470 572357

Vice-Chairperson  
Mr D J Morrison  
Ullinish  
Struan  
Isle of Skye

### Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 202

Present: Mr A Lockhart, Mr D J Morrison, Mr A Morrison, Mr G Semler, Mr N Till, Mrs S Illingworth & Mr D Millar (Councillor)

#### 1. Welcome

Mr DJ Morrison opened & welcomed all to the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies

Mr I Beaton & Mr G McKinnon

#### 3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were put forward to the meeting for approval, adoption was proposed by Mr A Lockhart and seconded by Mr N Till.

#### 4. Matters Arising

##### *a) Broadband*

Nothing further to report at present.

##### *b) Play Park*

Mr D J Morrison advised application to be submitted to the Trust by end of this month.

**Action: Mr G MacKinnon & Mr D J Morrison**

##### *c) NHS*

Mr A Morrison confirmed nothing received from NHS, will chase again. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

##### *d) Skip*

All agreed last Skip went well, there not having been any issues with any of the prohibited items placed in the Skip, therefore, agreed to look to order a further Skip in June. In addition, Mr A Morrison advised at present have £960.00 available for Skip, however price increase from 1<sup>st</sup> April of 5.6% equating to an increase of £53.76, therefore, cost of Skips will increase to £1,013.76, Mr Morrison will submit application to the Trust for 3 further Skips. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

##### *e) Community Engagement*

Further to a meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April between the CC and the SCT to discuss the way forward for the CÁP, Community Asset Transfer of the School, outline the plan for managing any additional funds we may receive and provided results from the recent Survey undertaken in respect of Glen Ullinish II and Port, and also to allow the Community to ask any questions or raise any matters they may wish brought to the attention of SCT & SCC, It was agreed to hold a Community Meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May in the School. However, due to getting pamphlets produced and to give sufficient time for these

to be delivered it was agreed to push the Community Meeting back to Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Mr A Morrison to communicate to SCT **Action: A Morrison**

#### **f) Community Action Plan including the School**

Mr A Morrison confirmed that post the last meeting and the discussion regards the official School closure, Mr Morrison contacted Willie MacKinnon at Highland Council, Mr MacKinnon subsequently contacted Mr I Jackson, Education Officer, an e-mail was received to confirm the School was officially closed on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Mrs Jackson commented, "*We probably should have notified the CC directly, and I will make a note about that for future such cases, in other areas.*" Therefore, now leaving the way clear for the SCT to progress the Community Asset Transfer process.

#### **5. Co-option**

Mr A Morrison advised that as we have a vacancy on the Community Council proposed that the vacancy be filled by the appointment of Mrs Sara Illingworth:

Proposed: Mr D J Morrison

Seconded: Mr G Semler

Unanimously approved, Mr A Morrison will advise Highland Council accordingly. **Action: A Morrison**

#### **6. Village Improvements**

##### **The Green**

Once again there have been concerns raised by a number of residents regards the parking at The Green, along with the possible damage to the grassed area, all agreed requires to be addressed. Mr N Till advised on a recent visit to Bog Myrtie the owners advised they had some suggestions to put forward to resolve, Mr N Till agreed to speak to the owners to ask them to either attend the next meeting pr submit their suggestions by email to the CC to see if the matter can be resolved.

##### **Cemetery Gate**

Mr A Morrison tabled the cost of the gate agreed at the last meeting, £3,050 + VAT and will also be a cost for fitting, agreed to submit an application to the SCT for funding, Mr A Morrison will obtain additional Estimates, once to hand will submit an application.

##### **Old Cemetery**

Mr A Morrison advised that Kevin Gordon at Highland Council has responded to advise they have a specialist Team that deal with clearing fallen trees, Mr Gordon has flagged the issue and will be dealt with at the earliest opportunity, in addition confirmed they would deal with the repairs required to the stone boundary wall, although this may take a bit more time. The question of what can be done with the wood was raised, could it be used or distributed locally, nothing decided, Councillor Millar will contact Kevinn Gordon to push things along.

##### **Struan Cemetery Car Park**

Mr DJ Morrison advised that Donnie MacLeod at Highland Council now has an issue with there not being any demarcation and the roadside fence line requires to reinstatement, further advising that the fence rail and posts should be conspicuous given the roadside verge has been removed. In addition, advised that the works had been undertaken without consultation, Mr A Morrison advised this was not correct, was agreed a number of years ago with Mark Crowe at the time he was employed by Highland Council, the Cemetery Car Park was leased over top the CC to allow the works to be undertaken as Highland Council did not have the funds available to undertake the work, leasing to the CC allowed access to SCT Funds to carry out the work. Mr Morrison went on to advise

that Highland Council had been approached to provide a Quote for the work, came over measured out, confirmed what they would do but no quote ever received, therefore CC progressed to obtain quotes the works undertaken. Mr A Morrison confirmed will provide all the information to Mr DJ Morrison to allow him to respond to Mr MacLeod. **Action: Mr A Morrison & Mr DJ Morrison**

#### Crash Barrier

Further to recent discussions on the matter of the gritter going off the road on the Totarder Brae, along with the advices that due to the width of the road and steep bank does not appear possible to extend the crash barrier at that point, the alternative option of widening the road on the opposite side was mooted and would this be possible. It was agreed to write Highland Council for their advice on the matter. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

