

Broadford - Community Liaison Group Meeting
SSEN Transmission Skye Reinforcement Project

11 December 2025
Broadford Village Hall

Present: Martyn Ayre (Broadford Community Council), Margaret Clark (Balfour Beatty Senior Manager - Planning), Rhona Coogan (Broadford Community Council), Sam Crowe (BB Community Liaison), David O'Donnell (Broadford Community Council / SSCC), Maren Ebeling (SSEN Community Liaison Manager), Shirley Grant (South Skye Community Campus), Irene Kay (resident Old Corry), Norma Morrison (BSCC), Ian Philp (Head of Strengthening Communities HIE), Joanna Rogers (SSEN Transmission Funding)

Apologies: Lynne Adamson (resident Old Corry), John Finlayson (Councillor, Highland Council), Melissa Macdougall (BSCC), Haleem Mohammed (SSEN Project Manager Broadford Substation), Ben Yoxon (BSCC)

RC welcomed all and introductions were held round the table.

Minutes:

Minute of Nov meeting amendment under SSEN Transmission fund explanation, which is misleading. This will be edited. **Action – ME.**

All approved minutes can be found on the SSEN website - <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/skye-reinforcement/>

All present happy with names being published. **Action: RC to contact all involved in CLG group to ensure they are happy with names being published in meeting minutes.**

Matters arising:

Old Corry Substation

IK – there has been an issue with delays on the Old Corry Road with no notice. There has been no communication to residents. A communication group for residents is requested – WhatsApp is suggested. **Action: ME to ensure that resident contact group is set up.**

Residents to meet with GE in New Year? **Action: ME to organise**

Lights on site are on overnight and dazzling **Action: ME to see if they can be turned off**

Communication is key and ME is keen to be kept updated.

Community questions requested - ME updates (11/12/25)

Substation:

- Blasting plan – ongoing
- Traffic management plan – ongoing
- Access path - SSEN have contacted David Swanson – Active Travel and Outdoor Access potential to look at a path linking Corry loop to Skinidin. The Community have also contacted David Swanson.
- Looking at various options and segregated footway
- Considering these options.

Balfour Beatty responses

CLG Terms of Reference:

ME shared updated Terms of Reference.

All to take home and review.

Substation update:

- Offices set up
- Trees being felled
- Roadworks and Quarry are still in planning (3 separate planning applications)
- ME pressing for traffic management plans – no update
- ME raised issue of community council resources in terms of planning applications **Action: RC to email ME regarding volunteer fatigue**
- Social Value Charter have staff to support with the value of applications coming through the HC.
- Online map of proposed projects

Ashaig workers camp update Balfour Beatty (MC)

- HC overwhelmed with applications and will not meet determination date – new date 11 March
- Statutory consultees have still not all responded.
- THC have asked Balfour Beatty to reduce footprint of village by double stacking accommodation units – recent request.
- No plan yet and there will be an opportunity for all to re comment.
- Will squeeze the units up towards the sawmill.
- Foul drainage needs will be the same
- Storm capacity might be reduced (1 in 200 year events).
- MC highlighted that an objection was made about the change from consultation to planning and felt that maybe MC had not conveyed properly – not trying to get away with things. Re word it.
- BB contacted BY directly regarding otters.
- Pre action letter received by MA and Environmental Rights Centre for Scotland approx. 3 weeks ago – screening process was faulty and based on inaccurate information from Balfour Beatty. HC to review screening process again.

SSEN Funding

- Welcome to Joanna Rogers – SSEN Community Funding (Joanna.Rodgers@sse.com/community.benefit@sse.com). Contacting the generic email address will ensure someone from the team picks it up if Jo is out of office.
- Priority is developing local funds
- Local fund for the transmission line
- Second local fund to be set up by SSEN
- Fund based on Government guidance – <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/electricity-transmission-network-infrastructure-community-funds>
- ~~Fixed fund just over 10 million.~~ Based on the government guidance, the total amount of community benefit funding generated by the Skye Reinforcement project is £10.91 million. In line with SSEN Transmission's governance for community benefit funding, half of this - £5.46m – will be dedicated to a new Skye Reinforcement Local Fund for communities located from Fort Augustus to Ardmore, throughout the whole project area. The other half will be made available via the SSEN Transmission's Regional Community Benefit Fund for the north of Scotland transmission area, which communities along the Skye to Fort Augustus line can also apply to.
- Decision making panels made up of local representatives will be set up – not sure how it will work thinking about 3 different Highland areas like THC / HIE. More information to follow.

- There will be consultation
- Looking at the SARF and Local Place Plans
- Meeting with Jo at SLCVO who are working on the SARF and supporting community groups across Skye and Lochalsh
- Starting point of consultation will be those communities who were consulted in planning
- Community Engagement Plan – would like feedback on how to deal with this
- Fund proposal to feed into
- Fund live by mid-summer but need a rigorous process
- There was an original consultation on the Regional Fund in 2023 however this is a more detailed consultation focused on the Skye Reinforcement line only, in line with the new Government Guidance
- Create a wish list
- Keep in touch with any needs that ~~will suit the project~~ the project team themselves might be able to deliver (ie, support with paths etc) as community benefit funding is not the only way to deliver benefit to local communities.
- SSEN seeking input from THC and HIE on community engagement/funding plans
- Local Place Plan / Skye and Raasay Future Plan will be considered when looking at funding priorities. The regional community benefit fund was not designed to meet the specific needs of communities along the Skye Reinforcement project route, instead it focuses on projects that have a strategic, transformational impact, with a reach that is wider than one community, or have the potential for wider future impact through replication. The Skye Reinforcement Local Fund will be focused on the needs of communities along the route. Community legacy essential.

Volunteering

(ME) All volunteering requests to be submitted via:

skye.reinforcement@sse.com or log volunteering opportunities on our website:

[Volunteering in Local Communities - SSEN Transmission](#) (information)

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=gw87leYcw0WCyR2EfjCjOf60fvr5O8Zlqjfgc_zqIgzUN09CN1VOQVI2OEJvQIq0NjITINPWDQyVS4u&route=shorturl (volunteering request form)

Tree felling has been discussed.

Community Benefit Info:

List SSEN T **community benefit** recipients is available here:

[Regional community projects we're funding - SSEN Transmission](#)

General CB information:

[Community Benefit Fund - SSEN Transmission](#)

For Balfour Beatty Volunteering contact Sam Crowe (sam.crowe@balfourbeatty.com)

- Send volunteer wish list to both ME and SC.
- Communities need to create wish list – contact all groups
- Various support – finance / HR / VAT advice?
- Keen to support social enterprises

A.O.B.

- Broadband –potential for SSEN to provide broadband for SSCC (Broadford Village Hall).
Action: SG

- Police in discussion with Balfour Beatty regarding Ashaig. **Action: RC to invite police to meeting**
- Transport Scotland not providing accurate data on the cumulative impact
- Discussion about storage / use of the airstrip - THC have committed lease to wind turbine storage.
- Environmental Health raising light / noise issue re the airstrip issue – could this issue be included in the CLG group?
- Community Councils are working together to look at developer funding – Glengarry
- BB have contacted Morgan Sindall and made contact
- Type 1 cumulative – what is known to be happening
- Type 2 cumulative – what is coming down the line?
- Important that contractors are aware of the local issues and how these projects will impact us.
- Still looking at additional worker camp sites (rather than Torrin road).
- SSEN want to leave as much legacy as possible.

Date of next meeting: 12th February 2026 @2pm