

Struan Community Council

Chairperson

Mr I Beaton

Gesto Farm

Struan

Isle of Skye

01470 572217

Secretary/Treasurer

Mr A Morrison

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Struan

Isle of Skye

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Vice-Chairperson

Mr D J Morrison

Ullinish

Struan

Isle of Skye

Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council held on Tuesday 21st October 2025

Present: Mr I Beaton, Mr G Semler, Mr D J Morrison, Mr G MacKinnon, Mrs S Illingworth, Mr N Till, Mr A Morrison, Mr A Lockhart, Mr D Millar (Councillor), Mr C Beaton, Ms M Ebeling (SSEN), Mr P Lawrence (SSEN) & Mr P Friar (SSEN)

1. Welcome

Mr I Beaton took the chair opened & welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies

None

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting of 12th August 2025 were put forward to the meeting for approval, adoption was proposed by Mr G Semler and seconded by Mr D J Morrison

SSEN Update

Ms M Ebeling, Mr P Lawrence & Mr P Friar from SSEN attended the meeting to provide an update in progress to date, also to answer any questions the CC wished to raise at his point, they provided an overview of the following:

Works complete

Works currently ongoing

Office and Welfare Site Compound

Borrow Pit

Current Traffic Movements to Edinbane Substation Site (dated: 21 October 2025)

Community Liaison Groups – Mr N Till will attend North CLG on behalf of SCC

Community Benefit

Discussions on all of the above, main questions raised & put to SSEN at the meeting:

Construction Traffic Management Plans (CTMPs):

SSEN Transmission to provide clarity on number of CTMPs and timeline on when the cumulative CTMP can be expected:

CTMPs are still under review for the overall project. The CTMP for only the Substation works is finalised and will be shared with the community shortly.

Steel Lattice Tower heights:

SSEN Transmission to provide average height of towers:

The new towers are of similar height and built as the existing towers on the Skye Transmission line.

Exact individual tower heights depend on their location in the landscape but on average the new towers are just under 27m in height

Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL):

Will the project require AILs?

SSEN Transmission confirmed that the project will require AILs, such as delivery of sizeable electrical hardware (e.g. transformers) to Edinbane (and Broadford) Substation(s). The project team are currently investigating the use of marine transportation of these to as close as possible to site to alleviate the need for AIL to travel across the whole of the island.

Ms Ebeling confirmed that going forward they were more than willing to attend future CC meetings as & when invited by the CC to discuss any aspect of the Project going forward and will keep the CC updated going forward.

Mr I Beaton thank the SSEN representatives for attending the meeting, at this point they left proceedings.

4. Matters Arising

a) Play Park

All necessary works relating to the Play Park have now been fully completed, Mr A Morrison confirmed all associated invoices have been settled. The members wish to record their sincere appreciation to Mr G MacKinnon and Mr D J Morrison for their considerable efforts and commitment in bringing this project to completion.

b) NW Skye Minibus

Mr G Semler attended the Workshop, advised the main activity was to workshop options for local transport/bus service(s). General consensus was the need for an amalgam of a "home collection" capability and a regular route capability. nothing concrete came out of the discussion but will be taken forward and Mr Semler will advise as matters progress

c) Community Action Plan

Mr A Morrison trying to get time to move this forward.

d) Struan Roads/Struan Road Cattle Grid

All have noted that 2 new cattle grids now in place at the Struan & Portree ends of the Hill Road, believe works undertaken by Contractors, R J MacLeod

5. Act of Remembrance

Mr A Morrison advised the Act of Remembrance would be observed at 10:45 on Saturday 8th November 2025, Wreaths have been received, Order of Service will be updated and printed, Tea/Coffee arranged in the School, Mr A Lockhart to speak to Rev J Beaton to ask if he will take the service, Mr I Beaton will officiate, Mr C Beaton to read the Roll of Honour and agreed to ask Mr A Beaton to lay the wreath on behalf of Community and Ayla Manual to lay the wreath on behalf of the youth of the Community. Mr A Morrison awaiting word from Mrs N Young, Deputy Lord Lieutenant to see if she will attend and have a wreath laid.

