

KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting 3rd February 2026

Held at the Harbour Offices

	PRESENT		Chris Ambler (Chairman), Angela Johnson (Secretary), Christine MacKenzie, Hugh Morrison (Highland Council). Lawrence Macleod, Denise MacDonald (Treasurer), Ian MacDonald	ACTION
	GUESTS		Members of the Public - J Shaw, M Meek, S Black, I Black,	
1	APOLOGIES		Murdo Macpherson	
2	MINUTES FROM 5th November 2025	2.0	The minutes from the 5 th November summarised. The minutes are approved.	
3	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	3.1	<p>The meeting discussed various local issues, including the potential for a local energy club to offer cheaper energy, with a project cost of £20,000 and £3,000-£5,000 secured from the hydro fund.</p> <p>Gary has left his position as Treasurer of NWSC, and Chris will take over.</p> <p>Updates on the Salachy wind farm project were shared, with a road show planned for January or February.</p> <p>Funding for community buses and high school bus repairs was also addressed, along with the need for more drivers.</p> <p>A broken website link was noted,</p> <p>Quotes for new signage were discussed, with a cost of £4000 for 15 signs and poles. David Forbes will be calling to see Chris on Wednesday to discuss.</p>	Chris
4	KLB Community Company	4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MM gave an overview of the Community Company, formed in 2008 by the Community Council, manages assets and provides grants within the KLB area. It has distributed £66,000 from a hydro project's £100,000 income over three years. 	Margaret Meek
		4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The company faces challenges with board member fatigue and the need for new members. MM and CM wish to stand down at the next AGM. 	
		4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Northwest Training Center, established in 1992, serves three villages and faces staffing issues. 	
		4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Company aims to become a SCIO to reduce costs and improve legal protection. 	

		4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hydro project's net revenue is £8,000 annually, and the company has £10,000 in the bank. 	
		4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An AGM is planned for February or March – new potential members are encouraged to attend. 	
5	NW2045 UPDATE. DEVELOPMENT GROUP UPDATE	5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting for NW2045 12th Feb 2026 	
6	GEOPARK UPDATE	6.1	Role of an Education Engagement Officer has been finalised and an Alness resident has accepted the post with a background in geology. Start date not confirmed at the meeting.	
7	HUGH HIGHLAND COUNCIL	7.1	<p>The meeting discussed the need to stabilise and repair headstones marked with yellow tags in the cemetery. Hugh suggested involving local people to handle the repairs, emphasizing the importance of not leaving any stones untouched. Chris mentioned the necessity of collective action, noting that many headstones are in the middle section and require family permission before repairs.</p> <p>Action: Prepare and put a notice in the minutes and on the notice board asking anyone with a yellow marker or an unstable headstone to report it so the community can prioritise making unstable headstones safe.</p> <p>Action: Ian will have a look and put in a quote for resetting repairs required.</p>	Hugh
		7.2	<p>The Highland Council Ranger service job advert was also mentioned, with a closing date of March 8th and interviews on March 27th.</p> <p>Action: Post the ranger vacancy advert on the community Facebook page (include closing date and interview dates as provided) so community members see the role and application details.</p>	Hugh
		7.3	<p>Additionally, there was a discussion about a power cut in the market and the need for improved emergency lights. Contact Keith to arrange replacement of the emergency-light batteries at the market (batteries reportedly need changing after ~5–6 years).</p>	lan
				Angela
8	CORRESPONDENCE	8.1	<p>A community resilience planning workshop is being held on February 12, Angela attending</p> <p>A flood risk management plan consultation was sent out on January 27.</p>	Chris
				Angela

			A Community Council convention round table is scheduled for February 24th, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Edinburgh, if anyone is available to attend.	
9	TREASURERS REPORT	9.1	The main expenditure in December was on Christmas lights, with £2,259 remaining KLB CC£14,426.00	
10	POLICE REPORT		Police Report attached separately	
11	AOCB	11.1	The meeting discussed various community issues, including the replacement of 91 poles over three weeks, which could increase with staged power cuts and generator use from mid-March onwards.	Lawrence
		11.2	Road Gritting – A gritting policy change was noted, affecting side roads, and a face-to-face meeting with Highland Council officials was planned. Action: Chris will touch base with Julie and obtain a meeting date with Debbie Sutton about gritting policy, and prepare structured questions for a face-to-face meeting (limit two representatives per community council).	Chris
		11.3	Concerns about dog fouling in the area. It was requested that there be availability of anonymous reporting mechanisms for dog fouling. Signs with fines have been effective in reducing dog fouling in other areas. A suggestion was made of using public posts to raise awareness about the issue and encourage responsible behaviour. Action – Further discussions required to find a solution and potential discussion with new Ranger when in post.	Chris
		11.4	Discussion around a planning application for new housing, with Ian mentioning supportive comments online, particularly from a neighbour who raised five key points that should be considered by the council for future development. There's also a mention of sending out a planning document. Action: CC Members to return comments for the consultation.	CC Committee
		11.5	Discussion around a planning application for house and Veterinary practise in Oldshoremore but CC Members have not had enough time to read as yet.	CC Committee

		11.6	<p>Action: CC Members to return comments for the consultation.</p> <p>Discussion around local heroes, specifically three young men who saved Rubens, Jacobs, Lachey, Aaron, and Luca from a serious accident. Voting is encouraged for these heroes through the Northern Times website and social media, particularly Facebook, where the school has shared the information. Additionally, James Morrison from Lochinvar is also mentioned as a contender for Fundraiser of the Year. Action: The closing date for voting is noted as the 23rd Feb 26</p>	All
12	DATE OF NEXT MEETING		<p>Please note change of weekday for future meetings</p> <p>Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7pm at the Harbour Offices.</p>	