



Findochty Community Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 2 March 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Venue: Findochty Town Hall

Attendance

Community Councillors:

Anne Braidwood (Chair), Paul Steel (Secretary), Paul Kerrison (Treasurer), Ron Dawson

Associate members: None

Members of Public: One

Moray Council: None

1. Welcome

The Chair, Anne Braidwood, opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees.

The Chair confirmed that a quorum was present and the meeting was duly constituted.

The Chair advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purpose of assisting with the preparation of accurate minutes..

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Jeff Masterson

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by: Ron Dawson

Seconded by: Paul Steel

4. Community Updates

4.1 Community Police Update

No report received. It was noted the Community Council may need reinstated on the Police Scotland distribution list.

4.2 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer advised that the current bank balance stands at **£7,165**, comprising:

- Admin Fund: £1,606
- Events Fund: £623
- Maintenance & Flowers: £2,297
- General Fund: £2,638

The Seafield Estate donation has been received. The annual accounts have been submitted.

It was noted that no expenditure has occurred since re-establishment.

The Common Good Fund balance available for application is £3,079.

5. Community Feedback (Submitted in Advance)

Concerns were raised by residents regarding increased litter throughout the village, including Doddy's Road, Cliff Terrace and the A98 approach.

It was agreed:

- To organise an initial targeted litter pick before grass growth limits visibility.
- To organise a larger community litter pick event at a later date.
- To purchase litter picking equipment (grabbers, hoops, gloves, bags and hi-vis vests).

A **budget of up to £300** from the Maintenance Fund was approved for equipment purchase.

It was agreed that organised events would ensure insurance coverage.

The Secretary will publicise initial arrangements.

6. Items Submitted by Community Council Members

Website Hosting & Administration

It was agreed that reliance on external hosting creates operational risk.

The Community Council approved:

- Securing independent website hosting.
- Purchasing Elementor Pro licence.
- Migrating email accounts.

Estimated cost: approximately £160–£180 for two years, funded from the Admin Grant.

Community Survey

A draft community survey was presented.

It was agreed to:

- Print 100 paper copies (estimated cost £15.16 from Admin Fund).
- Make the survey available online.
- Ask the Key Store if they would be willing to host a collection box and hold copies of the survey for return. (and potentially other locations).
- Collate results for future planning and funding applications.

Lease of Seafield Land

It was agreed to reopen discussions with Seafield Estates regarding a potential lease of land behind the Key Store to enable future improvement works (e.g., picnic area). Further detail to be brought back to the Council.

Retention and Destruction of Historic Financial Records

It was noted that historic financial records exceed recommended retention periods.

The Secretary will confirm the appropriate retention schedule with Moray Council before returning with a formal proposal for destruction of expired records.

7. Reports

7.1 Local Councillors

No councillor in attendance. Noted..

7.2 Town Hall

It was agreed that a standing Town Hall report is not required, as it operates independently of the Community Council. Item to be removed from future agendas..

7.3 Sub-Committee Report

The Secretary has written to the Christmas Lights Committee regarding formal sub-committee status and insurance compliance.

Confirmation is awaited following their AGM. It was noted that formal governance and insurance clarity is required before continuation as a sub-committee.

7.4 Member Responsibility Updates

Harbour Advisory Group (CC representative update)

Update noted. Speed concerns around the harbour were discussed. It was noted that village-wide 20mph proposals are progressing via Moray Council. Further monitoring required.

Maintenance / Gardening

Routine maintenance ongoing.

Member to prepare a costed proposal for planters and potential feature installation for future consideration. Minor maintenance purchases approved as required.

Defibrillator

It was reported that the defibrillator battery is currently showing one bar (approximately 25% capacity). Advice received indicates the battery may last a further three to four months but should be monitored regularly.

The replacement battery cost is approximately £300. Replacement pads will also be required later in the year at an estimated cost of £60 each (due November).

It was agreed:

- To continue monitoring battery capacity.
- To obtain confirmation of current pricing.
- To explore fundraising options (e.g., raffle or community event) to contribute towards replacement costs.
- If the battery level drops unexpectedly, replacement will be authorised without delay.

No immediate expenditure was approved at this stage.

8. Any Other Competent Business (AOCB)

Speeding concerns within the village were discussed. No formal action agreed at this stage..

9. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday, 6 April 2026 at 7:00 pm

Meeting Closed

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:25 pm

These minutes were approved at the 6th April 2026 meeting of the Community Council.