Mr A Morrison, Mr A Lockhart & Mr C Beaton looking into improvements, updates to the plaques and adding missing name, will report back in due course as matters progress

6. The Green

Mrs S Illingworth raised the issue of the CC leasing The Green from HC in a similar way has been done with the Play Park & The Cemetery Car Park, after some discussion agreed not to progress in this manner. Agreed the Mr I Beaton & Mr D J Morrison would review and put options to the HC to see how best to resolve all the issues surrounding The Green in particular parking and how best to protect the green space.

Action: Mr I Beaton & Mr D J Morrison

7. Christmas Shopping Trip

Agreed to arrange a Shopping Bus Trip to Inverness, again using the Dunvegan Minibus, Mrs S Illingworth to arrange, Mr D J Morrison happy to drive if date suitable for him, once date agreed, minibus confirmed. Mrs Illingworth will contact Mr G Semler to put note on Web Page advertising and asking those wishing to go to contact Mrs Illingworth to book

Action: Mrs S Illingworth

8. Japanese Knotweed at The School

Mrs S Illingworth provided an update, post e-mail exchanges with Jenny MacRae at HC, a spray was undertaken in June 2025 by Scottish Woodland, advised further spray to be undertaken this month and may already have been done. In addition, Scottish Woodland have confirmed at present further sprays to be undertaken, Spring & Autumn 2026, these being the last of the existing Contract, In addition, Scottish Woodland advised:

“The felled tree and some chipped material shouldn’t be moved and is actually quite useful to have there in terms of providing a mulch. The cut stem piled by the dyke could be removed, but to reduce chances of any inadvertent knotweed movement, ideal if the bottom layer of logs can be left in situ (which are quite big and tougher to handle manually anyway).”

As the existing contract for spraying ends in the Autumn of 2026, the issue was raised if we should at this point be contacting HC to obtain a guarantee/indemnity in respect of the possible re-occurrence of the knotweed post the conclusion of the works presently being undertaken, as was noted that can take up to 7 years to eradicate and can re-appear after 3 years.

9. Housing

Mrs M MacLennan on behalf of DCT sent over copy of an Outline Proposal on Skye Housing that has been put together by a Project Team looking at the provision of Rural Housing, the Skye Proposal came about through a conversation between Mrs MacLennan & Paul Ede who was central to the Struan CAP.

The proposal is to use innovative ways to provide legacy housing in conjunction with energy and construction companies needs to provide accommodation for workers throughout the approved and proposed projects ongoing.

Mr G Semler believes the concept is good and the idea of having one programme that covers both the SSEN and windfarm needs without ever building huge camps is attractive on a number of levels, a spread around the island would be crucial. All agreed and we would be happy to engage going forward.

10. Kaly Kelp

Mr G Semler has drafted document noting the CC’s objections to the Kaly Kelp proposal, agreed we would submit this document to The Marine Directorate, and make representation to Kate Forbes MSP voicing our concerns and objection to the proposal and asking for her intervention, as the CC

are not a statutory consultee, in addition, copies to go to Angus MacDonald MP & local Councillors.

Action: A Morrison

11. Wind Farm - Various

Wind Harvest – Beinn Mheadhonach – Broadband

An updated Planning Application received early October with response required by 2nd November 2025, agreed to submit comments as agreed in relation to Transport Planning & Community Benefit, Mr A Morrison will have submitted by the deadline date.

Action: A Morrison

12. Planning

No issues

13. Correspondence

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

14. AOCB

Struan Community Trust

Mr I Beaton raised the issue that as the new CLG has now been set up and with so many developments in the pipeline, in addition, to progress the actions identified within the CAP, is it now an opportune moment for a Community Development Officer to be employed even if initially on a part time basis. Agreed Mr A Morrison would write Mrs A Munro for the thoughts of SCT on the matter

Amer Hill Land

Mr C Beaton advised that Amer Hill land is for sale and suggested that the Community might like to look into buying it for the community, perhaps with funding from The Scottish Land Fund.

Coillore & Portion of Ullinish Road

It was agreed by all to minute the excellent work undertaken by HC on the Coillore road that has finally after many years had work undertaken to upgrade the surface, in addition, some of the Ullinish loop road has also had surface works undertaken.

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 9th December 2025 in Struan School

The meeting closed at 9:34pm

Future Scheduled Meetings

27th January 2026

24th March 2025

10th June 2025 – AGM & Meeting

Mrs. [Signature] 9/12/25
Goffh 9/12/25