

**Fiona Livingstone**

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**From:** CAL LochaberAdmin  
**Subject:** RE: Strontian school

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tracy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 18 August 2016 15:45  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Subject:** Strontian school

Hello Ian

I would just like to say that I think the proposed community build school in Strontian is a great idea. The village has needed this for a long time and I think the proposed building would meet the community needs.

Tracy Cameron m  
Sent from my iPhone

## Fiona Livingstone

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**From:** Ian Jackson  
**Sent:** 19 August 2016 10:50  
**To:** CAL LochaberAdmin  
**Subject:** FW: Strontian Primary School Consultation

Hi, for action as per the similar response yesterday please.

Ian Jackson  
Education Officer  
Care and Learning Service  
07500 120 271

---Original Message-----

**From:** Helen Tait [redacted]  
**Sent:** 19 August 2016 07:59  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Cc:** Rev Donald McCorkindale  
**Subject:** Strontian Primary School Consultation

Dear Ian

As a parent of children in Strontian Primary School, I am writing to express my support to the proposal of a community school for Strontian.

I think the community proposal to build their own school is an excellent way to provide first class accommodation for our children, with the added gain of a lasting legacy for the village as a whole.

Kind regards

Helen Tait

Sent from my iPhone

**Fiona Livingstone**

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**From:** CAL LochaberAdmin  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Subject:** RE: Strontian Primary School

**From:** Rachael MacLellan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 August 2016 15:32  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Cc:** Laura Sutherland; claire campbell  
**Subject:** Strontian Primary School

Dear Mr Jackson,  
I am emailing as chair of the Strontian Primary Parent Council to inform you of our wholehearted support of the primary school relocation plans, under the community ownership plans.  
Kind regards,  
Rachael Gordon.

**From:** Jamie Tait  
**Sent:** 21 August 2016 22:30  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Cc:** Jamie Tait; Rev Donald McCorkindale  
**Subject:** Strontian Primary School Public Consultation

Dear Mr Jackson,

As a parent of 2 children in Strontian Primary School, please can you forward my support for the recommended proposal of the final report of the school consultation for Strontian Primary.

The proposed community proposal will not only provide the first class accominodation that our children and teaching staff require but will provide a lasting legacy for the village of Strontian.

Many thanks,

Jamie Tait

**From:** Jamie McIntyre  
**Sent:** 21 August 2016 15:12  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Subject:** Revised Strontian Primary School Consultation Report

Dear Ian

We write to comment on the above report.

We agree with the report's recommendation and support the community-led proposals for a new school building.

We believe this provides the best medium & long-term solution to address the need to improve the current primary school building; offers the best value for public money; and crucially will provide a high quality indoor and especially outdoor learning environment for pupils.

Yours sincerely

Jamie & Dorothy McIntyre  
(parents of 2 current & 2 former pupils)

**From:** danda82 [mailto:danda82@strontianprimary.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 20 August 2016 21:52  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Subject:** Strontian primary school

Hi Ian

Can you add my name and also Sunart community council as support for the new build of Strontian primary school

Denise Anderson  
Chair  
Sunset Community Council  
Sent from my Samsung device

**From:** Sunart Community Council  
**Sent:** 22 August 2016 10:30  
**To:** Ian Jackson  
**Cc:** James Hilder; Denise Anderson; Tony Dobson; Catriona Hunter; Tim Colwell; Mary Ellen McIntyre;  
**Subject:** Re: Deadline for responses to public consultation on Strontian Primary School

Ian

Good morning. I am writing on behalf of the Sunart Community Council with regards the Strontian Community School Building proposal. At our meeting on the 11th August 2016 the community council fully endorsed this proposal and this is to provide you with written confirmation of our support for this project.

If there is anything else I can provide then please let me know

Kind regards

John Jones

Secretary  
Sunart Community Council  
c/o 5 Longrigg Road  
Strontian  
PH36 4HY



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

12 High Street  
Dingwall  
IV15 9RU

22 August 2016

Dear Mr Jackson,

As the constituency MSP, I write to support the plans for the Strontian Community School new-build project. Last week I visited the area and had the opportunity of meeting with some of the steering group volunteers, as well as seeing the land on which they hope to build.

At the outset I should state that all children in Scotland, be it Strontian or Stirling, have the right to be taught within high quality facilities. It is clear that the present primary school building does not meet this standard, and I congratulate the community for taking the bull by the horns and coming up with a creative and positive solution.

