



Comrie & District Community AGM and October Council Meeting

The White Church, Thursday 09 October 2025, 7 pm

In Attendance: Andrew Scobie (AS)(Chair), Ross Scobie (RS), Lynn Stewart (LS), Dee Thomas (DT), Terri Bacon (TB)

Elected Representatives: Bailie Rhona Brock, Cllr Stewart Donaldson

In attendance: Alistair Forsyth- Library Rep, and Fiona Blacke- CDT Chair

Members of the Public: 11

1. Welcome & Apologies:

AS welcomed all attendees to the AGM and October meeting.

AS noted apologies Amy Fenwick (AF)(Secretary), Andrew Thompson (AT)Lindsay Brown (LB)(Treasurer), Tim Lucas (TL (Vice Chair),

2. AGM

a. The Chair (AS) advised that although a new Community Council had been properly established, without an election process necessary, the Office Bearers would not be formally appointed until the **EGM** at the November Community Council meeting where all relevant procedures would take place to constitute the new Council.

b. The Chair read out the Treasurer's Annual statement from the Treasurer (LB) and asked for Council Approval of the Annual Accounts which was duly proposed as agreed by Ross Scobie (RS) and seconded by Terri Bacon (TB). The Chair (AS) then went on to read out the Annual Report of the Secretary (AF) and finally his own Annual Report as Chair of the Community Council. All Annual Statements are published in full, for reference, on the Comrie and District Community Council Website and a copy of each Office Bearer Annual Statement will be printed and can be viewed at the White Church alongside the printed copy of the AGM/ October meeting Minutes.

c. Chair (AS) noted that there was no other AOCB relevant to the **2025 AGM** and duly closed the AGM and proceeded to open the October monthly meeting of the Comrie and District Community Council.

Main Community Council Meeting

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair noted that this had been covered at the AGM.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. Chair (AS) advised that he had temporarily taken down flags that had been flying outside the White Church (Saltire and Canadian Flag) as they were looking a little worn but that new flags would be raised in due course.
- b. Residents asked if Community Resilience would be discussed in detail at this meeting. Chair noted it was now an agenda item to be covered later in terms of a way forward.
- c. In terms of Planning issues re Laggan Park canopy, it was agreed that RS would investigate the scope of the issue further before the November meeting.

The Minutes were approved. Proposed by (TB) and seconded by (LS)

3. Office Bearers Reports

a. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reported No Change to Accounts from September 2025 position

Current balances: Admin Account	£316.16
Community Account	£4797.46
Xmas Lights Account	£5375.89

- b. **Secretary's Report** via message to Chair (Nothing to report)

4. Relevant Planning Applications

- a. Application for a canopy in Laggan Park discussed as it would seem the planning application applied for under the umbrella of the Community Council. Bailie Brock (RB) asked if there was a representative of the Community Council on the Laggan Park or MUGA Committee. Chair (AS) said there had been crossover in the past but not currently. RS to investigate the scope of the application further.

Councillor Donaldson suggested that some clarity on this was necessary as well as clarity on the Community Council involvement in the War Memorial Committee. The Chair (AS) to improve communication with both.

5. Community Resilience Planning (CRP) including Flood Prevention Scheme update

In the absence of a Police Scotland attendee/update the floor was given over to Gavin Bisset (GB) of PKC Flood Protection Team to update the meeting as to the status of the ongoing works. Recent flooding concerns in the wake of Storm Amy were discussed at length with residents asking incisive questions directly to GB. GB gave comprehensive answers to all concerns and highlighted that storm response was not a responsibility of Balfour Beatty the Flood Defence scheme contractor and that responsibility for warnings and clean up rested with other agencies such as SEPA and PKC and that community input and feedback to SEPA and PKC was a vital component to flood event management and emergency procedures. He reiterated that if there is a perceived danger to life residents should call 999 and call on emergency response.

