

## 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 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Present: Mr I Beaton, Mr G Semler, Mr D J Morrison, Mr G MacKinnon, Mrs S Illingworth, Mr N Till, Mr A Morrison, Mr D Millar (Councillor), Part Attendees: Marin Ebling & Calum (SSEN)

#### 1. Welcome

Mr I Beaton opened & welcomed all to the meeting.

#### 2. Apologies

Mr A Lockhart

#### 3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024 were put forward to the meeting for approval, adoption was proposed by Mr I Beaton and seconded by Mr D J Morrison

#### 4. Matters Arising

##### *a) Play Park*

Mr G MacKinnon advised awaiting confirmation of date when he can undertake groundworks so other works can then arranged.

**Action: Mr G MacKinnon**

##### *b) Skips*

Mr A Morrison confirmed all went well with last Skip and Bowmans paid, all agreed to book further Skip for mid-November & then one in February 2025.

**Action: Mr A Morrison**

##### *c) Village Improvements*

###### Old Cemetery

Mr A Morrison contacted Mr K Gordon for an update on the repairs required to the wall, Mr Gordon confirmed the works will be undertaken but at this point can't give a timeframe as await confirmation from stonemason of price and when he can get the works undertaken, will advise once he has further this finalised. Mr I Beaton advised has spoken to Paul MacKinnon and he is willing to cut and dispose of the remaining portion of the tree.

###### New Cemetery

The application submitted to the SCT by Mr I Beaton has been in respect of the new gate, will be ordered and Mr I MacPhie has confirmed he is happy to hang when ready to do so with assistance from Mr J MacKinnon

###### Crash Barrier, The Green, Cemetery Car Park, Dun Beag & Ose Pavements

Mr D J Morrison advised MacKenzie Sutherland, HC Area Manager had not come over to meet to discuss the issues raised, agreed that in relation to parking at The Green would request the edge is kerbed with drop kerb at one end to allow access to The Green to allow for grass cutting, Mr D J

Morrison will speak to Bog Myrtle to advise what we are requesting from HC. In respect of the Broch and road safety agreed that additional signage either side would be the best option as Historic Scotland have declined to take any action. In respect of the Ose pavements HC have agreed to tidy up and add tarmac where required, will form part of future works. In addition, HC have agreed to leave Cemetery Car Park open on roadside and will in due course white line so there is a clear demarcation between road and car park, we just have to endure the cones remain round the streetlight to protect same.

**Action: Mr D J Morrison**

**d) Kaly Group**

Mr I Beaton advised that post the last CC meeting he had received a note from local fishermen to advise that they are most certainly not on side or in favour of the Kaly Group proposals for kelp harvesting in Loch Bracadale. Agreed that the CC would take full notice of fishermen's concerns and as they are part of the community will back their position in opposition at the present time, it was also noted that as it stands the CC would not be a mandatory consultee in respect of any application for sea bed lease in Loch Bracadale and appears would be quite simple for Kaly Group to obtain sea bed lease. Mr I Beaton to speak to fishermen further for their thoughts on progressing this matter.

**e) BT**

Mr A Morrison advised he was not any further forward with contacting MSPs

**f) HC Various**

Mr A Morrison advised had written HC Chief Executive and awaiting response, as soon to hand will circulate

**5. SSEN**

Ms M Ebling (Community Liaison Manager) & Mr C Lancaster (Overhead Lines Project Manager) of SSEN joined the meeting via Teams to provide an update on the SSEN Transmission – Skye Reinforcement Fort Augustus to Ardmore. Ms Ebling initially wanted to give an overview of the proposed project and where they are to date, along with a brief of where they are with the Planning Permission. Ms Maren advised that one of the main purposes of meeting was to outline their wish to set up a Community Liaison Group to allow SSEN and the community to engage throughout the process, by way of Quarterly updates, with likely a North/ South split in the Community Liaison Group. In the Struan Area the access to the proposed Edinbane Sub Station through the village and along the Balmeanach road would be the initial works being undertaken in the area, they propose to carry out widening along sections of the Balmeanach road to transport material, transformers etc in due course to the site of the new Edinbane Sub Station, that will be in the region of 10 times the size of the existing structures.

It may be that the widening works will commence by the end of this year in preparation for further works on the basis that Planning Permissions are consented for the Project, Ms Maren further confirmed that all residents of Balmeanach have been visited and written to in respect of the proposed works.

Further discussion took place on various aspects of the development that would impact on the Struan area with a number of questions raised, some answered and some would require further response from SSEN.

