

GRANTOWN-ON-SPEY and VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on
Thursday 20th November 2025 at 19:00
At the Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown

Present: Ewan MacGregor (EM)
Jenny Steven (JS)
John Halliday (JH)
Sandra Willox (SW)
Mike Barras (MB)
Beatrice Oliphant (OB)
Steve Edwards (SE)

Members of the Public:

Michael Shand
Catriona Brown
Gordon Bullock

1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies: John Bruce (due to problem on the A9)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Declarations of Members' Interests

None

3. Minutes

Proposed by

Seconded by

4. Matters Arising (not on agenda)

Ewan MacGregor met with John Bruce to discuss various items on the minutes from the last meeting.

Bollards

It was agreed in the interim that we would be happy to accept missing and broken ones. There would be 280 if we were to replace all.

Lewis Hannah needs to be contacted to see how we go forward. Chains to go between the bollards can be discussed at a later date. ACTION JB to have a discussion with LH.

JH contacted Login Steading and a quote of 30 bollards in larch £974.83 which was discounted by £68.00.

How do we access the money from the Common Good Fund? Question to ask Lewis Hannah.

The invitation to pay for car parking could go to the Common Good Fund for replacing the bollards.

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Charge Point

This is being reviewed and we only have one effectively. We need faster charges. Grantown needs them as a priority.

Working Groups

Skating Pond - the clearing of this needs to be reviewed as it is being ignored. This is an conservation issue. EM has written to the National Park and spoken to Seafeld Estate.

Weed Removal

The team of volunteers over several weeks have done an excellent job of removing the debris from the path down Spey Avenue and the road down towards the cemetery. To keep this clear it will need to be tackled annually. The clear up seems to have had a knock on effect on other areas in the town being cleared.

Grantown Initiative

Minutes are on Grantown Online.

Burnfield Toilets in deficit.

2026 insurance reduced by £600.00 without Thunder in the Glen.

Festive Lights £2,000 per year.

Hogmanay needs volunteers.

Badenoch & Strathspey Community Event

Attended by MB:

- Home energy Scotland confirmed that there are still lots of grants available towards insulation, heating and solar projects. More importantly there advice is free with no catches.
- Scottish Fire Service were pushing smoke alarms and drew attention to the fact that they do free Home Fire Safety Visits and there is often help available for vulnerable adults to get alarms fitted.
- CNPA were able to confirm that the Dulnain Bridge to Grantown cycle route is making some slow progress
- Constructive dialogue with Lewis Hannah about information boards, signage and possible discretionary grants for the clock tower.

Question was asked who is responsible for the Information Boards and signage in town (K Derrick)? Grant Park, Kylintra Meadow, Viewpoints Walk, Core paths.
Information Board key held at Mortimers.

Grantown Forum

Action plan - lots of groups were represented. The plan needs to be rejigged and to show The Square as a separate item.

The Mossie is Common Good and to remain as is. Access from Mossie Park is being refused as it goes through the children's park area.

5. Treasurer's Report

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Current bank balance £1, 308.00 with petty cash £ just under £8.00
Grant from Highland Council received
Hamilton Law accountants £980.00

6. Planning

Varying suggestions made; Craiglynne closed to be used for migrants and also Grandview.
EM to ask JB regarding these rumours.

7. Highland Council Update

EM There needs to be an increase in the bins in town, especially Dulaig Park and Mossie Park both need bins. JB to liaise with BO (ACTION).

More aesthetically pleasing bins in the town. JB will take up with Highland Council and ask for a meeting. It had been costed and went to the GI. (ACTION).

Square regenerated Pre Covid. Trees and PA system £28,000.00.

Dog bins are being looked into.

Request for speed signed at Craiglynne/Health Centre to be put to 20mph and also. Spey Avenue/Cromdale Rd. JB to speak to Lewis Hannah (ACTION).

Issue of pavements/roads/missing manhole covers and water gulleys. JB to speak to MB and roads department (ACTION).

Fire Hydrants - Fire Department.

Water - Scottish Water

Telephone - BT

JB to identify each and ask Highland Council to address the issues (ACTION).

Coop corner - All property owners have a duty of care for water coming off their properties.

Dogs

No dog signage at Grant Park.

Speak to Dog Warden as there should be signage in the interim.

Suggestion that opposite Craiglynne/Veteran Cottages to Kylintra Bridge could be fenced off for dogs only. Dog friendly area. JB to look into (ACTION).

Seafield Estates are happy to discuss tidying up.

Yellow Grit Bins

Note are needed around Grantown. There is new legislation as to who is eligible but JB will look into it. (ACTION).

Disabled Parking

Suggestion for one section to be allocated outside Coop which could accommodate Dial a Bus especially. Lewis Hannah the Ward Manager needs to get involved.

Recycling Centre

Additional opening times are needed, especially Sundays.

JB to speak to man in charge (ACTION).

Fly tipping has increased.

Gladstone House

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For sale £150K through Graham & Sibbald. It has outline planning permission.

Yellow Box

The yellow hatched box on the corner of Chapel Road needs replacing as just about worn away. EM to contact roads department (ACTION).

Community Council Forum

Lewis Hannah - When is it starting?

EM to email CEO of Highland Council to ask about what is going to happen to Cromdale Bridge as it is going into Care and Maintenance (ACTION).

8. Correspondence

Nil

9. AOCB

The Blue Door and old Indian Restaurant is in the process of being bought and includes the old TSB and flats above.

HC own the derelict land (next to car park) beside the flats in Spey Avenue.

Next CC meeting

Thursday 22nd January 2026 at the Grant Arms Hotel @ 7pm