



BROADFORD & STRATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes 16th March 2026

UHI North, West & Hebrides – Broadford, 7.30PM

Present: David O'Donnell (chair), Hamish Fraser (vice-chair), Alistair McPherson, Den Connell, Martyn Ayre, Melissa MacLeod (parent council), one member of the public,

Online: Norma Morrison (BSCC), Jazz Buchannan, John Finlayson (councillor)

Apologies: Rhona Coogan (treasurer), Angus McPhie, Nick Ferguson, Catriona Mackinnon

Welcome from: David O'Donnell (Chair)

Declarations of conflicts of interest: None

Approval of Minutes: February minutes approved. Approved by Hamish Fraser. Seconded by Martin Ayre.

Matters Arising:

- HF still awaiting a response from Transport Scotland regarding attending an in person meeting in April
- Community Council minutes from 2025 going to be on website within next week
- Christmas lights will be actioned later on in the year
- NM will support with minute in the interim

Police report:

- No police report. Police Scotland contacted but no response. **Action: DOD to contact again**

Broadford and Strath Community Company Update:

- Report to follow

South Skye Community Campus SCIO Update:

- SSCC AGM planned for 11th May @ 7.30pm Broadford Village Hall

- Seven tenders received for the synthetic pitch – may need additional funds
- SSCC are trying to find a Treasurer and a secretary without much success – please contact if of interest to anyone
- Condition survey is being sought for the village hall to help prioritise upgrade work.
- Applied to the SSE Highland Sustainable Development Fund for a Campus Development Manager role - decision expected April
- Have letter of comfort for pitch lease, lease is currently with solicitors
- Applied for £24K from developers contributions – decision expected April

Elgol Community Trust:

- Community Right to Buy has been accepted on John Muir Trust (JMT) buildings and land at Strathaird – community will get refusal should JMT sell
- Housing meeting held between JMT, Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association (LSHA), THC and Elgol Trust - general agreement that housing needs to happen
- JMT don't discuss land release

Highland Council update - JF

- Balanced budget by THC
- Committed to investment in essential services, poverty, roads
- Increase to Ward Discretionary Fund
- Increase to Community Council grant
- Comfort Scheme uplift
- Council Tax at 7% - 5% to council tax 2% to Highland Investment Plan which supports developments such as new school at Dunvegan
- SG and CLOSA agreed reduced contact time for class teachers - just 21 hours front facing out of 35 hour contract - additional teachers needed
- Mackenzie Sutherland has promotion but will be carrying out his current job alongside new position until replacement found
- Link road in Portree has started
- Work starting in Portree Harbour
- Phase two work starting at the Storr
- Walking Scotland (Scottish Government funds) upgrading Moll and Sleat road
- Entering a period of purdah in the run up to Scottish Government elections
- Query over community council training **Action: MA to email JF**
- Elgol had a meeting regarding Elgol Primary School which will continue to be mothballed. Concern over school transport for children especially younger children travelling such a distance to school. Parents are currently taking younger children to school directly. Concerns should be directed to education JF has contacts. **Action: JF to share an email with JB and Broadford Primary**

- No update on cemetery paths **Action: DOD to contact JF**

New School update:

- Stakeholder meeting this week - DOD can not attend, HF will attend
- School build going as planned - completion date 2027

MMH site:

- Working group had helpful discussions with NHS

SSE Community Liaison Group - Broadford specific group:

- Old Corry residents raised concern over the state of the road
- New road to be started in April
- Concerns raised regarding loop path access
- Work started on borrow pit
- Biodiversity net gain - damage happening in Broadford however net gain happening elsewhere on the island. Need more focus on Broadford area
- RC can no longer chair the CLG group **Action: DOD and MA to co-chair**
- Discussion regarding the SSEN funding
 - £5.45 million for local fund
 - Local panel to be formed - paid position - no community councillors to be involved
 - Concern raised about lack of involvement from THC
 - Word document of consultation to be sent out **Action: NM to send**

Skye and Ramsay Community Benefit Fund:

- DRAFT minutes sent out to the community council for review
- Too many abbreviations **Action: DOD to highlight**
- 9CC and Shetland groups good models to look at **Action: DOD to share info again with CC**
- Discussion about stating at the start of each meeting that the group does not support windfarms
- No THC representative attending meetings
- Representatives of each community council area to be represented - one vote per community council area
- **All agreed that DOD to be the representative at this point**

- Next meeting late May TBC

Planning:

- Purdah will not affect the next planning meeting
- Ashaig – major realignment of the existing layout for the site at Breakish
- Community need to review and will see updated plans at CLG meeting
- Borrow pit - lot of enabling works going on that are not included in planning applications
- No follow up from Mr Keane regarding development at bottom of hospital site
- Disappointed regarding recent planning approval that the Broadford and Strath Local Place Plan had highlighted as “cherished green space”
- BSCC and Community Council to contact Dafyd Jones re clarification over Local Place Plans weighting on future plans **Action: NM to action**
- Discussion on planning application at bottom of hospital site and the impact it will have on hospital road and future development on old hospital site
- Hospital road not adequate

Treasurers Report:

- THC grant has been received
- Current balance £5712.96
- DOD and RC to action year end accounts

AOB:

- Elgol had been happy with recent road upgrades but new potholes appearing.
- Cattle grid at Elgol to be replaced **Action: JB to email and copy in JF**
- HF raised recent drainage issues around Skullamus ditches
- Village drainage needing essential work - will cause issues if not dealt with asap **Action: HF to contact Bear**

Date of next meeting:

20th April 2026