



**Date:** 10 June 2025  
**Time:** 6pm  
**Venue:** Community Room, Buckie High School  
**Attendees:** Ann Mitchell (AM), Alison Durno (AD), Christine Allan (CA), Secretary - Daska Murray (DM), Holly Mayne-Garrow (HMG), Meghan Skene (MS), Cllr. Neil MacLennan, Chair - Peter West (PW), Richard Simpson (RS), Treasurer-Ross Ingram (RI), Sharon Innes (SI), Cllr. Sonya Warren (SW)  
**Apologies:** Cllr. John Stuart (JS)  
**Public Present:** Chris Haywood (CH), Fraser Hay (FH), Dawn Brodie (DB), Karen Greaves BEM (KG)

### Minutes of Meeting

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
<b>Welcome, apologies and introductions</b>	PW opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees, noting apologies and inviting visitors to introduce themselves.	
<b>Karen Greaves BEM, Chief Executive, Moray Council</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KG gave an overview of her personal and professional background, highlighting her previous roles within Orkney Council across education, social work and supporting Community Councils. She emphasised her strong commitment to working collaboratively with Community Councils and stressed the importance of fostering constructive relationships with communities.</li> <li>FH raised ongoing concerns regarding the Yardie, noting that the matter had been escalated to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO). Although KG was not familiar with the specific case, she expressed a willingness to look into the issue further. She acknowledged the broader challenges currently facing local authorities, but reinforced her commitment to a community-focused approach and stressed the need for improved communication, transparency, and responsiveness to public concerns.</li> <li>In response to a question from CA about how she intended to strengthen relationships with Community Councils, KG emphasised the importance of building trust and open dialogue and reiterated her commitment to supporting and engaging with Community Councils.</li> </ul>	
<b>Approval of previous minutes</b>	One amendment was noted to the minutes of the 13 May meeting regarding NM's apologies. With that correction, the minutes of the meeting held on 13 May and the Special meeting on 4 June were both approved.	
<b>Matters arising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PW referred back to a previous suggestion to explore youth representation from the high school and invited members to share any relevant contacts or suggestions to take this forward.</li> <li>AD provided an update on the local shop video project and associated consent forms. PW requested a copy of the consent form from AD to be circulated with the minutes, and confirmed he would share the cost of purchasing a mobile phone adapter for the stabiliser by email since the meeting agreed to the purchase in principle. There was</li> </ul>	AD  PW

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	<p>discussion around the potential to engage the high school's photography department for technical support and to involve pupils in filming and editing. RS offered to follow up with contacts at the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Given the volume of ongoing activity, PW confirmed that an additional meeting would be scheduled for Tuesday 8 July.</li> <li>• The draft GDPR policy was discussed and approved in principle, with some minor amendments anticipated following review of examples shared by Debra Duke, Community Council Liaison Officer (CCLO). A draft safeguarding policy was also reviewed and formally adopted in preparation for events that may involve children or vulnerable individuals.</li> <li>• The need for a directory of Moray Council contacts to help streamline communication and reduce dependency on elected members for routine queries was discussed. While DB noted that the CCLO provides support in this area, she also acknowledged her limited capacity due to part-time hours. PW underlined the importance of Community Councils having reliable and timely access to appropriate contacts within Moray Council, particularly where service delays can lead to frustration among residents. KG agreed to consider this feedback but noted the importance of ensuring consistency across all Community Councils.</li> <li>• Finally, PW highlighted the ongoing need to find more effective ways to promote the work of Community Councils and raise public awareness of their role and activities.</li> </ul>	RS
<b>Allotments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW explained he had been contacted by Springfield regarding the provision of allotments at their upcoming development, as required by their planning consent. He subsequently contacted the Community Support Unit (CSU) for further information and clarity on a related meeting and to discuss allotment management in general. PW welcomed DB to the meeting to explain why the Community Council had not been informed.</li> <li>• DB, who oversees Community Learning and Development, the CSU and Adult and Family Learning, clarified that she is also responsible for managing the allotments waiting list, which is considered under the Community Empowerment Act.</li> <li>• PW emphasised the need for information on how allotments are managed so the Community Council can make an informed decision about potential involvement.</li> <li>• DB explained that multiple departments are involved in delivering allotments. Sites are identified through the Moray Food Growing Strategy and <a href="#">information is on the Council's website about allotments</a>, including how to apply. As the Council does not own allotment sites, they are usually managed by a community-led management committee, which also maintains its own waiting list. An officer group meets every six weeks to discuss allotments and asset transfers. DB added that with the Buckie waiting list having reached 17 (the trigger point is 15), she had requested a meeting be arranged with those on the waiting list. She apologised for not</li> </ul>	