I have not seen an architect's plans yet, but I have every confidence it will provide adequate space as well as being environmentally-friendly and energy-efficient. The idea of having a facility the equivalent size of three terraced houses is a good one – as it means the building can easily be converted for an alternative use (such as affordable housing) further down the line. This means the project has a long-term benefit to the community, as opposed to being just a short-term answer for a new primary school.

As well as providing a suitable environment for learning, schools are also integral parts of the communities they serve – and this new-build could provide a range of services that will improve people's health and wellbeing. A multi-purpose building could also help sustain economic growth and stave off depopulation in the area.

It is incredibly exciting that this could all materialise in just over a year, so I hope this project is something the Education Committee will endorse at its meeting on Thursday (25 August), and which the full council will back the following month.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Forbes MSP  
Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch



-----Original Message-----

From: Laura McConnachie []

Sent: 22 August 2016 20:33

To: Ian Jackson

Subject: Strontian Primary Relocation

Hi there,

I am currently living in Strontian with my two little boys, both of which attend Strontian Primary school - I very much support the relocation of the school to the proposed community owned building adjacent to the high school. I feel this would be an ideal solution and look forward to seeing it becoming a reality.

Thanks, Laura McConnachie  
Sent from my iPad

**Strontian Community School Building Ltd**

*a community benefit society registered with the FCA number 7334*

*Registered Office: The Former Free Church Manse*

*Longrigg Road*

*Strontian PH36*

August 23 2016

Ian Jackson  
Highland Council

Dear Ian

*On behalf of the Board of Directors of Strontian Community School Building Ltd, I convey our pleasure that the statutory consultation on the improvement proposals for Strontian Primary School concludes with the recommendation to relocate to the community owned new build proposed by ourselves.*

*We are grateful for the support from yourself and Brian Porter in shaping a solution which is suitable, feasible and acceptable for all parties.*

*Recognising that the current premises are in need of major refurbishment or replacement we believe that the community based option will provide a modern teaching environment suitable for pupils and staff, at a suitable cost negating major capital expenditure to Highland Council, and leaving a legacy to the community in the future.*

*With input from yourselves and support from Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust we have demonstrated the feasibility of the project. We have secured an offer in principle from Triodos bank of up to 60% of total development costs (including the Highland Council fit out cost estimated at £190K). The minimum additional funding required from Grants, Donations and Community Shares is £130K. Given the level of support already indicated, we are confident of exceeding this target thus reducing the cost of borrowing.*

*Community support for the project is very high. The accompanying report documents the extensive support from the community via social media and door to door leafleting.*

*Our website at [www.strontiancommunityschool.org.uk](http://www.strontiancommunityschool.org.uk), facebook page at [facebook.com/StrontianCommunitySchool](https://www.facebook.com/StrontianCommunitySchool), and Twitter feed [www.twitter.com/StrontianSCB](https://www.twitter.com/StrontianSCB) carry up to date news and indications of support.*

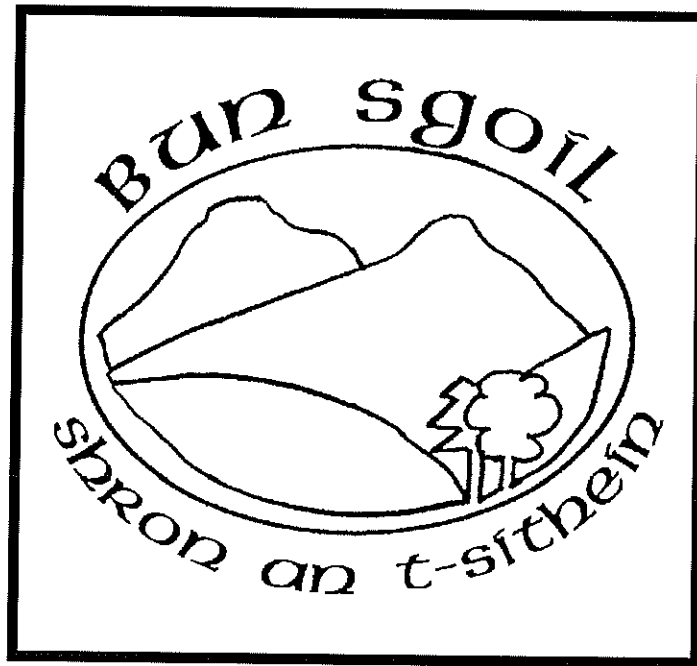
*We trust that agreement will be given to proceed with this project, and we look forward to continuing collaboration.*

Yours sincerely

Donald McCorkindale  
Chair, SCSB Ltd  
Encl: Community Support Report

# Strontian Community School Building Limited

## Community Consultation Report



### 1. Background

This innovative project has evolved from a number of community consultations over the past 4 years: the Strontian Community Consultation & Action Plan by Cadispa in 2014; the Highland Council Strontian Primary School Consultation Report 2014 (statutory consultation); Community Housing needs survey; and Strontian Masterplanning exercise which has just been completed.

