

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2024
at Mosstowie School at 7.30 pm

Chairman	Mr J Mountford – Dallas	
Treasurer	Mr S Williams – Roseisle	
Secretary		
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	
	Mrs L Smailes – Pluscarden	Mr W Duncan – Fogwatt & Birnie
	Mr A Lyons – Roseisle	Mrs D Kelly – Alves
	Mr C McCarthy – Birnie	Mr W Mustard – Fogwatt & Birnie
	Mr C Souter - Miltonduff	Mr K Milne – Miltonduff
	Mr N Sutherland - Dallas	Ms Jo Kirby - Miltonduff
Attendees	Councillor Bridget Mustard	
	Ms J Johnson – Birnie resident	
	Ms H Ospazuk – Birnie resident	
Apologies	Ms H Stewart – Roseisle	Ms S Hodder – Pluscarden
	Mr A Wallis – Birnie	Councillor Neil Cameron

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs H Stewart, Mrs S Hodder, Mr A Wallis and Councillor Cameron.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 29 October 2024 were approved.

Proposed: Mr W Mustard Seconded: Mr K Milne

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Loanhead Battery Storage: no office staff from the company were available for this meeting but they will have to comply with regulations by attending a public meeting before planning can move forward. They will be given the date of the next meeting.

b) Cloddach Bridge update: there was nothing new to report. After the election all Government expenditure was to be reviewed. Some money has been released but we are still waiting for news on the Cloddach Bridge. The expenditure had been approved but not signed off, hence the delay.

c) School caretaker: no progress so far.

d) Thomshill speeding process: nothing further has been heard so far.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

a) A 96 corridor consultations: another consultation is planned and will be open until 22 February 2025. Dualling is still a live project for the A96 but the A9 will come first so nothing will happen in the foreseeable future.

b) SSEN Community Benefit Fund: the latest communication is not relevant to us. The Council will have a policy for the infrastructure. Inverness has already completed one and Moray is looking at this. Any community along the route will be entitled to the community benefit. The line is now acceptable to most communities. The plan for Kellas Wind Farm had been submitted first so this might mean that SSEN has to move one pylon.

5. FINANCE REPORT

We have not yet received any funding from the recent Wind Farm applications. The applications have been acknowledged but are currently being processed. Concern was expressed about the delay as applications were submitted with 30-day quotes and these could change during the delay. Also the applicants might assume that it is the Community Council which is causing the delay.

The main outstanding project is the Fishing Charity. The name has been changed but they are now ready to claim the money. They must be asked if what they are planning is still the same as was applied for and it must be completed this year. There are still some small amounts outstanding otherwise.

The closing date for the next round of applications is the end of January.

Finance since the last meeting:

Income	£0
Expenditure	£ 3,145.01

Bank accounts:

HCC	£ 2,018.27
Roths 1	£ 8,957.78
Roths 2	£13,628.78
TOTAL	£24,604.83

The audit has not yet been completed.

6. PLANNING ISSUES

There were no issues.

Nothing has come in re the quarry.

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

a) Concern was expressed that litter has been accumulating round the school at Mosstowie. It was pointed out that there is currently no janitor.

b) Nothing has so far been done about the trees at Wester Manbeen.

c) Most community bank accounts are to have charges from January. There will be a monthly charge of £4.25. There will also be a charge for transactions but as this will only be after a high number of transactions this should not affect us.

d) The report of the Community Council Consultation will be available in January.

e) Concern was expressed that salt from the salt bins at Pluscarden Hall was escaping and running down when it rains. A new bin can be requested through the Moray Council website but it is important to specify the required location. Councillor Mustard can be kept informed about this.

f) The Council is aware of the difficulties with bus routes with particular reference to Roseisle.

g) Councillor Mustard pointed out that this is now the final year of office for the current Community Council. Councils will be dissolved after the September meetings and the new Councils will form in October. Members were reminded to ask for application forms.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their efforts during the past year. He wished everyone a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2025.

Date, time and venue of the next meeting:

Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 7.30 pm at Mosstowie School.