#### 7. NHS

The recent reports submitted to the CC by Mrs F MacKinnon were discussed, the statement submitted by Prof Ronald MacDonald regarding the current status of the redesign of health services on Skye, the statement having been received post the last Sir Lewis Ritchie Implementation Steering Group meeting of 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024. In the statement Prof MacDonald decries the present position in relation to Out of Ours Services at Portree Hospital that Sir Lewis Ritchie in the original Report of 2018 that stated:

“Out-of-hours urgent care access at Portree Hospital should be provided 24/7 -- there should be no closure of Portree Hospital in the out-of-hours period”

This was further backed up in the August 2023 follow up Report where Sir Lewis confirmed he did not wish to make any:

“substantive changes to the original recommendations, which I still stand by”

Prof MacDonald goes on to state that NHS are now seeking to wriggle out of their commitment to the Ritchie process yet again by saying there is no longer the demand for 24/7 urgent care in Portree backed up by unsound data and analysis. Prof MacDonald goes on to back up his call on all our elected members both locally and in Holyrood to start the process of a full public enquiry into the redesign of health and social care services in Skye and bring to bear on the Scottish Government the extreme safety and social cost issues that they are imposing on all who reside here and the many hundreds of thousands of tourists who visit Skye each year.

All agreed that although some progress on the SLR Report of 2018 to date not sufficient, discussed what as a CC we could do, agreed that through Mrs F MacKinnon representing the Community within the Steering Group we should continue to support their efforts to progress matters to a satisfactory conclusion.

#### 8. SCDC Participation Request Proposals 15/05/2024

An e-mail invitation received from the Scottish Community Development Centre, the SCDC is noted by themselves as being the lead body for community development in Scotland, they work to their vision of an active, inclusive and just Scotland where communities are strong, equitable and sustainable. The event is to outline the basis of a “Participation Requests”, these are a new means by which community groups can request to have greater involvement in, and influence over, decisions and services that affect communities and community life under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act. Noted at present but no one available to attend the meeting on Teams from 09:30 to 15:30

## 9. SEPA Flooding Risk

Noted discussed but not relevant.

## 10. Local Place Plans in Highland

Noted and discussed.

## 11. Highland Council Development Plans

Noted and discussed.

## 12. Wind farms

### Ben Sca Re-Design & Share Ownership

The Planning Application in respect of the Ben Sca Re-Design has been submitted, request for comments received from Planning, Mr A Morrison will draft comment & submit to all prior to submitting to Highland Council.

Mrs Mali MacLennan of Dunvegan Trust, has advised that the grant application for Legal Funds for LES was approved and Harper MacLeod appointed, Mrs MacLennan has forwarded the advice from Tom Thomas of Harper MacLeod regarding the Agreement of Intent, she also advising that his colleague is working on the advice regarding an appropriate legal entity for shared ownership and will circulate it once received.. A number of issues will require addressing once there is a complete proposal, including whether it is in best interests of the Community to pursue share ownership of Ben Sca and with how any proposed legal entity would relate or interact with Struan.

### Wind Harvest – Beinn Mheadhonach

Meeting arranged with Simon Tribe of Wind Harvest to discuss all aspects of the Development arranged for 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

### Glen Ullinish II

An e-mail received from Mr R Jopling was received in relation to the Port Proposal. Mr Jopling wished to express his disappointment at the development proposals, not only because of the impact that they will have on his property but, because they will result in his opinion on the permanent destruction of a beautiful and unspoilt piece of shoreline on the west coast of Skye and the inevitable detrimental impact on the marine life in the area.

Mr Jopling requested that if a planning application is ultimately submitted for this development, that the CC will do what it can within its powers to ensure that Highland Council give due consideration to its impact on the residents and on the wider community, listing several points within his e-mail for consideration by the CC. In conclusion Mr Jopling acknowledges the reasons the developer has given for undertaking the development but is very concerned about the permanent destruction of the natural environment when there might be alternative solutions which have relatively short-term consequences.

After discussion it was agreed to respond advising that, as with any Planning Application where the CC are making comment, the CC will always insist that the Planners take due notice of all comments made by any member of the Community.

**Action: Mr A Morrison**

### 13. GU II Survey

Mr G Semler has collated and analysed the responses received up the end of April and provided it by e-mail to all CCs prior to the meeting. Discussion of the responses ensued along with how best to communicate the results of the data analysis to the Community. It was agreed best to release the results immediately post distribution of the pamphlet (see 3e above) and prior to the Public Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June, so anyone attending will have had the opportunity to review and prepare any questions they may have. Mr Semler agreed to draft a Summary Report to go out with the results and circulate it for review. **Action: Mr G Semler**

### 14. Planning

2 Coillore – No issues raised

### 15. Correspondence

Nothing except for e-mail correspondence that is either going to all via SCC e-mail address or forwarded by Mr A Morrison.

### 16. AOCB

None.

**Date of Next Meeting & AGM Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.00pm in Struan School**

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

*Geoffie*

*12/06/2024*

*Alta Hook*

*12/6/2024*