GB confirmed that the Works were on schedule to be finished in October 2026 and that the modelling showed that in extreme events there will be some residual water but that the finished defence scheme is intended to contain flows and deposit them across a wide downstream footprint.

RS raised a concern about the integrity of Dalginross Bridge following the extremely high water level during Storm Amy. GB confirmed that the bridge and the services running under it had been checked and were safe.

The potential for reductions in Insurance premiums following completion of the Flood Defence investment was also discussed, and Councillor Donaldson said he would investigate this further.

A resident enquired about the possibility of retaining the temporary bridge over the Lednock and GB from PKC advised that since the bridge was on loan and was only suitable as a temporary structure, this was not possible. The resident wondered if other residents were keen to explore options for having a bridge at that location and GB reconfirmed that any project to achieve that aim would be very costly as the specification of the bridge would need to be to a very high standard.

The meeting went on to discuss the plans for taking forward a Community Resilience Plan and LS confirmed that various stakeholders from PKC and the community had been mobilised to attend the November 2025 Community Council meeting where the scope of the CRP would be covered in more depth. It was agreed that CRP would now be an ongoing Agenda item.

LS confirmed that there is now a working defibrillator located at the Fire Station and one at Cultybraggan Camp between 9 to 5 pm and that there was a need for CPR training to take place within the community. This would be taken forward within the CRP following the November meeting.

crossing warning signage. AS to investigate. The meeting was advised that the Royal Dick Vet School is keen to accept Red Squirrel corpses for research purposes.

6. Police Scotland Report

Police did not send an officer/ no report.

7. Road matters

A resident noted that there had been an increase in the number of Red squirrel deaths on Dalginross which prompted discussion of traffic calming and perhaps the need for Red Squirrel warning signage. AS to investigate traffic calming and signage further. The meeting was advised that the Royal Dick Vet School is keen to accept Red Squirrel corpses for research purposes.

8. Library

Alistair Forsyth the Library representative gave a comprehensive update which was very positive. Culture PKC have retained a consultant for community engagement and Alistair felt the recent community meeting was more constructive than previous meetings had been. The next meeting will be held at 6.30pm at the Library. All are welcome.

Alistair also confirmed that the Library would now be open for an additional hour per week and now had a lockable noticeboard on the exterior. He advised that the space is also now bookable by groups for meetings provided that the group has liability insurance in place to cover the meeting duration. There is an online booking system now operational.

9. Low Carbon Glen Lednock Windfarm

The Chair noted that Andrew Thompson who is the lead on Windfarm matters was absent and had not sent a specific update. A resident asked if Oxygen Conservation had made any recent contact with the community. GB confirmed that an Oxygen Conservation staff member had requested a meeting with him to discuss rivers and burns on the land but this had not yet happened. The meeting discussion then turned to the matter of the proposed roads and access tracks currently going through the planning process and that the Save Glen Lednock campaign had discovered that Low Carbon had been lobbying Central Government to be allowed to potentially rewrite Government planning law to enable the proposed access route construction to be started even before consent for the Windfarm granted (pre commencement works). Councillor Donaldson will look into this further and said he hoped to be present at the PKC planning meeting concerning the Low Carbon Glen Lednock Windfarm application. He confirmed that he was cognisant of the strength of feeling within the community regarding the negative impacts on Landscape and protected wildlife in particular.

10. Access and Rights of Way

AS noted that this Agenda item was usually addressed by AT but asked Fiona Black (CDT) for an update on the Ruchilside access gate issue. She confirmed that the PKC access officer was trying to reach a negotiated settlement running alongside (using Scotgov guidance) a Section 13 order. CDT had provided a title deed as requested. Councillor Donaldson confirmed that he would be visiting the site asap with a senior manager from PKC.