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	<p>sharing this information, explaining that she had not been aware of the Community Council's interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW questioned how Community Councils are involved in site identification. DB responded that Community Councils would have been involved during the development of the Food Growing Strategy.</li> <li>• PW noted that having joined mid-term many current members were unaware of this and would have benefited from an induction/training. It was agreed that while the handbook is useful, the volume of reading material can be overwhelming. NM suggested that the induction be recorded for the benefit of new members. This feedback will be shared with the CCLO, who is currently preparing induction materials for the next election cycle. DB offered to include the Community Council in future communications regarding allotments and encouraged interested members to contact her or refer to the website.</li> <li>• DB explained a colleague in planning is currently looking at identifying potential sites in addition to the Springfield site. DB advised that it would be appropriate to promote allotments given there is a developer obligated to provide a site, and welcomed representation at potential plot holder meetings.</li> <li>• FH asked whether the Community Council website hosts a knowledge base or FAQ that signposts services available through Moray Council, such as allotments. PW explained that the website is still under development, with limited resources.</li> </ul>	
<b>Sub-committee report and plans</b>	<p><b>Buckie &amp; District Bairns Bank</b> – Update from HMG and MS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £700 was raised by Buckie Thistle Captains' Memorial at Strathlene Golf Club. Funds were used for better storage and will help with essential items like formula, nappies and wipes, which are being requested regularly.</li> <li>• The group are operating on a two-hour weekly rota and are still seeking a permanent home.</li> </ul> <p><b>Linzee Gordon Playpark</b> – Update from HMG and MS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of £112,000 has been raised towards a minimum target of £120,000 with potential for £30,000 of extras.</li> <li>• The group were awarded a further £20,000 by the Common Good Fund and a sponsored walk raised around £4,000.</li> <li>• The final design will be decided by a community vote.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resilience</b> – PW informed the group that efforts continue to identify local contacts, resources, equipment and warm spaces to support community resilience planning. Members were invited to contribute suggestions.</p> <p><b>Buckpool Harbour Community Group</b> – Update from SI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clean-up event on 17 May was poorly attended despite efforts to promote it, but those who participated cleaned the park area. The group will continue to try and engage with those in the local area and a community survey (online and in-person) will gather feedback on</li> </ul>	

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	<p>improvements needed, which SI offered to circulate for feedback. HMG offered to share a survey template used for Linzee Gordon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few quotes were obtained for repainting signage. Suggestions for sources of support included the Men's Shed and Community Payback Team (NM offered to assist with this contact). PW noted the possibility of using existing signage funding to support improvements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Buckie Community Growth Group</b> - Update from PW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research into launching a lottery is underway, with inspiration drawn from a successful website run by another Community Council in England.</li> <li>• Plans are being scoped for a town market to support local businesses, potentially in partnership with the High School.</li> </ul>	HMG
<b>Elected members feedback</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SW had to leave the meeting early so NM provided the update.</li> <li>• NM apologised for not having submitted apologies for the previous meeting due to being unaware it included Elected Members. PW clarified that SW attended due to her role in the Growth Group.</li> <li>• NM summarised an elected member's role in terms of strategic decision-making, sitting on management committee, dealing with constituent enquiries and managing the Common Good.</li> <li>• Recent councillor surgeries led to positive outcomes, including support for a vulnerable individual.</li> <li>• NM enquired about recording of Community Council meetings to make them more accessible (for example Moray Council meetings are webcast in addition to being documented). PW clarified that recordings are currently only to support the minutes and they are deleted immediately afterwards. He highlighted the barriers in implementing this due to cost, expertise and resource. FH suggested using accessibility tools like User Way.</li> <li>• The outcome of the national consultation on reduced speed limits will be monitored given road safety concerns around the need for 20 mph zones for Rathven and Findochty.</li> <li>• Issues around e-scooter use were raised, with suggestions for collaboration between emergency services and schools.</li> <li>• March Road resurfacing work has begun and earlier concerns about road closures have been addressed.</li> <li>• Reports of idle M.Connect buses have been found to be due to operational reasons for example drivers on breaks, on contracts or pick-ups. A proposed system improvement has been suggested to make routes currently in progress visible to other potential users.</li> <li>• Positive work has been ongoing to tackle anti-social behaviour.</li> <li>• Met with the Linzee Gordon group to discuss progress/Common Good and high school meeting coming up next week.</li> <li>• NM highlighted local success at the Banffshire Heroes Awards and congratulated Buckie Roots on their voluntary service award.</li> <li>• A meeting is planned with the Chief Executive regarding the unresolved Mains of Buckie path issue.</li> <li>• FH queried ownership of the Yardie path, and NM offered to investigate.</li> </ul>	NM

