

Struan Community Council
AGM 2026
Chair Annual Report

The past year has been another busy and productive one for Struan Community Council, with progress made on a range of community projects, local issues and strategic developments that will help shape the future of our area.

One of the year's notable achievements has been the completion of the final phase of improvements at Struan Play Park. While the play park itself has been developed over a number of years, this year saw the installation of new wet-pour safety surfacing and a new entrance path, further enhancing the facility for local families and visitors.

The Community Council wishes to record its sincere appreciation to Graham MacKinnon and Donald John Morrison for the considerable time, commitment and effort they dedicated to securing and delivering these latest improvements. Their perseverance over many years has played a significant role in the ongoing development of this valued community asset.

Work has also continued on a number of village improvement projects. The installation of gates at the new cemetery has now been completed, while discussions continue with Highland Council regarding improvements at The Green, including parking arrangements, protection of the green space and pedestrian safety. The Community Council has also continued to engage with Highland Council on a range of infrastructure matters, including road conditions, cattle grids, pavements, and other local concerns raised by residents throughout the year.

The War Memorial remains an important focus for the Community Council. Following a detailed review, work is now progressing to update and improve the memorial, including the correction of historical inaccuracies and the addition of names omitted from the existing inscriptions. The annual Act of Remembrance was once again very well attended and remains one of the most important events in the community calendar. The Community Council extends its thanks to everyone who contributed to making the service such a success.

The Community Council has continued to engage with renewable energy and infrastructure developments affecting the area, including wind farm proposals and the SSSEN Skye Reinforcement Project. We have maintained dialogue with developers and other stakeholders where appropriate and sought to ensure that the interests of Struan residents are represented throughout these discussions.

The Community Council has also continued to monitor healthcare developments affecting Skye and Lochalsh. Through Finella MacKinnon's attendance at NHS and

health-related meetings, the Council has remained informed of ongoing developments and able to represent the interests of local residents on these important matters.

Looking ahead, a number of important initiatives are beginning to gather momentum. The formation of the new Struan Community Company and the continuing work towards community ownership of Struan Primary School represent exciting opportunities for the future. Discussions have also begun around the potential appointment of a Community Development Officer, recognising the increasing number of projects, funding opportunities and community-led initiatives that require support and coordination.

The Community Council has continued to support community activities throughout the year, including the annual Christmas shopping trip, local transport discussions and wider community engagement through meetings and consultations. We have also continued to work closely with Struan Community Trust and other local organisations to help maximise opportunities for the community.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Community Council for their commitment and contribution throughout the year. Their willingness to give their time voluntarily for the benefit of the community is greatly appreciated.

Particular thanks must once again go to Ali Morrison, who continues to undertake the demanding roles of both Secretary and Treasurer. His knowledge, commitment and countless hours of work are invaluable to the Community Council.

Special thanks also go to Finella MacKinnon for her continued attendance at NHS and health-related meetings. Her willingness to represent the interests of the community and provide regular updates to the Community Council on these important matters is greatly appreciated.

Thanks are also due to all residents who attend meetings, raise concerns, volunteer their time and contribute to community projects. The continued involvement and support of local people is essential to maintaining a strong and active community, and the Community Council looks forward to working with everyone over the coming year.

Iain Beaton

Chair

Struan Community Council