

## Struan Community Development Group

### Minutes of Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023

<b>Meeting Details</b>	Meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> June at 1930 hrs at the School	
<b>Attendees</b>	Peggy Semler (PS), Sarah Illingsworth (SI), Ken Imrie (KI), Leslie Charteris, Jenny Till (JT), Dave McGough, Kenna MacInnes.	<b>Board of Trustees</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	None	
		<b>ACTIONS</b>
<b>Minutes from last meeting and matters Arising</b>	The minutes from the meeting on 26 April 2023 were reviewed and agreed. To be signed off by SI. JT attended Skye Connect meeting but nothing directly relevant to the Group.	
<b>Membership</b>	Now sitting at 83. An update to members was sent out on 2nd June. Lots of issues sending to gmail addresses	
<b>Finance/Bank Account/Funding</b>	Bank account currently has £3768.28, after making a significant number of fuel voucher payments. We are still short of the £100 short payment from BoS when cheque from Trust was paid. PS to chase. DMcG in the process of submitting paperwork.	<b>ACTION: SI/DMcG</b>  <b>ACTION: PS</b>
<b>Fuel Voucher Scheme</b>	Very positive feedback from community in response to the scheme. However a number of cheques remain uncashed, so trustees asked to remind these people. SI reports we have made 88 online bank payments and issued 25 cheques. There are still a few people we would like to chase up but will plan to wind up at the end of the month. If new noticeboard installed could put notice up there to this effect.	<b>ACTION: SI/PS</b>
<b>Archaeology</b>	Application to Trust for gate counter was refused as they still believe HES are going to install one, although they don't have a date either. JT has spoken to contact at HES and they are still talking about fitting one before the end of June. Installation will need to be discussed with John MacKinnon. JT & PS to prepare further application for submission on 30 Jun if a counter has still not been installed.	<b>ACTION: JT/PS</b>
<b>Funding</b>	Application for counter to be resubmitted as above. No other funds open at the moment.	
<b>Muirhall and Other Windfarms</b>	PS confirmed that the joint proposal from the WCSCG was submitted to Muirhall on 31 May. No response as yet. Full set of signatures to follow. Muirhall finally provided a heavily redacted version of the Crossdykes Community Benefit Agreement which confirms that a similar document could be applied for GU11. However this one includes the involvement of a service company specifically to manage the funds. PS & Ali Mor attended online session with potential legal advisers, quote for formal advice to follow. SI attended a meeting of the Community windfarm group at Greshornish, but there is no coherent action being carried out. Balmeanach developers are offering to make a hard copy of the EIA available, as are Muirhall.	

	<p>Ben Sca – Wind2 have asked the Community Council to sign up to an Agreement of Intent (as previously discussed with SCT). There has been no discussion, let alone agreement, with regard to share ownership, but no Struan rep to date has said no, so there appears to have been an assumption that someone in Struan would sign up to it on behalf of the community. PS has attempted to progress this situation with the other communities, but not made any progress. Ali Mor is now going to have a go. KI suggested that the WCSC Group should get together to discuss Share Ownership with all the current windfarm developers, and potentially end up with a “preferred operator”. To be discussed at CAP Group.</p>	
<b>CAP/CAP Group</b>	<p>CAP forms have been delivered by hand (by Ali and Marie Morrison) to all but 2 properties. Workshops due to be held in July at the school. The need for a new legal entity has been generally been accepted by all the members of the group but what this should be has yet to be discussed and agreed and appropriate legal advice sought and received. The scale of the funds means that it is essential that these are protected and managed for the community, now and for the next 40 years. CAP Group have now basically agreed in principle that the community needs to have a paid development officer, the main question is now when and how.</p>	
<b>Struan School</b>	<p>CC have only managed to be offered a “Licence to Use” only for meetings of the SCC and SCT, including taking on full responsibility for all running costs, which is clearly not acceptable. No further changes to access. SLF have now said they cannot fund Stage 2 activities until the school has been officially closed, i.e. April 2024 or later. DTAS COSS rep has said he will try and follow up. SLF have offered to allow us to submit draft application, unofficially in advance. THC has advised that we can do anything we want with the school provided that THC cannot be seen, by allowing such activity, be seen to be prejudging the closure procedure. PS suggested that it might be possibly to get SCT to fund a condition survey and legal investigations before the official closure, but this will need to be discussed with them in advance of the Oct 31 closing date for applications. Japanese Knotweed has now been discovered in the grounds and THC have been made aware of this. Assuming external funding is required from SLF or elsewhere, for Stage 1 and/or Stage 2, it is likely to be, at the earliest, 2025 or even 2026 before we can get a response to a CATR. PS to talk to Uig CT, SI to try and find out more about Achiltibuie.</p>	<b>ACTION: PS/SI</b>
<b>AOCB</b>	<p>Bog Myrtle café is about to change hands to son of residents who live opposite the school. There continues to be an issue with vehicles parking on the Green. PS &amp; DMcG have set up planters and managed to get a few volunteers to look after them. Could still do with a few more.</p>	

<b>Young Person Award</b>	To be considered reviving the idea at a future meeting.	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	Monday 31 July 2023 at the School at 7.30pm	<b>Action: All</b>