Struan Community Council

Chairperson	Secretary/Treasurer	Vice-Chairperson
Mr I Beaton	Mr A Morrison	Mr D J Morrison
Gesto Farm	3 Coillore	Ullinish
Struan	Struan	Struan
Isle of Skye	Isle of Skye	Isle of Skye
01470 572217	01470 572357	

Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council held Thursday 13th August 2026

Present: Mr I Beaton, Mr D J Morrison, Mr G MacKinnon, Mr N Till & Mr A Morrison.

1. Welcome

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

2. Apologies

Mr A Lockhart, Mr G Semler, Mrs S Illingworth & Mr D Millar (Councillor)

3. Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the last meeting of 10th June 2026 were put forward to the meeting for approval, adoption was proposed by Mr G MacKinnon and seconded by Mr N Till

4. Matters Arising

a) Community Development Officer

Meeting with Struan Community Trust: Mr A Morrison reported that he, Mrs S Illingworth, Mr G Semler, Mr D J Morrison and Mr N Till met with Struan Community Trust following its AGM on 22nd June 2026. It was agreed that a Development Officer should be appointed.

Appointment process and remit: Members noted that the appointment process will take time, as the role requires a clear remit and the right candidate. The Development Officer would support the ongoing work relating to the school and help deliver the recommendations in the Community Action Plan. It was acknowledged that finding a suitable person may be challenging.

Initial research: As a first step, Mr A Morrison will approach existing community companies for advice on how they appointed Development Officers, including how they prepared job descriptions, contracts and application materials.

Next steps: Mr A Morrison will share the information gathered with both groups for discussion. A further meeting will then be arranged to consider the preferred way forward, including whether the role should be offered as an employment contract or a specified service contract, and to investigate potential funding sources.

Community Company membership: The Community Council asked when membership forms for the new Community Company would be issued. Mr J MacKinnon advised that issue of the forms had been delayed until a bank account was in place. Mr D Beaton explained that setting up the account had taken an inordinate length of time and had been extremely frustrating. The account is now

nearly complete, and the membership application forms are ready to be issued to the community in due course. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

b*) War Memorial*

Mr A Morrison advised that the wording for the updated granite slab has been agreed and sent to Jon Hearch Memorials. A draft will be provided for confirmation, followed by a quotation. Labour costs for removing the existing slab and installing the new one have also been received. Funding applications will be submitted once the slab cost is known.

Mr A Lockhart is progressing the plaque updates with MacBride Signs and expects to receive costs shortly.

Mr A Morrison also reported that several members of the community wished to create a lasting reminder of the late Mr M N Beaton, recognising his many years of work in relation to the War Memorial. A stone bench with a plaque at the War Memorial was suggested. Mrs M Morrison has discussed the proposal with Mr Beaton's son, Mr D Beaton, who has provided a cost estimate. The required stone is available at Balmeanach and would be gifted to the project. Mr A Morrison will progress the funding applications. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

c) Community Asset Transfer

Noted that the new Community Company Membership Forms have now been made available, Mrs S Illingworth by e-mail had raised a couple of points, why was there a closing date of 31st July advised when these were issued? Mr A Morrison advised he had mentioned this to Mr J MacKinnon, he advised was decided so as to elicit as many responses as possible early, confirmed, as we are aware, membership is continually open to all Struan Residents. In addition, Mrs Illingworth raised the question if we know if every member of the community was contacted or only those with email addresses? Mrs Illingworth of the opinion there could be a better method of ensuring folk don't get left out, going on to say, this will be of even greater importance once the school, hopefully, belongs to the community, adding Royal Mail is good but expensive. Agreed to write SCT with comments raised. **Action: A Morrison**

d) SSEN – Timetables/Schedules

Mr N Till advised that the Transport Plan/Schedule had been presented at the previous Community Group meeting, the schedule sets out anticipated movement numbers at various locations on a monthly basis. However, these movements have not yet commenced, as the full programme of works has not begun, it was noted that the schedule provided will remain applicable from the date on which the works commence.

e) Japanese Knotweed

Mrs S Illingworth requested that update on matters be provided at the meeting, e-mail received from Mrs J MacRae at HC 30th June to advise that contact from Scottish Woodland to advise spray due within 2 weeks of same date, with a final spray in the Autumn which would be the end of the contract period. Agreed that will require to progress this matter to ascertain what the position is should the Knotweed not be eradicated by the end of the contract. Mr A Morrison advised would liaise with Mrs Illingworth to press HC on this matter. **Action: Mrs S Illingworth & Mr A Morrison**

f) Hill Road

Mr A Morrison e-mailed Mr A Bone at HC with the list of issues raised at last meeting, to date no response, although has been noted that several of the issues have been progressed, will await response. Mrs S Illingworth by e-mail wished to raise the issue of obstruction caused the clump of large bushes/small trees on the right just before the cattle grid leaving Struan, blocking the view of the corner, Mr A Morrison advised this has been included within the e-mail to Mr Bone at HC, pointing out that the bushes/trees are on private ground.

Mrs Illingworth further went on to note her concerns, that in her opinion, drivers are driving faster on the improved stretches of road, Mrs Illingworth feels with the additional works traffic on the road, is there any form of road signage appropriate that may assist in reducing the perceived speeds. As the road is subject to 60 MPH Speed Limit cannot see what can be done.

