

Struan Community Council

Chairperson
Mr I Beaton
Gesto Farm
Struan
Isle of Skye
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Secretary/Treasurer
Mr A Morrison
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Vice-Chairperson
Mr D J Morrison
Ullinish
Struan
Isle of Skye

Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council held on Wednesday 12th June 2024

Present: Mr I Beaton, Mr G Semler, Mr A Lockhart, Mr D J Morrison, Mr G MacKinnon, Mrs S Illingworth, Mr N Till, Mr A Morrison, Mr D Millar (Councillor), Mrs F MacKinnon, Mr C Beaton, Mrs P Semler, Dr W Banks, Mr & Mrs S Wilkinson and Mr & Mrs A Edwards

1. Welcome

Mr I Beaton opened & welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

None

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting of 2nd May 2024 were put forward to the meeting for approval, adoption was proposed by Mr G Semler and seconded by Mr A Lockhart

4. Matters Arising

a) Play Park

Mr D J Morrison & Mr G Mackinnon confirmed the Application for additional works has been submitted to the Trust.

b) NHS

Mr A Morrison confirmed still nothing received and will chase

Action: Mr A Morrison

c) Skips

Mr A Morrison confirmed Skip ordered for a week from 28th June 2024 and has submitted an Application to the Trust for a further 3 Skips.

Action: Mr A Morrison

d) Village Improvements

Old Cemetery

The fallen tree has been removed, however a large portion of the trunk has been left in the Cemetery, Mr K Gordpn advised that if anyone locally willing to tackle removal are happy to proceed and do so. Mr Gordon also confirmed that Highland Council will repair the wall, however, at this point cannot provide a date when this will occur.

Crash Barrier

Mr A Morrison advised he had overlooked contacting Highland Council post last meeting but will do so in relation to a solution.

Action: Mr A Morrison

5. The Green

Mr N Till confirmed he had spoken to the owners of Bog Myrtle inviting them to attend this meeting to provide details of their proposed suggestions or submit these to the CC by e-mail, no one from Bog Myrtle in attendance and no communication received. A discussion ensued with contributions from all in attendance in relation to damage to the grass, parking issues when Bog Myrtle is open which causes difficulty for local resident parking and access to the Shop/Post Office. It was mooted that the marking of parking bays and a fence line may be an answer to the issue, as the area is owned by Highland Council, Councillor Millar advised he would contact the Traffic Enforcement Dept and Mackenzie Sutherland for their advices on solutions to the problem.

6. BT R100

Mr A Morrison has circulated an e-mail received from Kate Forbes MSP's caseworker that provided an update from R100 Enquires Team, this provided details of the breakdown of figures for Struan CC Area service being provided to the 219 premises serviced according to their records. It was agreed that the data is incorrect as they state there are a number of premises have Superfast Broadband, where there are none, in addition, other data provided would appear to be incorrect. It was suggested that we request full details of the address with the service that is presently provided, however, do not believe this will be possible to obtain under GDPR.

A discussion ensued in relation to the upcoming disconnection of the analogue phone service that the CC believe will impact significantly on the Community, at present, there are a number of issues, present service is shocking, exchange is redundant, no spare parts to allow repairs to be carried out, hence, in addition to phone line problems, broadband is extremely poor despite, mast additions were supposed to have improved the service but appears this has not made any difference. As Open Reach have responsibility for the exchange & BT have responsibility for the mast, a typical response when raising any issue is both will say the problem relates to the other.

Mr C Beaton suggested it would be sensible to write all the Highland MSPs with details of the issues being faced, would then become a matter of record, Mr A Morrison confirmed will attend to this at earliest opportunity.

Action: Mr A Morrison

7. Wind Farms

Ben Sca Re-Design & Share Ownership

Mr A Morrison advised that he and Mr G Semler had now received the additional advices from Harper Macleod, via Mrs M MacLennan at Dunvegan Trust, in relation to the most suitable legal vehicle for the Communities to utilise should things progress, at present Harper MacLeod have recommended a Company Limited by Shares, a Teams Meeting to be arranged between the 3 Communities Reps and Solicitors in due course to discuss this and the Agreement of Intent.

Wind Harvest – Beinn Mheadhonach

Community Council met on 14th of May with Simon Tribe of Wind harvest and his colleague Tim French, MD of Constantine Wind Energy who own the existing turbine at Summerdale and have recently partnered with Wind Harvest to assist in the development of the Beinn Mheadhonach Project. An extremely cordial meeting with fair exchange of views and number of areas of common ground in relation to the issues that will be faced by the Community should the Project progress and gain consent, Developers are keen to work with and cause minimum disruption to the community by

way of constant dialogue and advised they have viewed the Community Action Plan and are to see if they can assist in any way at present. In addition, advised that in relation to Community Benefit, they are proposing to pay the present Scottish Government recommendation of £5K per MW, therefore, total per annum would equate to £100,000, all being paid to the Struan Community under their model. It was pointed out that Muirhall are offering £7K per MW and £5K indexed from 2014 to date would also equate to this. We suggested that perhaps this should be the starting point for negotiation, they will take away and consider.

Glen Ullinish II

In light of the recent communication received from Muirhall in late May to advise that they have agreed to the Communities request for a 40/40/20 split of the Community Benefit should the development progress to be consented, agreed that Mr A Morrison should look to arranging a meeting with the Communities to discuss.

Action: A Morrison

8. Community Engagement

SCC and SCT held a public meeting on 10th June 2024 in order to provide an update and answer any questions about the Community Action Plan, plans for acquiring the school, potential changes to the legal structure of the Trust and the results of the Glen Ullinish II/Port survey. The meeting was very well attended with some [60] or so members of the community present. A minute of the meeting to be created discussed and then posted on the Community Web Site.

Action: A Morrison

9. Planning

No issues

10. Correspondence

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

11. AOCB

Dun Beag Broch

The issue of people visiting Dun Beag Broch was raised with concerns expressed in relation to the possibility of a serious incident as fast stretch of road with some limited vision from the Dunvegan side, can anything be done re a road crossing or traffic management /calming measures taken. The site is the responsibility of Historic Scotland, agreed to contact them along with local HC Roads Dept for advice and raise our concerns, Mr D J Morrison to take forward.

Action: D J Morrison

Pavement through Ose

The pavement through Ose is overgrown and unsightly, requires some tidying up and possibly extending, agreed to put on list to send to HC.

GUII Port

The question raised as to what would happen with the Port if built and Wind Farm Development progressed, would it be able to be used by Community or passed on to the Community, agreed to await further developments prior to making any enquiries.

Roads Issues

It was pointed out that there are a couple of areas of road around the village that due to growth visibility is limited, Ullinish Loop Road, at Ullinish side, also, just passed the cattle grid at Totarder where cannot see vehicles coming from Portree side. Councillor Millar advised that the Mr

Mackenzie Sutherland appointed recently by HC as Area Manager and he is keen to visit all Community Councils, he suggested worth inviting him to a meeting to discuss any issues CC have, agreed to do so.

Action: Mr A Morrison

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 20th August 2024 at 7.00pm in Struan School

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Mr. Subit 20/8/24

Niall 20/8/24