

Comrie & District Community EGM and November Council Meeting

The White Church, Thursday 13th November 2025, 7 pm



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

Elected Representatives: Cllr Stewart Donaldson

In attendance: Alistair Forsyth- Library Rep, 2 x Police Scotland Officers, Frank Campbell (PKC) Jill Liversedge (PKC) Gavin Bisset (PKC) Matt Mclay (Comrie Fire Station)

Members of the Public: 13

1. Welcome & Apologies:

AS welcomed all attendees to the EGM and November meeting.

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

EGM

The meeting focused on conducting an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) for the Community Council, as required every three years. Andrew explained that while the Comrie and District Community Council did not need to hold a formal election (due to having seven candidates for appointees) they did need to appoint Office Bearers and adopt the Constitution. Stuart Donaldson was appointed to chair the EGM, and he emphasised that while the Council's composition and Office Bearers could change over time, the positions of Chairperson and Treasurer must be filled.

Councillor Donaldson thanked the outgoing Community Councillors and Office Bearers for their hard work and service to the Community. (Amy Fenwick stood down as Secretary, Tim Lucas stood down as Vice Chair and Lindsay Brown stood down as Treasurer).

Office Bearers were then appointed as follows:

Chair: Andrew Scobie reappointed (DT Proposer/ TB Seconded)

Secretary: Dee Thomas appointed (TB Proposer/ LS Seconded)

Treasurer: Ross Scobie appointed (TB Proposer/ LS Seconded)

Vice Chair: John Greer appointed (DT Proposer/LS Seconded)

Andrew Scobie was additionally reappointed as Data Controller for the Comrie and District Community Council (TB Proposer/DT Seconded)

The Constitution, Standing orders and Code of conduct were adopted with AS/JG/RS providing the three signatures required on the Community Council Constitution.

A financial statement from the outgoing Treasurer was supplied. AS read out the financial statement showed current balances of £317.38 for the admin account, £4747.46 for the community account, and £5,525.89 for The Christmas Lights account and thanked the outgoing Treasurer for his hard work.

The Council further discussed upcoming meeting dates and venues for 2026. and confirmed details would be confirmed in due course. AS proposed that the month of December was busy for everyone in the community and asked for a show of hands to agree to suspend the December meeting date and reconvene in January 2026. This was agreed by all Community Councillors.

There was no other AOCB

Councillor Donaldson closed the EGM and handed the meeting to the reappointed Chair (AS) who opened the Ordinary meeting of the Comrie and District Community Council for November 2025.

Ordinary Meeting of Comrie and District Community Council November 2025

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair noted that this had been covered at the EGM

2. Approval of Previous Minutes from October 2025 Meeting and Matters Arising

No matters arising

Minutes approved and accepted (TB Proposed/RS Seconded)

3. Police Scotland Update

Two Police Officers were in attendance. Pauline Smart introduced herself as the newly appointed Community Officer for Comrie and District. She explained that there is now a new model for Community policing in South Perthshire and that she hoped that in her dedicated role she would be able to better assist in policing community and school events. She agreed with TB and LS that the New Year, Fireworks and Comrie Fortnight events were now very well known and well attended events which did potentially require policing and road management. She reiterated that as our dedicated Community Officer she was now available for consultation and planning for future events. She acknowledged that there had been incidents/crimes committed at the recent PFA Community Fireworks event and these had been investigated by the Police. She confirmed that it was an operational planning decision not to police the event and that future requests for policing of events should be made to her. She confirmed that if necessary 6 officers can be deployed but individual event organisers should apply individually with evidence of likely crowd numbers, logistical hurdles (road closure/traffic management) and reference to previous crime incidents.

TB asked Officer Pauline Smart if she could attend a future PFA meeting to explain her role.

Frank Campbell (PKC) suggested having licensed stewards on site at major events in Comrie and offered to steward if required. He also suggested putting in formal road closure requests to PKC and requests for help from PKC Community Safety.

A member of the community raised an issue of night shooting (culling) happening at Invergeldie Estate with shots fired close to homes on the Estate and expressed fear and concern about it. Pauline Smart acknowledged that she would soon be trained as the local Wildlife Officer but that any further concerns arising soon should be reported to Police Scotland in the usual way.

