



Findhorn and Kinloss

Community Council

Minutes of Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council Meeting held on Thursday 28 August 2025 at Osprey Room, James Milne Institute, Findhorn

Present		Attendance	
A Skene	Chairperson	Sgt C McLaren	Kinloss Barracks
D Anderson	Minute Taker		
M La Tourelle			
A Shepherd		Moray Councillors	
R Hutchinson		Cllr Robertson	
		Cllr Mc Bain	
		Cllr Van der Horn	
		Members of Public	
		A Cameron	

Item 1 - Welcome

- Apologies – S Worth, S Dominey
- Declaration of Interest – to be raised as and when it occurs.

Item 2 – Public Session

- Community Safety Report/Police Scotland Report – There has been no new quarterly Police report received.
- Any other competent public business / public correspondence – also to be raised through agenda items.
 - A Cameron provided an update on their project to re-open The Bunty as a fish and chip shop. The planning application is progressing and there is a new design which addresses concerns regarding smells and noise concerns.

Item 3 – Ratification of Minutes of Meeting from Thursday 3rd July 2025, at Culbin Room, Kinloss Church, Kinloss

3.1 The minutes of the meeting of Thursday 3rd July were agreed as being accurate, proposed by A Shepherd and seconded by R Hutchinson.

Item 4 – Matters Arising

4.1 (4.1) (4.1) (4.1) (4.1) (9.1) A Shepherd reported that she had met with the factor of the Southside Estate, accompanied by Cllr McBain. The factor has confirmed that they support the replacement of the play equipment and that there are additional funds available. There may also be the opportunity to apply for a grant from the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund. There are sufficient funds already available to replace some of the equipment, but the additional funds would enable an enhanced play offer for the community. **ACTION: A Shepherd to investigate additional funding and prepare proposals for replacement equipment.**

4.2 (4.3) (13.3) R Hutchinson confirmed work on the list of items and their value to enable the add on to the community council insurance to cover the resilience equipment is on-going. **ACTION: R Hutchinson to compile list of equipment in consultation with M La Tourelle.**

Item 5 The Findhorn Village Conservation Company

5.1 No report

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report

6.1 Sgt McLaren reported that the Barracks will be holding a Race the Runway motor sports event on 13 September to

raise funds for the Army Benevolent Fund. There will also be a motor sports event on 1 October. Full details of the events will be posted on social media.

6.2 On 12 September the Commanding Officer's Monthly Challenge for the Barracks will involve a route march along the coast and a river crossing. There will be a NATO exercise between 6th and 16th October where there may be noise from activities.

6.3 Finally Sgt McLaren confirmed that representatives from the Barracks will be attending both the Findhorn and Kinloss Remembrance services and that he has been liaising with S Worth.

Item 7 Chair's Report

7.1 There is no report for August due to holiday period.

Item 8 Secretary's Report/Correspondence

8.1 No correspondence has been received.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report

9.1 A Shepherd reported the amounts in the FKCC bank accounts as follows:

Admin Grant	£1,720.15
Capital	£1,122.13
Total	£2,842.28

Transactions during July/August included the FKCC contribution to the signage for the emergency vehicle route.

Item 10 Joint Community Council

10.1 S Worth attended the JCC is 14th August 2025 and provided a written report of the meeting which included a presentation by Moray Council Transportation officers on the implementation of the National Strategy for 20mph in Moray. The meeting also discussed the forthcoming Community Council elections and the recent wildfires on the Dava Moor.

Item 11 Moray Councilors' Report

11.1 Cllr Robertson reported that a joint Notice of Motion had been submitted to the Council seeking action on the recent wildfires. The Council's new school dinner menus are in place and during a recent visit to Linkwood Primary School in Elgin, Cllr Robertson tried new Chocolate Brownies which are on the menu which have added pea protein – they were delicious. The UK Government Under-Secretary for the Scottish Office, Kirsty McNeill had also visited Elgin to see the progress on the Moray Growth Deal, Levelling Up Fund and Elgin Neighbourhood Board projects.

11.2 Cllr Van Der Horn provided the full details on the joint Notice of Motion he submitted with Cllr Robertson which includes the holding of a Summit on Wildfires which would highlight individual, landowner and Council responsibilities and may result in a new By-Law around campfires at certain times of the year – like the one recently introduced in the Cairngorms National Park. He also attended the Council workshop, which other FKCC members attended, on Coastal Flooding, which sought community input into identifying areas of coastal erosion. He highlighted that the coastal path near the boundary fence for Kinloss Barracks was now very narrow and would soon disappear.

