



Findhorn and Kinloss

Community Council

DRAFT Minutes of Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council Meeting

held on Thursday August 27th, 2026, in the Culbin Room, Kinloss Church.

Present		Attendance	
A Skene	Chairperson	S Kane	Kinloss Barracks
Sheila Urquhart	Minute Taker	C Low	TFVCC
A Shepherd	Treasurer		
A Hart		Moray Councilors	
S Symonds		Cllr McBain	
P Lewington		Cllr Robertson	
R Hutchinson			
M La Tourelle		Members of Public	
W Ritchie		0	
H Cooksley			

Item 1 - Welcome

a. **Apologies** – Cllr Van der Horn

b. **Declaration of Interest** – to be raised as and when it occurs.

Item 2 – Public Session

- a. Community Safety Report/Police Scotland Report – Sgt Howitt emailed A Skene to advise that he would not attend the August meeting as he was changing roles. He advised that PC Wayne Frances would take on the role of Liaison Officer. There was a Police Scotland report sent to the Community Councilors at the end of July.
- b. Any other competent public business / public correspondence to be raised through agenda items.

Item 3 – Ratification of Minutes of Meeting from 25th June 2026 in James Milne Institute, Findhorn

3.1 The minutes of the meeting of Thursday 25th June 2026 were agreed as being accurate, proposed by M La Tourelle and seconded by P Lewington.

Item 4 – Matters Arising

4.1 (2Ca) Kinloss School Crossing - Moray Council advised that a 20mph speed limit through Kinloss would not be considered. A crossing would require land from the MOD to provide a suitable width for the road to have a crossing. This could be done through a Moray Council application to buy the land for a negotiated fee or through a compulsory purchase order. There were also the issues of who would fund and construct. There had been a small improvement in the pavement width as Moray Council had trimmed back the hedges and hedge cutting is now in the MC maintenance schedule. **ACTION: A Skene and S Kane to follow up.**

4.2 (2Cc) Morning Bus Service to/from Findhorn. On 17th August, H Cooksley met with T Mackay, Moray Council Service Manager and D MacRae, Moray Council Public Transport Manager, regarding the limited scheduled bus services between Findhorn, Kinloss and Forres. He stressed the difficulty for residents, businesses and visitors who have no access to scheduled buses until 1123, Monday to Saturday and nothing on a Sunday. Moray Council is clearly reluctant to make one of the M.Connect buses a scheduled service to Findhorn and Kinloss. Messrs Mackay and MacRae agreed to consider this further. They advised that they would be asking Stagecoach about their future intentions for the no 32 bus covering this route at their quarterly meeting in September and they would report back.

4.3 (4.1) Trees at Kinloss woods. Cllr Van der Horn reported that Scottish Forestry have confirmed that increased saturation of the tree roots due to rising sea levels have caused the trees to die. The Fire Service will visit to assess the fire risk of the deadwood load and report back.

Item 5 The Findhorn Village Conservation Company report

- C Low advised they had contacted MC re access to the lanes/stryplies. There are rights of way but some residents are blocking them off.
- Motorhomes Stopover has had a good summer and replacement signs have been installed which provide a more standard approach. There are ongoing issues with wipes being put down toilets/waste which blocks the pump. One of the pumps had to be replaced this year. An improved Control panel for the pumping station at North toilet block which costs over £4,000 is being installed. This should provide earlier information when there is an issue.
- The increase of parking to £2 in June 2026 has not created issues; couple of negative comments on Facebook but the majority of comments were positive and supportive.
- Un Petit Cafe and Brodie have moved on. Brodie kept an eye on things in the car park and let Tfvcc know if there were any problems during the day between the Tfvcc's twice daily checks. They are hoping to give another coffee van an opportunity, and have been approached by a couple of interested parties. If anyone does see issues in the car park and toilets, it would be appreciated if they could be reported to Tfvcc either by email or phone details displayed on the signs
- The Dunes Track is holding up well this summer, despite the increased volume of cars using the East car park. There is no charge for parking at East car park but there is a donation box which brings in less than £15 a month over the busy period and at other times £4/£5. The cost of maintaining the Dunes Track is a significant commitment but, unfortunately, this is not recognized by users. Additional speed bumps have been installed to try and reduce the speed of some drivers who continue to drive at over 10mph.
- C Low advised that they are looking, along with R Hutchison and J Martin at how to address the fire risk around residential properties. The fire breaks at the back of Broomwalk, Fyrish Rd and Elvin Place are maintained to 10m but there are still extensive areas of gorse which, with the recent wild fires, are being reviewed on how best to manage. It is intended to have a discussion at Tfvcc AGM to gain village input,
- The church has started to take bookings; two events during the Findhorn Bay Festival as well as being used for rehearsal space. The first wedding is booked for 12 September. The plan is to attend some wedding fairs to gain an insight into what people and suppliers are looking for. They are currently looking to find a quantity surveyor who can help put together tender info for remedial works. The business case draft has been received and currently being reviewed but it is very extensive. There are some positive ideas coming forward.
- Tfvcc has paid the registration fee for Dark Skies and will continue to support R Hutchinson with this project.
- Tfvcc worked with a film company to provide information and places to film the Ospreys. This will be aired on TV at some point.
- C Low advised that there would be more time for building their plans and for seeking funding for various projects across the village, now that summer is coming to an end. She also highlighted that there has been a large amount of volunteer time required over the summer and that they are a small Board.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report

6.1 Discussions have taken place with Defence Infrastructure Organisation to determine whether land can be acquired from the MOD to facilitate road widening and the installation of a pedestrian crossing. The outcome of these discussions will be shared with the Community Council and the Chair.

