



Minutes of the Meeting in at St Drostan's Hall, Inch

on Monday 23 February 2026

1. Present: – Sheena Lonchay (Chair and Inch), Diana Muriel (Rayne), Wally Rhodes (Treasurer and Leslie), Lynda Bain (Secretary and Chapel of Garioch), Duncan Thow (Chapel of Garioch and Balquhain), Janette Taylor (Inch), Mark Worsley (Chapel of Garioch), Gill Walker (Rayne), Alan Simpson (Leslie), Gordon Hood (Inch), Gill Bishop (Whiteford and Logie Durno).

Councillor Moray Grant.

Apologies - Frank Musgrave (Oyne), Kevin Shand (Culsalmond and Colpy).

2. Matters arising and approval of previous minutes.

Resilience insurance – Kemnay CC and Kintore CC responded to confirm they have insurance for volunteers through Zurich. Risk assessments must be in place

Men's Shed to remove padlock from container. The padlock must be replaced with the same number as previously. *MW to action.*

Cllr Grant to find out about payments to farmers during recent adverse weather.

NESCC Forum – BCC approved draft statement. NESCC has also contacted Moray CCs to ascertain whether they would like to be included. Holyrood round table event planned which Gillian Martin MSP will attend.

GH was thanked for his planning comments.

3. BCC Business

- a. Finance** – £1900 at start of new financial year plus ringfenced money for defibrillator.
- b. Resilience** A resilience meeting will be held next week. *SL to share details. LB to send risk assessment in Word to JT.*
- c. Newsletter** - No response about funding. Next newsletter due 20 March.
- d. Social media** – Survey has been shared about proposed new Will's pharmacy in Inverurie potentially at Port Elphinstone..
- e. NESCC Forum** – Meeting to discuss at Holyrood.
- f. CC Forum** - CC Forum is on 4 March. *MW, JT and any others who would like to attend to go.*
- g. Flood Risk Management Management Consultation** – JT has shared on facebook and sent to Premnay.

4. Planning

a NO APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN FEBRUARY 2026

APPLICATIONS DECIDED IN FEBRUARY 2026

Erection of General Purpose Agricultural Store with Grain

Little Lediken Inch Aberdeenshire AB52 6UA

Ref. No: APP/2026/0056 · Received: Wed 14 Jan 2026 · Validated: Mon 19 Jan 2026

BCC had no comment to make on this application. The proposal is not considered by Aberdeenshire Council to adversely impact the landscape qualities of the area or any historic asset, nor pose any local amenity issues. It is considered that the proposal falls within the remit of agricultural permitted development rights as set out in Class 18 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992 (as amended). The proposal also complies with applicable policies within the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2023 and National Planning Framework 4.

PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED

Erection of Garage

East Wood Croft Culsalmond Inch AB52 6UQ

Ref. No: APP/2025/2071 · Received: Tue 16 Dec 2025 · Validated: Mon 22 Dec 2025

BCC had no comment to make on this application. The proposal is considered by the planning authority to comply with the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2023, and the National Planning Framework 4. The proposal is appropriately sited, scaled, and designed for its location and there would be no detrimental impact on the wider surrounding rural area.

APPROVED

Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse

2 Wrangham Cottages Inch Aberdeenshire AB52 6TQ

Ref. No: APP/2025/1865 · Received: Mon 17 Nov 2025 · Validated: Mon 22 Dec 2025

This application for a residential extension located 3 miles to the north of Inch was thought by BCC to be in accordance with NPF and LDP policies. Aberdeenshire Council echoed these views and approved the application.

APPROVED

b Hill of Foudland Scoping Survey Consultation – query over why BCC had not received a copy of this. *LB to ask sender to expect immediate acknowledgement and if not received to resend. GH to send in BCC comments on scoping survey. New date given of 2 March for comments since BCC did not receive a copy of the consultation. Public consultation 10 March Inch. SL thanked GH for his work on the scoping survey comments. LPP was able to be included as was the survey completed 2 years ago. If developers ask to speak to BCC, a session can be arranged. Query over possible changes to way any funding from a windfarm is allocated. Reid Hutchison are speaking on this subject at the June CC Forum.*

5. Police – *SL to send police inspector for Garioch comments on the draft newsletter. JT to ask for a link to screenshots for social media.*

6. Roads and Transport – nothing new to report. The last update was the post which appeared on Transport Scotland website on February 3rd, which was circulated to BCC members on February 5th. This noted the Scottish Government's commitment to fully dualling the A96 but the Nairn to Inverness dualling will take longer to complete than planned because they have insufficient funding to build it to the previous timetable. The posting briefly mentioned the A96 Corridor Review, but with no indication that any of the near-term works, such as safety improvements at the Colpy junction.

