



Councillors Present:	Barbara MacAskill (BM) Chair Diane Buckle (DB) - Treasurer Margaret Menzies (MM) – Member Mandy Ingram (MI) - Member Councillor Duncan MacPherson (DM)	Susan Falconer (SF) – Secretary James Duncan (JD) – Member Carlie Borthwick (CB) – Member by video
Also Attended by:	14 members of the public in person plus 2 attending through MS Teams	

Item Ref	Details	Action By
1.	<u>Introductions</u> The Chair welcomed everyone Apologies received from:- Councillor Ken Gowans Councillor Duncan MacDonald	
2.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> None	
3.	<u>Accuracy of Minutes of the meeting of 12 March 2024</u> No changes noted.	SF
	<u>Approval of Minutes</u> Minutes approved by DB and seconded by CB.	
4.	<u>Matters arising that are not considered elsewhere on the agenda</u> School Transport The Community Council has no further options to take with The Highland Council (HC) on this matter. BM has therefore referred the situation to The Inverness Courier who are investigating prior to possible publication. <u>Actions:-</u> • Await further contact from The Courier • Contact will be made with Jane Manson (the school secretary) and Cathy Matheson (who opened the school in November 2002) once a response has been received from THC. War Memorial Fencing: A quotation from Davy McLean for fencing around the memorial is awaited before an application for funding from can be made. <u>Actions :-</u> BM to apply for funding from SCCT	BM BM

	Clune Road sink hole: work completed Potholes down Ruthven Road. SCC continue to await response from HC. Raigbeg Bridge - SCC continue to await response from HC. Action: Continue to Follow up with HC	BM
5.	<u>Financial Report</u> The bank account currently stands at £727.77	
6.	<u>Law and Order</u> The Community Beats Newsletter for April had been received and will be shared on the Community website. There was still no reference or relevance to Strathdearn found. JD was asked to raise this matter at the Community Councils Forum.	JD
7.	<u>Road Safety</u> Station Road – works on hold as this route has been deemed a safe route to School and as such the Council has responsibility. An email on this has been sent to Network Rail and acknowledged by Lyn Livingstone who will investigate the matter. Lamp post – open wiring – still outstanding New issues raised. Potholes have developed under the Viaduct and at the North End of the village. Moy Road – a foreign vehicle driving on the wrong side of the road has been observed. A requirement for signs was discussed and will be raised with the HC. Action: MI to follow up the above items with HC Whilst it was noted that Motorhomes had been parked in the layby near the Kelly's house no action can be taken on this as it is legal. An increase in cars speeding through the village late at night has been noted. This is now a continuous problem and coincides with vandalism in the area. Discussion with SCD required. A member of the public suggested that the culprits be named and shamed, DB indicated that this particular matter had already been dealt with. BM to contact Community Beats.	BM MI BM
8.	<u>Applications to the Trust</u> No applications received for consideration at this meeting. An application to fund the drafting of Strathdearn's Local Place Plan has been received - to be considered at next months meeting. (see further information at 13 AOCB)	

9.	<u>Planning Matters</u> Duncan Bryden (DBryden) kindly presented an overview of planning matters in the area: There are no new applications of note.	
10.	<u>Windfarms</u> The Lynemore Windfarm presentation has been delayed to the SCC meeting in July 2024 due to higher priority agenda items. The possibility of forming a limited term Windfarm Advisory Group was proposed by the Chair. This would consist of a member from SCC, SCD, SCCT and 2 members of the public. A questionnaire concerning the public's attitude towards windfarms and their development in the area is to be shared on the Community website tonight and paper copies to be available at The Strathdearn. A summary of each wind farm application with maps will be provided. This data will be used to inform the above group and will also be useful in any submission to the Scottish Government at the planning stages of windfarms. It was noted that Community Benefit is a separate issue. It was also noted that separate planning applications will be made in the future for cabling. A number of questions were raised by members of the public: - • What realistic chance is there of any of our views being taken into account by the Government? • JD raised the example of the existing Freeport area being extended – anything can happen. • DM whilst not discussing the relevant windfarms, outlined the kinds of planning concerns in other windfarm applications which could be considered such as visual impact, impact on traffic and roads infrastructure, underground cabling etc. • DBryden mentioned that an expert could be commissioned to collate community views and make a professional, coherent response to the government. • A question of how this windfarm advisory group would work with the LPP (see below at item 13) was asked – was seen to be at a different level but some overlap and synergy would be required – the groups would have to work together • The question of turbines being installed within 2km of a house (at Lynebeg) was asked –DBryden stated that this was possible in principle, but local culture may be significant in this case. <u>Action:-</u> Questionnaire to be made available to Strathdearn residents and the Windfarm advisory group to be set up	BM
11.	<u>Update from SCD</u> • No update received	
12	<u>Correspondence</u> • An invitation to a Public Session at Inverness Fire Station on 16 May has been received - will be attended by JD • An update on progress and guidance for the Local Place Plans has been received.	JD

13.	<u>Any Other Competent Business</u> 1. Local Place Plans must be registered with the Highland Council by September 17. The Chair has sought 4 quotations for the development of such a plan for Strathdearn with only one (DBryden) able to complete the work in time at a cost of £15k. DB and other members of the public felt that a lot of the data is already available from the Strathdearn Community Action Plan commissioned last Year. SF questioned the expectation that small CCs would be unable to spend funds to have these plans produced and that the requirement had only recently come to light (confirmed at the Community Councils Forum in April) It was suggested that SCD could provide professional assistance for this – The Chair advised that it was purely a Community Council matter. DM to clarify with HC the apparent need to employ an expert to produce an LPP. JD suggested that Council money might be available to assist with the process – DM to clarify. The Chair advised that an Application to the Trust to fund this will be considered at next months meeting. Overall, the feeling was that a extension to the timescale should be requested from HC Action: Request an extension to the LPP registration deadline Clarify if funding is available from HC. 2. Regarding the boulders on the footpath outside the old shop (currently belonging to Mr M Mackay) – he has refused to move them due to personal reasons. The Chair advised that if the bus which currently uses that place as a bus stopping point could be moved to a safer place this would solve the problem. After discussion it was agreed that the ‘tin church’ layby is a better place for a bus stop to be situated and a shelter installed. DM advised to email David Summers at HC for further action. Action: - Contact to be made Mr Summers at HC to discuss. SCC to find out first from Vivian Roden who own’s the suggested layby, as it may belong to the church. 3. Concerning the vehicle “dumped” at the old station yard some months ago, DM and BM have reported to HC for further action as it is out of road tax and has been there for a considerable time now. Action: - Await further action from HC 4. Trees at War Memorial John McLean at HC has contacted BM abut the HC coming to deal with the trees. It was generally agreed that only damaged or dead trees should be removed and other tidied up as necessary. Action: This matter to be progressed with HC	BM/ DM BM BM BM
14.	Date of future meeting- 11 th June 2024 (AGM and monthly meeting) Meeting closed at 9 pm	