

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 06 May 2025
at Mosstowie School at 7.30 pm

Chairman	Mr J Mountford – Dallas	
Treasurer	Mr S Williams – Roseisle	
Secretary		
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	Mr N Sutherland - Dallas
	Mrs D Kelly – Alves	Mr W Duncan – Fogwatt & Birnie
	Mr A Lyons – Roseisle	Mr A Wallis – Birnie
	Mr K Milne – Miltonduff	Mr C McCarthy – Birnie
	Mr W Mustard – Fogwatt & Birnie	Ms J Kirby - Miltonduff
Attendees	Councillor Bridget Mustard	Colin Ortlepp – Leiths
	Ms J Johnson – Birnie resident	Gordon Williamson – Leiths
	Ms H Ospazuk – Birnie resident	Willie Booth – Dalgleish Associates
	Mr R Gillespie – Birnie resident	Ms S Gillespie – Birnie resident
	Mr M Thomson – Birnie resident	Mr A Munro – Birnie resident
Apologies	Mrs L Smailes - Pluscarden	Mr C Souter - Miltonduff
	Ms S Hodder – Pluscarden	Ms H Stewart - Roseisle
	Councillor Neil Cameron	

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs L Smailes, Mrs S Hodder, Mr C Souter, Ms H Stewart and Councillor Neil Cameron.

2. UPDATE ON BIRNIE QUARRY APPLICATION BY THE COMPANY

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Leiths to illustrate the changes that had been made in the planning application as a result of the previous consultation. These covered various issues: Landscape and Visual, Hydrology and Hydrogeology, Ecology, Noise, Air Quality/Dust, Traffic and the Historic Environment. The Chairman thanked the three attendees for the update.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 25 March 2025 were approved.

Proposed: Mr W Duncan Seconded: Mr C McCarthy

4. MATTERS ARISING

a) Spynie Battery Storage: the application has not yet been submitted.

b) Cloddach Bridge: there are no updates to report. Councillor Mustard is still pursuing this.

c) Mosstowie School: this will be coming up for review a week today. All the school inspections are reviewed and no comments are expected. The appointment of a new Headteacher is ongoing.

5. ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

a) Debra re forthcoming elections: Debra wants to know what has been covered by our Community Council meetings with a view to promoting the upcoming elections. We need to promote events that will encourage people to volunteer.

b) Consultation on provision of overnight parking: the Council is proposing having some sites for overnight parking with nominal charges for vehicles such as motorhomes. Water and waste facilities will have to be provided. These sites will not be overseen but will depend on honesty. Concern was expressed over the potential size of some of the vehicles which might take up two bays.

c) Trochail bridge: this remains closed but is not a major problem in itself though it does mean that there has been an increase in traffic through Thomshill which is cause for some concern. Nothing is planned for the foreseeable future with the bridge ranking 134th on the list.

6. FINANCE REPORT

We have now received the payment from the Wind Farm for the recent applications. The closing date for the next round of applications is 31 July.

Finance since the last meeting:

Income	£18,064.96
Expenditure	£ 210.00

Balances:

HCC	£ 3,020.20
Roths 1	£ 5,227.25
Roths 2	£24,058.47
TOTAL	£32,305.92

6. PLANNING ISSUES

a) The community has a considerable number of concerns over the Dykeside Farm Quarry at Birnie with over 600 personal objections. All these should be put in a single response and submitted under Heldon Community Council. We can only object on planning issues.

b) The bio plant at Longmorn has been refused though the company might go back to the Council or take the matter to Edinburgh.

7. A.O.C.B. to include area reports

a) Speeding through Miltonduff is a cause for concern. Local police will mention it to the Traffic Department. It was felt that speeding is a problem across the area but increased signage has little effect. The JCC had set up a committee to look at the issue but it was decided that it would be a good idea for the HCC communities to get together and make a presentation to the police. Councillors from Miltonduff, Roseisle and Birnie agreed to set this up and Duffus would like to express concerns also. It was pointed out that constitutions might need changing.

b) Elections: if more than two extra candidates are offered then an election will take place. It was suggested that ones who are not then elected can apply for co-option but would not then represent a specific area. This needs to be confirmed.

Date, time and venue of the next meeting:

Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 7.30pm at Mosstowie School