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	<p><b>Community Wardens</b> – Update from CH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The warden service has returned to full strength, going from two to five officers. Wardens are once again able to attend community meetings and conduct proactive engagement across the area. Wardens can respond to antisocial behaviour, youth disturbances, and environmental concerns (e.g., dog fouling, fly-tipping) and issue fixed penalties.</li> <li>• A discussion took place around the unintended impact of free bus travel for young people.</li> <li>• PW felt promotional materials for the warden service for inclusion in the noticeboards.</li> <li>• Youth engagement was discussed, including a suggestion from HMG to connect with Victory Church (formerly Riverside Church).</li> <li>• CA asked about the youth bus and CH explained the funding limits it to Elgin.</li> </ul>	
<b>Community feedback and engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW will share leaflets from the CCLO for consideration and welcomed feedback to improve them and ideas on how to promote the Community Council within the community. PW noted that there was further development needed on the website and also welcomed ideas for improvement.</li> <li>• AM advised that the community hub is expected to close from 26 March unless new funding is secured.</li> </ul>	<p>PW All</p> <p>All</p>
<b>Reports from local group activity and initiatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>JCC</b> - KG attended to introduce herself, and most of the meeting focused on upcoming elections. PW will circulate the minutes and detail about the actions allocated to the CCLO.</li> <li>• <b>Harbour Advisory Group</b> – No meeting. PW noted the Community Council owns the harbour noticeboard and suggested relocating it to Linzee Gordon. DB was asked for assistance to arrange the installation.</li> <li>• <b>Cost of living</b> - Update from CA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Money Matters provide free confidential advice, budgeting and benefits checks.</li> <li>○ Age Scotland have produced Dot magazine which covers digital wellbeing/scams.</li> <li>○ REAP provide energy advice at the hub weekly and can provide one-off support with meter top ups.</li> <li>○ Bee So Crafty is collecting jumble to raise funds for its food bank.</li> <li>○ Hanover Housing Association has opened up events to the wider community.</li> <li>○ AD noted increased use of the school larder, now open Mondays at 11am.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>LOIP</b> - Update from CA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Last meeting took place early June where there was a discussion around the North East Quadrant in Cluny Square. It is unknown when the benches will be installed. PW highlighted the need for an update from Eily Webster and NM offered to arrange this.</li> <li>○ The community gathering was also discussed with an email sent to all attendees.</li> <li>○ Allotments were also discussed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>PW</p> <p>DB</p> <p>NM</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A survey has been issued to previous partners to find out what they are now doing that they were not previously.</li> <li>○ Earth Time are seeking a local volunteer to work with them to provide a waddle and toddle session.</li> <li>○ Linzee Gordon (already noted under subgroup updates) and Merson Park were discussed, the latter having an application in for the stage 1 funding and if successful will apply for stage 2. They are keen to have a community hub and are looking for members/ volunteers (paperwork is available at the hub or online).</li> <li>● <b>Money for Moray</b> – still awaiting formal confirmation but expecting £50,000 for Just Transition funding. There will be a road show at the Fishermen's hall on the 24 June, as well as others in Cullen and Keith.</li> <li>● <b>Buckie Area Forum</b> – scheduled meeting had to be cancelled due to technical issues.</li> </ul>	
<b>Community feedback</b>	No feedback received on planning applications.	
<b>Future initiatives</b>	To be picked up at the July meeting.	
<b>Correspondence</b>	None received.	
<b>AOCB</b>	CA enquired about expected attendance at the upcoming high school public meeting, but no figures were available.	
<b>Date/venue of next meeting</b>	The next meeting is scheduled for 8 July 2025 at 6pm in the Community Lounge at Buckie Community High School.	

Community Council meeting closed at 21:20 hrs.

I declare this is a true and accurate record of the meeting:

Sign/initial:

PW

DM

Date:

16/06/2025

16/06/2025

# APPENDIX 1

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR		BUCKIE & DISTRICT		COMMUNITY COUNCIL	
Income/ Expenditure Account for period		01.05.2025		to	31.05.25
				Balance Brought Forward	0.00
Comprises of:					
Income	Opening Balance		Income Mar '24	Current Balance	
Administration Grant from Moray	6,297.43			6,082.32	
Linzee Gordon Donations	31,581.95		7,955.56	39,537.51	
Walking leaflet	419.60			419.60	
Resilience	9,317.74			9,317.74	
Bairns Bank	0.00		700	386.65	
General account	2,179.11			2,179.11	
sids signage	5,000.00			5,000.00	
nhs funding	2,061.00			2,061.00	
Bank Interest	0.00			0.00	
Gen A/C Balance	0.00			0.00	
	56,856.83		8,655.56	64,983.93	64,983.93
Expenditure [sample headings]		Admin grant MTD	Other MTD		
Upkeep of CC flowering barrels					
Room hire					
Auditor/Independent Examiner's					
Travel Expenses					
IT costs (Website/e-mail)		144.63			
One.com fee (Domain)		23.99			
Stationery					
Telephone and mobile Costs		20.00			
Honoraria					
Bank charges					
Publicity, promotional, ceremonial					
Bairns Bank				313.35	
Buckpool Harbour		26.49			
Publication of agendas & minutes					
Walking & Cycling Path Leaflets & Consultations					
Active School Project					
		215.11	0.00		
				Bank Surplus	64,983.93
Represented by:					
Cash in Bank					
Cash in Hand (Treasurers float)				56.00	
				Closing Balance	65,039.93