Throughout this extended period of community consultation two elements of community provision essential to the community's sustainability and growth have been highlighted as areas of major concern: a primary school fit for the 21st century, and affordable housing both for key workers, and to attract new and retain existing families, who struggle to find affordable secure tenancies.

Members of the Strontian community have come together as volunteers and formed a Community Benefit Society, 'Strontian Community School Building Limited' with the aim of funding and building a primary school. This project has now developed further and Strontian Community School Building Ltd has approached the Sunart community with their project plans for feedback and comments.

## 2. Consultation Process

Community consultation for the project has been carried out using social media, newsletter distribution, local events, and a local development officer.

### Social Media

The Strontian Community School Building Limited [website](#) was created and has background information about the purpose, aims, time-line, and feedback page. The StrontianCSB [twitter](#) page was created April 2016. The SCSB [Facebook](#) page was created in April 2016. See Appendix 1 for all homepages.

### Newsletter and Feedback form

7<sup>th</sup> June - Newsletters have been available in key areas within the village; the High School, primary school, library and post office. Within the newsletter there is a feedback form to gather support for the project. See Appendix 2 for copy of newsletter.

### Display boards

7<sup>th</sup> June, display board created and still remains in the Ardnamurchan Library with information about the project and feedback forms.

### Ardnamurchan High School Open Day

At the High School open day in June 2016, SCSB Ltd had a display table with information, newsletters and feedback forms.

### Local Development Officer

July 6-9<sup>th</sup> 2016 Sunart Community Company Local Development Officer carried out a four day door to door newsletter distribution, talked to people about the project, and collected feedback.

### Support from Local Groups

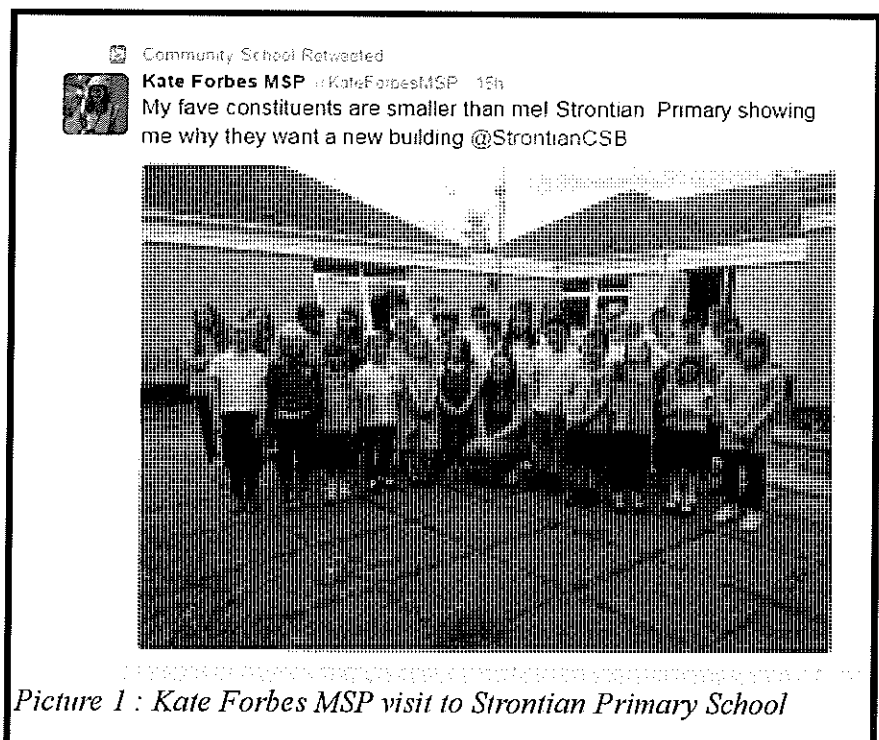
The project is receiving positive backing from the Sunart Community Company, Sunart Community Council, Sunart Common Good Fund and the Strontian Primary School Parent Council

### Positive Media Coverage

Articles have been published in several newspapers; The Press and Journal had articles in February, June and August, Lochaber News in August.

### Interest and support from MPs

Kate Forbes MSP requested a meeting and visited the current Primary school and the proposed site for the new Primary school on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2016. She met the school children and Strontian Community School Building Ltd board members.