The evident plan is that the Inverurie to Elgin section of the A96 will be dualled but at some undetermined future date, probably 2035+. This is the worst possible outcome for our area: continued uncertainty discourages investment locally, improvements promised in the Corridor Review will not be provided and dualling with the currently planned route destroys some of the best agricultural land in Scotland. *BCC agreed FM to b) write to Transport Scotland or the Cabinet Secretary asking for clarification, c) write to local MSP's asking them why residents' views are being ignored and why there is no investment in this area and d) write to local MP who agreed that a delay was the worst possible outcome and see what she proposed to do about it.*

SL asked Garioch Police Inspector for further information on road traffic accidents – fatalities and non-fatalities. Colpy fatality police report has not yet been published. Concerns raised about the lack of funding for safety.

7. BCC subgroups

a Health – The review group held a meeting 2 weeks ago with AHSCP. The minute of the previous meeting was problematic: the impact assessment was stated to be based on the current situation. This is unsatisfactory since the hospital was closed in 2018 and would be based on a closed hospital. This is a major change. The GP practice has recorded all the evidence of impact on the community since closure. Rachel Taylor will check with IJB to see if there could be a different interpretation. Rachel Taylor stated she had taken legal advice. Previously Leigh Jolly stated they wanted complete transparency which does not now appear to be the case. AHSCP stated they would come back with an immediate response – 10 days ago. No response received to date. Full consultation has not taken place therefore due process has not been followed.

b Correen Hills Windfarm Development - no developments. Connection charges – there was a query as to whether they would become problematic when English windfarms come onstream.

c LPP – change to CAP

d Paths and Green Space – Men's Shed were approached to help improve Meadows/Leith Hall/Drumrossie House/tennis courts and a farm. Multiple landowners are involved and The Meadows it is a wild area with volunteers helping to maintain it. Men's Shed not needed to help. Bennachie Access Trust – no further information about progress with handing over piece of land at Premnay but since there is a right of access this is not a problem.

8 Aberdeenshire Council – a Joint working of Community Councils to increase

Aberdeenshire Council funding – voted 6/5 to maintain watching brief and not sign up. **b** recycling bins changed to Nathans. IJB audit Wed 25 Feb. Council budget to be proposed Friday. Grit bins to be voted on. At resilience conference a study of AB15 was put forward which showed that there was a cut in falls leading to fractures when the grit bins were in place therefore saving NHS money. Community Wealth Fund Strategy – to be put on agenda for next meeting.

9 Chapel of Garioch/Pitcaple – Work almost completed on the hall. Funding ends 31 March. Snagging problems with heating. Request for cones for potholes.

10 Culsalmond/Colpy – no report.

11 Durno/Whiteford – road closure at Durno T junction was 1 month instead of the advertised 5 days.

12 Leslie – no developments to report.

13 Oyne – no report.

14 Premnay – no report.

15 Rayne – street lighting is out at the car park beside the school. Reported several times. *Cllr Grant to follow up.* Potholes are problematic. Cllr Grant stated the weather had to improve to deal with these. 28 Feb Lourin Duck is the new name for the pop up pub in Rayne. Next date 28 Feb. Glens meeting was postponed.

15 Insch - a BLC update – have an annual programme of events now. They plan to buy a bouncy castle. **b other updates** – The problems with parking at Insch cemetery could be people with mobility issues. There are signs up. There is ongoing flooding at Insch Primary in the playground. *JT to contact the school/PTA. MG to clarify council's position.* Query as to whether planning gain could be funneled into sorting the playground. CCs can request this when planning applications come forward.

16 AOCB – *SL meeting with Youth Forum and will invite them to attend BCC meetings.* BCC recognised the excellent performance of Andrew Musgrave in the cross country skiing events at the Winter Olympics. *JT to put in newsletter.* Strawberry Fayre organisers have asked if BCC wish to take a stand again.

18 Date of next meeting Monday 23 March 2026.