## **6. NHS**

Post the recent e-mail from Mrs F MacKinnon in relation to the latest Sir L Ritchie Group meeting the present position in relation to the original report was discussed, Mr G Semler noted that it would be helpful to have a report going through each recommendation and have confirmation if it had been achieved by a simple yes/no answer. In addition, it would be helpful to have Summary Report of staffing shortfall, confirming what had & had not been achieved with note of what is proposed to resolve any gaps. Agreed that all are relatively content with the present position regards Accident Emergency and Urgent Care. Agreed Mr A Morrison would ask Mrs MacKinnon to raise at the next meeting

**Action: Mr A Morrison**

## **7. PAS Invite – National Lottery Climate Action Fund**

Mr A Morrison recently circulated an e-mail received from PAS in relation to Climate Ready Coastal Communities Project inviting Struan to be part of a bid to the National Lottery Climate Action Fund to help coastal communities prepare for climate change, they would envisage the project will involve working with up to five coastal locations in Scotland. Asking if we could complete a short survey to assist with a bid for funding to be submitted to the National Lottery, agreed Mr A Morrison will complete survey.

**Action: Mr A Morrison**

## **8. Highland Council – CC Review**

Mr A Morrison to complete survey

**Action: Mr A Morrison**

## **9. Fuel Poverty Strategy**

Discussed and no further action required at present

## **10. HIS Community Wealth Research**

Agreed believed at present not relevant to our community, the survey was not completed

## **11. School – 20 MPH Signs**

It has been noted that the 20 mph signs at the school are still operating on an intermittent basis, Councillor Millar advised he will raise with Mrs J MacRae at HC to have these disconnected.

## **12. Wind Farms**

### **Ben Sca Re-Design & Share Ownership**

Nothing further at present

### **Wind Harvest – Beinn Mheadhonach**

Nothing further at present

### **Glen Ullinish II**

Mr A Morrison & Mr G Semler attended the meeting with Muirhall & Near Neighbours in Struan on 9<sup>th</sup> September where Muirhall presented their updated outline of the proposed GUII. he revised proposal shows a reduction in the number of turbines to 33 with all turbines within the DWPA having been removed. Further discussion ensued on various topics relating to the proposed development, Project Viability, Aviation Lighting, Building Timescales, Design, Quayside and Delivery

of Components, , Cumulative Development, Support for the Application and Community Investment discussions. Muirhall also confirmed GUI would only be built out if consent is not granted for GUII. A meeting to be arranged between the Near Neighbours in coming weeks to discuss further & respond to Muirhall.

The matter of the Water Supply was further discussed, as although the turbines have been removed from the DWPA, is there still possible disruption to the Public & Private water supply for the whole community, as Muirhall believe there will be no issues we would request that they form an agreement direct with the community that in the event of contamination and/or pollution during or post construction they would provide a direct remedy at their cost, even though we believe they will have a bond in place with Scottish Water. Mr A Morrison to write in these lines to Muirhall.

### **13. Treasurers Report**

Mr A Morrison provided an update on finances, balance of account as at last bank statement received amounts to £32,714.75 includes funds for payment of works to the Play Park (£23,840.40), New Cemetery Gate (£3,660) and Skips (£2,028), after deducting a number of outstanding cheques the balance available amount to £1,638.95 which includes this year's HC Grant (£432.55) and funds received from SCDG on their dissolution of (£758.16).

### **14. Act of Remembrance**

Mr A Morrison advised that wreaths have been ordered, he will speak to Rev J Beaton to see if he can take the service, will print of the Order of Service, confirmed Tea/Coffee arranged post service at the School, Mr I Beaton will speak to piper Peter Morrison.

Agreed to ask Mrs Marjorie MacKinnon to lay the wreath on behalf of the Community & Miss Saraya Dewhurst on behalf of the Youth of the Community, it is also anticipated that Mrs Norma Young, Deputy Lord Lieutenant will attend to lay wreath on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant.

### **15. Community Engagement**

Mr A Morrison advised not any further forward with arranging meeting due to time issues will endeavour to resolve in early course.

**Action: A Morrison**

### **16. CAP**

Mr A Morrison advised that nothing of any consequence in respect both the new Legal Entity nor the Community Asset Transfer in respect of the School, Mr J MacKinnon advised awaiting confirmation of a meeting with Willie MacKinnon at HC re Asset Transfer and await final draft Articles of Association to allow these to be shared.

### **17. Planning**

No issues

### **18. Correspondence**

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

### **19. AOCB**

None

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 7.00pm in Struan School

The meeting closed at 10:45pm

*Geoff*

03/02/2024

*G Mackenzie*

04/02/2024