



Councillors Present:	Barbara MacAskill (BM) Chair Diane Buckle (DB) Councillor Duncan McPherson (DMcP)	Susan Falconer (SF) – Secretary Margaret Menzies (MM) (by telephone)
Also Attended by:	11 members of the public in person	

Item Ref	Details	Action By
1.	<u>Introductions</u> The Chair welcomed everyone Apologies received from:- James Duncan, Councillor Ken Gowans(KG), Councillor Duncan McDonald (DMD)	
2.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> None	
3.	<u>Accuracy of Minutes of the meeting of 8 July 2024</u> No changes noted.	
	<u>Approval of Minutes</u> Minutes approved by BM and seconded by DB.	
4.	<u>Matters arising that are not considered elsewhere on the agenda</u> War Memorial - The faulty memorial light has been reported to the Highland Council –but no response received. School Transport - There has been no further response from THC to BM’s latest email regarding the use of excess capacity on the existing school buses. Further discussion suggested that this might be an insurance issue. Raigbeg Bridge –DMcP advised that John Taylor the Roads Director is retiring. Steven Grant is to take up his role. DMCP to check further on this matter with the Bridges and Structures Team. Station Road – there has been no further response from Network Rail regarding attendance at a CC meeting to discuss the upgrade of this road. Mobile Phone Signal – BM enquired to the meeting if the O2 phone signal had improved. There was a positive response. Snow Clearing on Old Mill Road – still awaiting response from The Highland Council. Play Park fencing – Mike McKay will do this work. Fuel Poverty Awareness session and Dalmagarry Quarry – no update received	DMcP BM

	<u>Actions:-</u> Continue to follow up these matters with the relevant authorities. The Community Council expressed thanks to John Taylor for his work over the years.	
6	<u>Road Safety</u> A member of the public highlighted the problem of leaves on the road through the village choking the drains. DMcP provided a contact at the Council – Alan McKinney of the Cleansing Department to request road sweepers to be deployed. Action: Contact Highland Council Cleansing Department The 20mph Consultation report had been received detailing roads which will now have a permanent speed limit applied. This will be shared on the Community Website.	BM BM
7.	<u>Financial Report</u> The bank account stood at £1093.88 on 30 November 2024	
8.	<u>Law and Order</u> The Community Beats Newsletter is being ‘revamped’. A new version will be circulated in January 2025.	
9	<u>Applications to the Trust</u> Karate Classes - £1782 –decision deferred from last meeting. Frank Roden advised that the classes will be supported on a pro rata basis. Mr Roden also expressed his wish that applicants should attend the CC meeting their application will be discussed at so that any questions can be answered at that time. SF advised that an online form for Applications to the Trust and Helping Hands Applications has been developed by Steve Cormack and Ed Cameron McIntosh. BM raised concern that confidentiality might be a problem with such a system. SF advised that the applications still come only to the Secretary’s email address and are not stored.	
10	<u>Planning Matters</u> Nothing to report.	
11.	<u>Windfarms</u> A report from the Strathdearn Windfarm Interim Advisory Group (SWIAG) was presented by Susan Falconer. - The Terms of Reference for the Group’s activities and objectives was approved by the CC on 12/11/24 - The group has meet again in December - A spreadsheet and maps listing the windfarm applications in detail is being prepared to provide an overall view of all developments - The Group’s work will include any infrastructure proposals to give an overall view of the impact of all these developments on Strathdearn - The Group has identified a consultant to assist with the information gathering and analysis of windfarm and infrastructure developments. Also, with any further local public	

	engagement required to support the Community response to the Section 36/37 Applications. Once a bid for this work is received the Group will submit an Application to the Charitable Trust for this additional resource. Action: Continue to undertake activities as agreed in the TOR and report back to the SCC	SF
12.	<u>Update from SCD</u> Project activity, all four EV charge points are now active after a drawn out period of installation and commissioning. A closing date was set for today (10 December) for offers to be made for Dalarossie Church and SCD have submitted an offer along with our use case to The Church of Scotland. SCD hope to hear the outcome shortly and will communicate the results once we have been notified. In relation to Hazelbank SCD has now received all the required documents and expect to complete the purchase of the majority of the woodlands prior to Christmas, the purchase of the smaller part of the woodlands (the strip along the burn) should complete in the new year. The housing project has taken huge steps forward in the last few months and will be the main focus through 2025. We have received and analysed the tenders submitted and are very close to finalising a funding package that will be put to members at a January AGM. Our events team have been busy with Christmas wreath making and preparations for the family Hogmanay party, the main Hogmanay event and looking towards Burns Night celebrations. The shop and cafe recently hosted a popular quiz night and are hosting an evening event for dinner and drinks in the run up to Christmas, bookings can be made for this in the cafe. A date for the AGM and will be announced shortly.	
13	<u>Correspondence</u> - A consultation the Highland Council's proposed Visitor Levy has been extended to end March 2025. - Jane Collier from Strathnairn Community Council emailed seeking support for their objection to Pat Munro building a new quarry. A public Exhibition on this will be held in January. BM to reply. Documents of public interest will be shared on the community website.	BM BM
14.	<u>Any Other Competent Business</u> The Snow Clearing contractors have advised that they are finishing their operations at end December due to taking up work positions in Inverness. BM had contacted James McPherson of Tomatin Firewood to seek help with this but manpower is not available. A suggestion that Balfour Beatty may be able to do this as part of their community benefit offering was made. A specification of the work required has been requested from Jason (current contractor). Debbie McKay advised that the school is cleared by a contractor from Carrbridge – she will provide contact details to BM. Action: BM to contact Balfour Beatty representative Duncan Gardener. BM to put out an appeal for help on the Strathdearn and Carrbridge pages.	BM

	A member of the public asked Councillor DMcP about the intended Council Tax rise – this should be known after the full Council meeting on Thursday 12 th Dec.	
14.	Date of future meeting- 11th February2025 The Meeting closed at 9.10 pm	