Later that same day, John Finnie MSP also discussed the community proposals for the new school with SCSB board members whilst he was in the area, and confirmed his support for the project. Both MSPs indicated that they had written already or would be writing to HC to express support for the project.

**Sunart Agricultural Show**

Strontian Community School Building Ltd had a tent at the local Sunart Agricultural Show on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Board members talked to people about the project, distributed newsletters and feedback forms.



Picture 2 : SCSB Ltd Tent at Sunart Agricultural Show

**3. Consultation Response**

**Social Media**

Facebook 154 likes since page was created in April to 20/8/16  
 Twitter 54 followers and 15 likes since created in April to 21/8/16  
 Feedback forms have also been received via the SCSB website

**Feedback forms**

98% positive feedback as shown in table 1 below. Feedback has been gathered from members in the community who currently have children in the primary school and also from those who don't (Table 2). Comments were also received on feedback forms, see below.

Table 1) Results of feedback forms gathered up to 20/8/16

SCSB Feedback Forms	No. Signatures
Total Replies	114
Favour	112
Not in Favour	2

Table 2) Table to Show response is both from parents and community members 20/8/16

	No. Signatures
Parent/Guardian Strontian Primary	28
Not a Parent/Guardian	86

### Comments on Feedback Forms

- ♣ ' A model for the future!'
- ♣ 'Great idea – hope you succeed!'
- ♣ 'Great work!'
- ♣ 'Thank you'
- ♣ 'Good luck! I hope you pull it off and happy to help of needed!'
- ♣ 'Welcome initiative'
- ♣ 'This is brilliant. Let me know if I can help in any way.'
- ♣ 'Would prefer H Council made some refurbishment to existing school with a view to incorporating primary school into high school/sunart centre at end of PPI agreement'
- ♣ 'Great idea and lovely to see so much initiative in the community to take action and achieve things. Well done!'
- ♣ 'Brilliant that a small group of local people are stepping up when the HC failed to support the wishes of the parents after 3 years of negotiating to upgrade the old building or build a new permanent structure. Sounds like an excellent plan and you have our full support. The last of our four children has just finished at the Primary School but we believe that it is vital for the future of the Strontian Community to have a functioning, attractive and warm school to bring families to the area, not a below par 'C'-grade school building. We wish you every good luck with your exciting plans. '
- ♣ 'Good luck and well done! Progress at last!'
- ♣ 'Carry On! Sounds Constructive
- ♣ 'Really good idea!
- ♣ 'Definitely in favour, so badly needed'
- ♣ 'Good Idea!'
- ♣ 'I am 100% in favour of having a community owned primary school in Strontian and am very happy to support it in any way possible'

# Appendix 1. Social Media Pages

SCSB Ltd  
Website  
homepage

SCSB Ltd  
Twitter page

SCSB Ltd  
Facebook page

# Appendix. 2 SCSB Ltd Newsletter and Response Form

## Response Form

also at [strontiancommunityschool.org.uk](http://strontiancommunityschool.org.uk)

Name:

Address:

Post Code

Email:

I am a parent/ guardian of Strontian Primary School Child(ren) **YES/NO**

I support the current plan for SCSB Ltd to build and manage a community owned school to be leased to Highland Council. **YES/NO**

Please add me to the email/ postal\* list to receive updates and news of the Community Share Offer. **YES/NO**

\*Please delete as applicable.

Any other comments

We are mindful of the terms of the Data Protection Act and will use your information solely for the purpose of communicating with you regarding the work of SCSB Ltd. Your data will be stored securely and will not be passed to any other party.

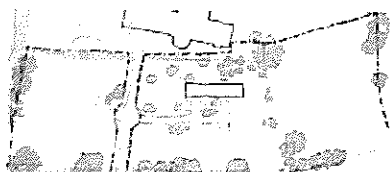
## Anticipated Timeline

We are currently working to a timeline with the following key milestones:

- 2016**
- July- Roll out Community Share offer
  - Aug- HC revise statutory consultation
  - Sept 8 Highland Council final decision
  - Oct Finalise land purchase
  - Nov Award tender
  - Dec- Construction phase begins
- 2017**
- Aug- Highland Council fitting out
  - Oct School opening

## Strontian Community School Building Ltd

Update 3: 4 July 2016



Strontian Community School Building Limited is a Community Benefit Society, registered with the Financial Conduct Authority, aiming to finance & build a new school building for our kids.



