

Speyside Community Council

DRAFT Minute of Meeting Held

On Wednesday 25 February 2026

At 7pm

Speyside Sports and Community Centre

Community Council Members:

M. Ross, K. Ross, N. Slessor, D. McLean, M. Grant, R. Kendrick, C. Davis, A. Bagnall

In Attendance:

Cllr. Ross, P. Shanks (E.C.H.C.), M. Middlehurst C.V.C., 11 Members of Public

Apologies:

Cllrs. Gordon and Harris, S. Gouldstone (SCC),

Welcome:

MR welcomed everyone and explained to members of the public the format for the meeting.

Previous Minutes: 28 January 2026

Proposer: D. McLean

Seconder: N. Slessor

Matters arising and not overtaken on the Agenda:

- NESO (National Energy System Operator). Raised by Cllr Gordon. This document has identified areas for renewable energy. MR wrote and asked which CCs were consulted in the preparation of this document. A holding email was received and a full explanation is awaited in due course.
- **Correspondence:**
 - * All correspondence identifying sources of funding is sent to members of this CC and also to local associations/councils within our geographical area.

Reports:

***Treasurer:** Current Balance - £5514.69

Held on behalf of Aberlour Community Association - £1773.27

Held on behalf of SCI - £684.59

***Councillors:** Cllr Ross was able to confirm that the drains outside the church/tea rooms in Aberlour had been cleared.

Ownership/responsibility for maintenance of the cemetery road in Rothes is still under investigation.

There was also an update on Moray Council's Budget for 2026-27.

***SCI:** To be dealt with under Business.

***SSCC User Group:** R. Kendrick had attended as Speyside CC's representative.

She reported that several Health and Safety issues had been identified. These would be for Moray Council to address.

***JCC:** *There had been a presentation from EZO Community who will be taking over the maintenance and roll out of electric chargers in Moray.

Edinwillie and Inchberry expressed an interest in installing a charger. MR will contact EZO and request the criteria used for identifying suitable placements.

*Moray Statement of Support for Highland and NECCCs re: renewables.

After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that a sub-group would be set up to write a Moray Specific Statement.

***m.connect:** The October marketing campaign (door to door mail drop) was completed. 6203 households throughout Speyside/Glenlivet were targeted, specifically for the 367 and 368 routes.

However, there had been a decline in service usage between August and December 2025. This was due to operational constraints plus the adverse weather. M.connect is now fully staffed.

From Saturday 7 February – Speyside m.connect on demand service will extend its operating hours to 10pm. Journeys after 6

pm to and from Elgin can now be booked.
Developer Obligations from Speyview cannot be claimed until the properties are occupied. There will, therefore, be a retrospective application on behalf of m.connect in due course.

***Response to SEPA:** A sub-group had met. D. McLean compiled and submitted our response.

Police Matters: CSP Report had been previously distributed.

Planning Matters: The Weekly Wards had been previously distributed.

*** 25/01588/APP:** Caley Casks – Viewfield, Craigellachie
To be dealt with under business.

Forestry Updates: Confor and Royburn – D. McLean gave an update on correspondence received.

Netherton and Conval Woodlands – FSC and PEFC Forestry Certificate consultation – M. Grant expressed an interest in this item.

Business:

*SCI was successful in being awarded £400 from Rothes Community Benefit Windfarm Fund to complete the anti slip strips on the Castle Path Bridge.

*Caley Casks, Viewfield, Craigellachie
Many members of the public attended to discuss this item. However, most of them live in the Strathisla Community Council Area. It was stressed that whilst we could listen to their concerns and offer advice as to how to proceed with any representations that they wished to make, Speyside Community Council could not respond on their behalf. It was suggested that they should attend the next meeting of Strathisla Community Council.

Cllr Ross also offered advice on the planning process.

SCC met privately to discuss its response to the planning consultation request from Moray Council. It was decided that SCC would ask for further information from the applicant before making any decision. MR to write to Moray Council.

Future Programme:

Consultations:

Moray Council – NONE

Scottish Government – On-Shore electricity generation: increasing the threshold for applications under the Electricity Act (Closes 27 March 2026)

SEPA – Flood Risk management Phase 1 Consultation. A. Bagnall to respond

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 29 April 2026

Meeting Closed: 8.30pm