

It's hard to believe that it is now over two years since we started talking about the possibility of building a Community & Visitor Centre in the village, and did the initial survey of the community! However here we are and we have finally secured all the Stage 1 funding – some £28.8k - for the project!

This means that we now have the funding to find out whether it is feasible on our chosen site, and ultimately, to establish how much it will cost to get it out of the ground and operational. This will cover topographic and archaeological survey work, ground investigation, initial legal work, the land valuation, feasibility study, conceptual design and a draft 5 year business plan. The funding has come from a combination of The Highland Council, the Scottish Land Fund and Struan Community Trust, so our grateful thanks go to all of these organisations for helping us to take this huge step forward.

The survey work started on 6<sup>th</sup> May and will continue into early June – before accommodation becomes impossible and the vegetation gets too long – so provided the results from this are satisfactory we hope to commission the feasibility study, design and business planning in the next month or so.

Once we get to the stage of having design options, all members of the Development Group will be invited to see these, meet with the designers and express their opinions on what is being proposed, so please encourage anyone you know from the community who has not yet become a member to join so that they can get involved in this process.

We are also looking for more people to join the Steering Group, so if anyone is interested in getting more directly involved in the project, please get in touch via the mailbox, or give me a call on 01470 572779.