11.3 Cllr Van Der Horn also spoke about the funding available for research into coastal flood defenses, work on preparing 'shovel ready' projects for the Just Transition Fund and the Council's new Biodiversity Strategy – highlighting that the Hinterland Trust has been designated as the first Nature 30 group in the UK.

11.4 Cllr McBain reported that user group sessions for the Council's libraries were underway to identify the needs of users which would then inform consideration of how best to operate the libraries in the future. He also highlighted that the preparations for the new Forres Academy were still under way and that the funding for the new school must be used by 2028. Delays to delivering the new school may result in the loss of this funding.

Item 12 Park Ecovillage, Findhorn Report (PEVF)

12.1 M La Tourelle reported that over the Summer there had been a community consultation process about the future of the educational charity which was formed as part of the dissolution of the Findhorn Foundation process. This consultation process resulted in a referendum – the results of which are being considered.

12.2 There have also been a series of events and festivals at the PEVF over the Summer along with regular events such as the Friday Conversation Cafes which offer the opportunity to raise queries and discuss community matters, along

with other more formal monthly meetings. The Education Circle is meeting on a fortnightly basis and there is a fortnightly Community Learning Circle which focusses on providing information to new people living at the PEVF.

Item 13 Resilience Planning

13.1 M La Tourelle reported that there are weekly meetings with the Ecovillage Findhorn Community Benefit Society's Health and Safety officer in relation to the PEVF Resilience Plan and meetings regarding protocols for a fire related event at the PEVF – with a Fire Drill held over the Summer. Concerns have been raised with regard to there being only one main access to the PEVF and whether that would cope should there be a need to evacuate the PEVF. D Anderson noted that if an evacuation was required then that would be led by the emergency services – who have the powers to control traffic on the public road.

13.2 R Hutchinson reported that there had been training on the use of the Defibrillator located at the James Milne Institute and that an application has been made to the Berry Burn Wind Farm for resilience equipment and there had been discussion around setting up a Tool Library in Findhorn village. Fire warning signage is to be erected, and R Hutchinson asked if a contribution could be made by FKCC. **ACTION: R Hutchinson to supply full details of costs for the signage and its erection for discussion at the next FKCC meeting.**

13.3 R Hutchinson also highlighted the community response to the trees which were blown down during Storm Floris. It was the first time that the Resilience Plan had been activated, and the community and Moray Council response resulted in the tree which was blocking the road between 'Cullerne' House and 'Oir Na Mara' being cleared and the road re-opened within a couple of hours. It was noted that there was no alternative route for emergency vehicles during the closure.

Item 14 Remembrance Service

14.1 Preparations for the service are underway; wreaths have been ordered and liaison with interested parties is ongoing.

Item 15 Planning

15.1 There have been six planning applications submitted for the FKCC area which were discussed and there is no need to make any representations.

- 25/00744/APP Install photovoltaic panel to rear, air source heat pump, and erect entrance porch at Green Cottage, 87 Findhorn;
- 25/00785/APP Demolish flat roofed extension and replace with dual pitched roof 24 Findhorn
- 25/00846/AMC Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9 imposed on 19/00320/PPP to erect dwellinghouse with integrated greenhouse for food growing, workshop bin/bike store, shepherd's hut and wind turbine at Plot 620 North Whins, Findhorn
- 25/00432/APP Erect an agricultural greenhouse at Soilse Farm, The Park, Findhorn
- 25/00946/APP Upgrade windows and doors at James Milne Institute, 43 Findhorn
- 25/00969/APP Change of use of outbuilding for use as an office at Comraich, Kinloss

Item 16. Any Other Competent Business

- a) Recruitment to FKCC – A Skene to contact Forres Gazette regarding an article to assist with recruitment. The FKCC website and Facebook pages will also be updated with details of the establishment of community councils for the next term. Anyone wishing to stand as a Community Councilor must be on the Electoral Register.

Nominations will open on Monday 6 October and close at 4.00pm on Tuesday 22 October. For more information about the Community Council elections please contact the elections helpline on 01343 563334 or email elections@moray.gov.uk

- b) It was also noted that Moray Council are investigating the motorhome stop over site at the Findhorn Marina.

Item 17 Forthcoming Community Events

17.1 The following forthcoming events were shared:

- Universal Hall events, including the new Film Season, can be seen on website www.universalhall.co.uk
- Kinloss Gardening Club first Monday of every month at 2.00 pm at The Abbey Inn, Kinloss.
- Findhorn Park Eco Village Enterprise Fair 6 September 2025

Item 18 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 25th September 2025, 7.00pm at the Culbin Room, Kinloss Church, Kinloss