[www.StrontianCommunitySchool.org.uk](http://www.StrontianCommunitySchool.org.uk)  
FCA registration no 7334

## The Board of Directors

The following have been appointed as directors of Strontian Community School Building Ltd

- Donald McCorkindale, Chair
- Jamie Tait, Secretary
- Jamie McIntyre, Treasurer
- Claire Campbell, Publicity Secretary
- Gail Muir
- Denise Anderson
- Stuart Carmichael
- Rachael Gordon

## How you can support SCSB

- Subscribe to our email list and you will receive regular updates direct to your inbox
- Return to the school the tear off slip indicating your support of the project
- Visit and LIKE the SCSB page on FACEBOOK
- Follow @StrontianCSB on Twitter
- Tell friends and family about the project
- Invest in the Community Share Offer

## Object

Strontian Community School Building Ltd was established in 2016, to develop and manage a community-owned building for use, in the first instance, by Strontian Primary school, and any subsequent use as may bring benefit to the Strontian community.

## Partnerships

Several organisations are engaged with us as we seek to provide this resource for the Strontian Community.



## What has been achieved so far

- Community Benefit Society formed
- Positive Media Coverage
- Agreement in principle from Highland Council
- Favourable engagement with loan funders
- Support from Community Share Scotland
- Start up funding from Community Council, Community Company and Sunart Common Good Fund.

Please return this section to indicate your support of the Strontian Community School Building project

To:  
Strontian Community School Building Ltd  
c/o Strontian Primary School  
Strontian PH36 4HZ



# Ardnamurchan High School Parent Council

**Chairperson:**

Mrs Teresa Bolton  
St Andrew's,  
Lochaline,  
Morvern,  
Oban,  
Argyll PA80 5XT

Drimnatorran  
Strontian  
Acharacle  
Argyll  
PH36 4JA

**Secretary:**

Mrs P Kennedy,  
Tigh an t-sealgair,  
4 Clovullin,  
Ardgour,  
Nr Fort William  
PH33 7AB

23 August 2016

Dear Mr Jackson,

## STRONTIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL – REVISED CONSULTATION REPORT

The above, revised, report was discussed at our parent council meeting last night.

We are happy to fully support the preferred option of Strontian Primary School parents detailed in the report, namely a community funded and owned new build, located on land opposite Ardnamurchan High School (AHS), which will be leased back to Highland Council for the provision of primary school education in the Sunart designated area.

We are aware that there will be certain issues, such as pre-arranged use of some facilities within AHS, which will need to be discussed in much greater detail as the project progresses and I would ask that we are kept fully informed at all stages of such matters.

We very much hope that the new school will be ready as soon as possible as the current building is not conducive to the high standards of learning that all our young children deserve. We would like to extend our appreciation of all the efforts the Strontian community have made, and continue to make, to achieve the best possible outcome for their community.

Yours sincerely,

Teresa Bolton,  
Chair AHS Parent Council

Strontian Primary  
School  
Strontian  
Argyll  
PH36 4HZ

24<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Dear Ian

Please find below a summary of views from the staff and pupils of Strontian primary school in support of the proposed community new school build. When asked as to what the benefits of a new school would be, the children responded:

- We would have adequate space to properly and safely eat our lunch.
- A new school would provide a safe environment without leaking roofs, rusty beams, flaking plaster and paint and worn carpets.
- There would be a bigger and safer place to play at playtimes.
- There would be a proper reception area and more spacious areas for meetings, staff to work or parents to come in.
- There would be a staff room.
- There would be storage space to keep resources.
- There would be more space for the number of children there are in the school, especially outside of the classrooms to be able to do outdoor and active learning.
- There would be quiet areas to work in.
- There would be storage for PE equipment.
- The teachers, including the head teacher would have somewhere to work when out of class.
- There would be a suitable and safe area to play in during wet playtimes.
- Updated, modern furniture and fixings.

Furthermore, the older class discussed and costed the option of renovating the current school and came to the conclusion that it would be a great deal of money to spend and that it would not solve the problem that we just don't have enough space.

The staff are also strongly in favour of a new school build, feeling that the new school will provide accommodation fit for purpose and suited to a 21<sup>st</sup> century school, that it

will be a well-designed, safe and purposeful environment, which will inspire teaching and learning. It is also felt that a new school building adjacent to the High school would allow for greater unity with the nursery and their transition into the primary school, as well as aid transition for primary children through to high school. Moreover, it will provide urgently needed office space for the head teacher, better storage and office space for clerical staff, as well as a staff room.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the school community and the wider community as a whole, and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Strontian Community School Building Ltd and the Highland Council on this exciting project.

Yours sincerely

Ms Pamela Hill

Head teacher

On behalf of Strontian Primary School