5. The Green

Mr A Morrison advised that Councillor Millar had contacted colleagues in Inverness regards the matter of ownership of The Green, was advised that no title held by HC, therefore, was suggested best option would be to submit a Land Title Investigation to Registers of Scotland. Mr A Morrison proceeded to submit the application, the search concluded that The Green is not registered on the Land Register, it remains on the Register of Sasine's, from the details provided it appears The Green by way of servitude right of constructing a roadway over 3 Plots of ground was granted in favour of HC in November 1978, this was backed up by Mr A Lockhart who had contacted the local Department Office they advised it was part of the Struanmore grazing, however, on completion of the new road was taken over by HC. Mr A Morrison asked if all were happy for him to share this information with Councillor Millar to allow him to also advise his HC colleagues in Inverness, all agreed in order.

Further discussion held in addition to e-mail submissions from Mr G Semler, all agreed that the CC nor the Community would wish to take ownership of The Green, due to various factors, Mr Semler still of the opinion that the community should lay large white painted stones along the edge of The Green to attempt to protect from bad parking. In addition, all agreed that the notice re parking composed and provided by Mrs S Illingworth should be put up at Bog Myrtle, has already been agreed with Bog Myrtle by Mrs Illingworth.

Mr I Beaton confirmed he had discussed the CC proposal for works at The Green with Maren Ebling at SSE to see if they would be willing to provide some funding towards the proposed works, was advised that would be best to submit application to the new Community Fund once in place, likely by October.

6. The Shop

Mr A Morrison advised that he had received a call from Mrs F MacKinnon to advise that she had recently been approached by Mr T Warby the owner pf the Shop and Post Office to ask Mrs MacKinnon what the reaction of the Community would be if Bog Myrtle took over the Shop, he further advised they would use as Cake Shop & Takeaway but would also take on and run the Post Office. Mrs MacKinnon advised she had told Mr Warby that it was imperative that the Post Office remained in operation no matter what would happen to the Shop and that a weekday service was continued.

After discussion, it was agreed it was good to hear Mr Warby taking feedback regards the possible changes going forward, therefore, agreed to e-mail Mr Warby to seek clarification of his intentions for the Shop and Post Office going forward, to allow the CC to ensure the Post Office facility is retained in the Community. **Action: Mr A Morrison**

7. SSEN – Community Benefit Fund Proposal

It was noted that the Consultation Report & Fund Proposal has now been issued by SSEN, SSEN now invite feedback on the proposal from Community Representatives and Stakeholders by 14th September 2026 prior to finalising the proposals.

8. Treasurer's Report

Mr A Morrison provided an update on finances, as of today the present funds available amount to £549.02 this excludes Grant Funding received of £450 for annual grass cutting around benches & seats. In addition, Mr Morrison confirmed the HC Grant has now been confirmed and has increased by £350 to £782.55, will be in our Bank Account in early course.

9. Planning

Glen Ullinish II Wind Farm – The revised Planning Application has now been submitted; HC has advised that the Application will be determined by the ECU. Responses must be submitted by 17th September 2026, it was agreed that the CC would submit its standard agreed response to the Project, Mr A Morrison to submit.

Mr A Morrison also advised that a hard copy of the Application documents is being sent for display and viewing at Struan School. Once received, a notice will be placed on the website so members of the community can view the documents if required.

Erection of Holiday Letting Property, Land 60m NE of Grianeal, 5 Ullinish – Mr G Semler wished to flag this Planning Application, advising that many Ullinish residents were unhappy with the Planning in Principle application submitted by Ullinish House for new letting accommodation beside No. 1 Ullinish. Mr Semler advised that several objections had been submitted, including his own, and that representations may be made to SCC. As the matter had been raised with the CC, it was agreed to submit a comment to HC requesting that all comments and objections be taken into account. The CC will neither object to nor support the Application.

10. Correspondence – Various Digital Items

Several items received & tabled

11. AOCB

Christmas Shopping Trip
Mrs S Illingworth e-mailed to advise although it is a few months away, she would like to know if Mr D J Morrison would be prepared to drive the Minibus, Mrs Illingworth suggested a number of date, 5th, 12th or 19th December, with collection/return of the Minibus to Dunvegan the evening before and the morning after the trip. Mr D J Morrison will liaise with Mrs Illingworth to facilitate.

EV Chargers
Mr N Till advised he has been contacted by a national EV Charger supplier regards siting these within the Community, full funding available to have this undertaken, after discussion was agreed not presently the time to progress.

Diddley' Bench overlooking Jetty

Mr J MacKinnon contacted Mr A Morrison to advise that the bench/seat, installed by the CC in April 2012, had sustained damage at one end and was in a poor overall condition. Mr A Morrison had contacted Mr G MacKinnon to inspect the bench and advise whether repair was feasible. Mr G MacKinnon confirmed that he had inspected the bench and that the timber had deteriorated to such an extent that repair would not be economically viable. It was therefore agreed that Mr G MacKinnon would obtain a quotation for replacement and provide a report confirming that the bench is beyond repair. Once these documents have been received, an application will be submitted to SCT for funding. **Action: Mr G MacKinnon**

Date of Next Meeting 20th October 2026 in Struan School

The meeting closed at 8:50pm

Iain Beaton 20/10/26