



29 Jun 26

MINUTES OF HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL (HCC) 23 JUNE 2026

Attendees: Grahame Davidson, Angus Dixon, (temp secretary) Willie Duncan, Alex Lyons, Colin McCarthy, Kenny Milne, Bridget Mustard (Councillor – Moray Council), Colin Souter, Hilary Stewart, Neil Sutherland, Andy Wallis (Chairman) Simon Williams (Treasurer)

Apologies: Steve Valentine

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at Dallas Hall and thanked the hall for providing cakes, shortbread, tea and coffee for the meeting.

The Chair also offered thanks to the outgoing Secretary, Lesley Lythgoe, for her work, particularly in establishing the Community Council after the elections.

The meeting noted that Steve Valentine had volunteered to take on the Secretary role for a period and would be voted into this position at the next meeting.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting Ratification

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 28th April were proposed to be correct by Colin McCarthy and seconded by Kenny Milne and agreed unanimously.

3. Declaration of Interests – None.

4. Matters Arising from the Meeting of the 28 Apr 2026

a. Defibrillators cost, feasibility and engagement

Councillors had investigated potential defibrillator blackspots across Heldon with a view to establishing a requirement and site. Only Birnie Hall and Mark Garricks on Rashcrook road had met the criteria with a clear local requirement and a potential site/guardian. The Council would now pause work on seeking to identify further sites as there was no intention to seek to impose a defibrillator on areas where there was not a clearly articulated community requirement. However, the Council would remain open to considering future bids for defibrillators should the community identify potential sites, guardians and requirements.

Action: CM would submit a bid for a Defibrillator for Birnie Hall and would work with WD to see whether a bid could also be submitted for Rashcrook Road.

b. Information Stall at Dallas Gala

Action - Colin Souter will produce an HCC information poster with a QR code, for the Dallas Gala.

c. Speeding at Thomshill and Roseisle

Following a very productive meeting between HCC and Moray Council, we were awaiting feedback on some of the suggested traffic calming options for Roseisle and Thomshill and some details on potential costings for speed signs that might be funded by the HCC Community Benefit Fund.

Action: Further details of traffic incident hotspots across Roseisle/Duffus were to be coordinated and passed to Moray Council. SW, HS, AL

Action: An update following the MC meeting would be sought. AW

d. First Aid Courses. Update CM

No specific locations and numbers had been identified for first aid training yet but there was a sense that there was a requirement. Councillors were asked to confirm a requirement and host sites within the next two weeks so that a bid could be put together.

Action. Confirm local requirement for first aid training for volunteers working in the community and pass details to CM to develop a bid for the next Finance meeting. All

e. Tree Encroachment B9010.

Moray Council have been very proactive and confirmed large areas of the affected verge are theirs and have undertaken to see what can be done on the next maintenance round

Still waiting for an answer from Forestry Commission

Action: Request Moray Council to chase up FC for a response and some action if nothing has happened by the end of June 2026. AW

f. Mosstowie School Parking.

Zig zags coming this summer. This is a good example of a local issue raised by both community and ward councillors and a good response from Moray Council.

5. Correspondence Received

a. June 2026 Police Scotland Community Council Update.

Key highlights:

- An E-Bike was taken possession of in Lhanbryde where a juvenile, without a licence, was found riding it This is a growing problem and residents urged to report issues
- 13 drivers were issued with speeding tickers at Roseisle for exceeding the 30 mile per hour speed limit.
- Still waiting contact from our assigned Community Police Sgt.

b. Cloddach Bridge – Letter from UK Government Department of Transport.

A very disappointing but not unexpected letter from UK Govt Dept of Transport to Moray Council who had written on our behalf to see if we could recoup the funding

committed to the BC development in good faith. The Dept of Transport said no, quoting HMT Green Book guidance, but seemed to have missed the point that the bid did not fail, but was not even considered due a change in Government priorities.

Action – Write to our MP to ask a formal question as to why the HCC funding cannot be refunded given the decision not to proceed was not based on the content of the report. AW

6. Treasurers' Report - update - Simon Williams

Since last meeting (28/04/26)

Income	£0
Expenditure	8,514

Bank balances

Heldon CC	£3,399.01
Awaiting distribution	
Roths 1	£34,723.76
Roths 2	£16,074.99
Total	£54,197.76

Pluscarden Hall resubmitted their application for funding to repair the hall shed, rather than replace it with shipping containers. The total sum approved for the project is £16,764.

The deadline for new submissions is 31st August 2026.

It is hoped that the HCC accounts can be audited later this year by Moira Duncan.

7. Planning

- a. **Level Farm Caravan Park** - HCC to wrote to Moray Council about the Level Farm Caravan Park planning application with comments on the proposal.
- b. **Birnie Quarry Update** – The applicant has appealed the rejection of planning permission for the proposed Birnie (Dykeside Quarry and concrete works). The case will be registered and a Recorder appointed and letters issued to all interested parties who will need to register that they want to be consulted. HCC will be part of the process and will share details as we go forward.

Action: Respond to Reporter with comments on the appeal and noting the concern of locals that the applicant has under stated the continued objections to the quarry plan. AW

Members of the public are also encouraged to write to the Reporter, before the deadline, which is 14 days from their individual notification of the appeal.

C. SSEN Substation - HCC have been contacted by Innes CC with a view to setting up a joint meeting with Innes/Elgin/HCC and SSEN to discuss the proposals for the new substation sites – two of which fall in the HCC area

Action: Colin Souter will lead on this.CS

8. Reports

a. Local Councillor Bridget Mustard

Bridget Mustard described a new Moray Council report; “Attend to Achieve” which aims to get more children attending school more of the time and enabling children to have time away from school, if there is a good reason for them to do so.

b. Community Councillors Ward Reports

- Work on Pluscarden Hall refurbishment is proceeding well with the hall exterior now painted and the new sign board installed.
- MiltonDuff new sign board has also been put up.

9. Community Feedback - None

10. The Joint Community Council of Moray

Resilience – There was discussion about resilience planning and at least one CC has recently submitted a new plan for consideration. HCC should consider developing a resilience plan.

Action: Add a discussion on resilience to the next agenda. AD

11.AOCB

Action – Update our posters and redistribute them – AW/CM

12. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meetings

3rd Aug 2026 – Roseisle hall – to be confirmed

15th Sep 2026 - Duffus

27th Oct 2026 tbc

8th Dec 2026 tbc

19th Jan 2027 tbc