Fiona Black (CDT) went on to give a very comprehensive and positive update on CDT activities including stabilised finances due to in part increased footfall, improved Self-Catering occupancy levels and Motorhome bookings. She also confirmed that a paid employee had been taken on from the locality to deal with tenancy issues and that a part time position would also soon be advertised. She reported on a very encouraging collaboration with Craig Dobney and LOGOS youth initiative in Crieff to investigate the interests/needs/wants of the 11 plus youth age group. She also confirmed that the CDT bid for funding for a small solar development was progressing. She noted that Cultybraggan was considered now in terms of Conservation management as a High Value Heritage site both nationally and internationally but that much of the camp needed costly repairs to maintain the structures.

11. Councillors Reports

a. **Terri Bacon** (TB) reported positive progress re the Legion Park Play Park works and said how delighted she is with the standard, finish and detail achieved by the contractors. She reported that hopefully the work will be completed by the end of October and that there will be an official opening in Spring.

She confirmed that as in previous years the Comrie Primary PFA will be holding a bonfire event and that they were looking for donations from businesses and from the Community Council which would help to fund the event. All profits would go to supporting school trips and Library needs.

b. **Ross Scobie** (RS) reported that the 2025 Annual Hayride had been a huge success on a beautiful sunny day and had resulted in a significant donation to the Primary School PFA.

He also reported that he will approach Greencat Renewables (Greenscares Wind Turbines) to investigate if there is community benefit funding available.

c. **Andrew Scobie** (AS) (Chair) confirmed that he had ordered the wreaths for Remembrance Sunday.

He reported that the 30mph sign to West of village is visually blocked by foliage and wondered if it could be repositioned as the owner of the property/tree did not want the tree pruned. AS to investigate.

He noted that the public toilets had been closed and one had a serious blockage which had been reported to PKC. He noted that the Out of Order sign had now been removed and he assumed the problem had been resolved.

He reported that Craig Findlay had done a magnificent job in clearing the grounds at Baird Monument and formally thanked him.

d. **Dee Thomas** (DT) reported that she had spoken to Craig Dobney regarding the Parish Church clock not showing correct time on one side and that he had arranged repairs to happen soon.

e. **Lynn Stewart** (LS) said that she had heard from the Handy Shop and Premier Shop that they were both delighted to have been asked to help the Community by keyholding for the public toilets.

f. **Councillor Donaldson** confirmed that he was pleased that the Community Council had been established and he thanked the outgoing councillors for all their hard work. He confirmed that he will chair the EGM in November and will need signatures from three Community Councillors to formally sign the constitution documents at the meeting. He further advised that he was aware that the PKC Greenspace officer was looking into the structural integrity of the Baird Monument and associated planning issues. He also commented favourably on the efforts of Craig Findlay to clear fallen trees on private land close to the Monument and that he would look into a Section 19 Tree Removal order.

He noted that he had not received notification/invite from the Save Glen Lednock campaign to attend their open meeting in Crieff on 16/10/25.

g. **Baile Rhona Brock** commented on the fantastic efforts of the Comrie Snowdrop group led by Joyce Carnegie and others who had already planted 19000 snowdrops locally and hoped to receive funding to plant thousands more in a bid to create an annual Comrie snowdrop festival /tourist attraction.

She also confirmed that she and the Crieff Community Council Chair had not received formal notification from the Save Glen Lednock campaign of the meeting on the 16th October at Crieff Leisure Centre.

12. AOCB

A resident enquired about the next stage in progressing the CAP and wondered who to approach and if there was a steering group. Fiona Black (CDT) advised that there had been a steering group in place for CAP but that the appropriate person to contact would be Lindsay Brown (LB). She noted that he is standing down as a Community Councillor but retains a role within the CDT board and Fiona also wondered if it would be useful for ongoing communication purposes to look into having a Community Councillor span the Community Council and CDT Board as LB had been doing.

Baile Rhona Brock advised that progressing the CAP to a Place Plan would cost approx 5K.

Date of EGM and next Community Council meeting: Thursday 13th November at 7pm

Approved