6.2 Regimental personnel currently deployed in Cyprus will be returning to Kinloss Barracks from September.

Item 7 Kinloss Playpark Report

7.1 W Ritchie advised that payments had been made to Caledonian Play and that work on the playpark was scheduled to be completed by 3rd September. Planting up planters is arranged for Saturday 19th September

Item 8 Chair's Report

8.1 Nothing to report that is not already on the agenda.

Item 9 Secretary's Report/Correspondence

9.1 Nothing to report.

Item 10 Treasurer's Report

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

Admin Grant	£2,378.24
Capital	£ 297.70
Total	£2, 675.94

10.2 A Shepherd is tendering her resignation, so a new Treasurer will need to be appointed.

Item 11 Joint Community Council

11.1 No one attended the meeting on Thursday August 13th, 2026. The next meeting is 12th November 2026.

Item 12 Moray Councillors' Report

12.1 Cllr Robertson reported that she had met with the new CEO of Moray Leisure Centre who advised that the Fit Life Scheme would be reviewed.

Moray Council is the biggest employer in Moray with 77% of the workforce being women and 51% aged 45 or over. MC considered a proposal in August to pursue professional Menopause Friendly Accreditation to support employees and reduce staff turnover.

Moray Council are planning to pilot targeted provision of wraparound childcare from December in Kinloss, Forres and Buckie. Scottish Government provided grant funding of £1.6m and feedback from MC will inform whether the scheme will be rolled out throughout the county.

She also advised that good exam results were reported in August. Moray Council will continue to work on improving attainment. An independent person is about to be appointed to scrutinise educational provision.

There are ongoing discussions about how to invest in the School Estate going forwards. A full review is needed as some schools are crumbling and/or at low capacity. Discussions will focus on educational benefit.

Next week the Education Committee will approve the Forces Children Charter. The Dandelion Project supports children from Armed Forces families. 60% of children in Moray schools are from military families.

12.2 Cairngorm wildfire. Cllr Robertson pointed out some issues re how this was handled. There needs to be more specialist equipment based in Aviemore, with access to suitable helicopters. It was noted that the fire fighter's equipment was not suitable for dealing with wildfires and needs to be upgraded.

12.3 Cllr McBain said there needs to be a designated person to lead the resources when a wildfire occurs as there are so many people wanting to help and better coordination is required. Cllr McBain reiterated that he and colleagues continue to campaign for an improved bus service to Findhorn. The Forres Councillors plan to meet to discuss the MConnect service provision.

12.4 Cllr Van Der Horn advised that a report to consider the Findhorn Bay Local Nature Reserve will go to committee in December. Lapsed management agreements with local landowners will be discussed. The MConnect App has been improved and hopefully it will provide a more positive experience for users.

Item 13 Park Ecovillage, Findhorn Report (PEF)

M La Tourelle reported the following:

- The Enterprise Fair 8 August was a big success.
- Moray Arts Centre (MAC) is under new management, Ekopia, from 1st September info@ekopia.org.uk
- PEF Resilience: UK government - Resilience Action Plan (RAP). All households to be prepared for national emergencies.
- See Moray Council *Household Resilience: Planning for Emergencies* leaflet (delivered to every household in Moray). <https://www.moray.gov.uk/media/rz3d5sle/file152469.pdf>
- Scotland and Moray Emergency Planning: See Guidance for Preparing Scotland - Ready Scotland
- There is a PEF Resilience Planning Advisory Group - all aspects of emergency planning.
- Dunes Fire Defence - S Worth, Dunes Trust has arranged Fire signs for key trouble spots in the Dunes.

Item 14 Resilience Planning

14.1 R Hutchinson reported that the Findhorn Village Resilience group had purchased several pieces of equipment and they were constructing 'Grab Bags' which would be strategically placed for easy access in an emergency. He had now received 75% of the Berryburn Grant. The remainder would come after he has submitted receipts. A First Aid course has been arranged for 20th September and all places have been taken.

14.2 The seasonal high-risk fire signage has been installed in and around Findhorn Village in collaboration with TFCVCC. The Fire Service will issue more signage if the risk is extreme.

Item 15 Flow Park

15.1 There will be an extraordinary meeting of FKCC on Wednesday 2nd September to discuss their response to the Inshore Scoping Report document which has been received from Offshore Solutions Group.

Item 16 Remembrance Service

16.1 W Ritchie advised they had arranged for a piper and player of the last post. The wreaths had been removed from the War Memorial to allow for the annual inspection. A Skene has the holding pole for safe keeping.

Item 17 Planning

17.1 **26/00980/APP** Form mobility access off street parking area at 200 Findhorn. No objection.

26/00973/APP - Change of use of former Kinloss Golf Course land to garden ground and erect post and wire fence and field gates at Wyvis View, 12 Fairway Heights, Kinloss. No objection

26/00991/APP - Retrospective consent to site ancillary accommodation at 6 Seapark Lane, Kinloss. No objection

Item 18 Any Other Competent Business

18.1 R Hutchinson thanked the TFCVCC for paying the fee for Dark Sky International official application process.

Item 19 Forthcoming Community Events

- 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
- Phoenix Café musical events program – See Rainbow Bridge
- Sacred Dance Festival 5th 12 September- Universal Hall
- Dance North – Thursday 10-13 September workshops at various local locations www.dancenorth.scot
- Conference: Healing Our World - From Despair to Repair, 16-20 October 2026 www.findhorn.org/workshops
- PEF Other workshops and events: www.visitecovillagefindhorn.uk
- Findhorn Foundation Events – www.findhorn.org/workshops

Item 20 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 24th September 2026 at 7.00pm in the James Milne Institute, Findhorn