The member of the community also reported that an employee on Invergeldie had put a dam into a burn which had then flooded an agricultural field close to her house stranding sheep on one corner and engulfing a longstanding tree. It was suggested that this should be reported directly to SEPA/NatureScot.

Chair (AS) acknowledged the service given to our community by Donnie Florence and wished him a happy retirement.

4. Community Resilience Planning

Flood Prevention Works

Gavin Bisset (GB) PKC gave an update on the status of the Flood Prevention works and confirmed the piling machine was soon to be taken off site although a small section remained to be completed. He confirmed that the walls are taking shape with continuing stonework on the Boulevard and that on West Ruchil there remained one structural element to complete. He noted that Balfour Beatty had been generally very accommodating and that traffic management would return on A85 when work in that section resumes. He also noted Community engagement had occurred with an info session at Crieff High School having taken place and he agreed to look into something similar for Comrie Primary School. He also noted and discussed the status of plans for compensatory tree planting.

RS asked GB when Balfour Beatty were taking a break for Christmas and New Year and asked for confirmation that Strowan Road would be an available route for the Flambeaux.

A member of the public shared that he had been concerned about the driving speed of some Balfour Beatty contractors/subcontractors on the Langside when delivering to site and GB confirmed that he had already been informed and had taken this point up with Balfour Beatty.

A member of the public enquired if construction vehicles had now ceased using Camp Road.

A member of the public asked if Balfour Beatty had yet talked with the Community Woodland reps. GB to find out.

The Chair (AS) then invited Frank Campbell (FC) from PKC Community Support/Safety and Civil Contingencies Team to introduce his remit and comment on the agenda item. FC explained that

his team of 40 staff and 8 Managers could offer to our community a range of help with community safety issues including resilience planning support. He discussed their role in an emergency response situation including their interface with the Police and in conducting welfare checks on vulnerable residents. The group discussed challenges in identifying vulnerable people, including privacy concerns and the slow process of obtaining information from organisations like SSE and the Healthy Social Care Partnership. They also touched on the need for practical resources, such as equipment for distributing to vulnerable individuals, and the importance of secure data storage.

FC also discussed how he is already working with Matt Mclay (MM) of The Scottish Fire Service together with Alan Moffat (First Response) and explained that resources like generators and sandbags can be resourced and made available through his team. He stressed the importance of individual and Community led planning in relation to creating resilience in the face of likely scenarios such as snow/high winds/flooding and that grant funding is available. FC suggested that to access funding the Comrie and District Community Council would need to act as a parent group to any future Resilience Planning group that may be formed.

Lynn Stewart (LS) asked about the process of forming a local Resilience group and FC explained that nearby communities had canvassed for volunteers. He also explained that nearby communities can share resources, equipment and storage.

Matt Mclay (MM) added that a Defib unit was now available at the Fire Station and that it was his aim to hold CPR training sessions.

The Chair (AS) suggested that Mental Health first aid /training should be included in the Resilience planning.

It was proposed and passed by the Community Councillors that a Community Resilience Group would be formed as a subgroup of the CCC.

5. Relevant Planning Applications

RS confirmed that the planning application for a canopy by Laggan Park Committee had been made in CCC name for discount on planning fees. RS liaising with Chris Palmer the Architect.

6. Road Matters

AS confirmed that the dead wet leaves on the pavement close to Dalginross Gardens had now been cleared.

A member of the public raised the issue of surface water on the A85 by Monzievaird and another also added that there was also road surface flooding between the two caravan sites and it was agreed that transport Scotland and Bear should be contacted as it is a trunk road and therefore a major safety issue.

It was confirmed that the resurfacing work near Ochertyre/ Monzievaird had been put back to December.

A member of the public raised the issue of Sat Nav unreliability on the track by Earthquake House, causing a delivery van to become stuck in a ditch blocking the track and suggested a sign indicating that the lane is unsuitable for delivery vehicle access. SD to look at this with Roads department.

7. Glen Lednock Wind Farm

CCC to submit a formal objection to the development. The Chair (AS) to liaise with **CCC** Andrew Thompson to develop a written objection based on the views of the Community gained at a recent public meeting and then submit.

Martin Downing of the Save Glen Lednock (SGL) group asked if a date had been scheduled at Perth and Kinross Planning to discuss the development. Councillor Donaldson (SD) confirmed it was his understanding that it would go before the planners in February 2026 and that he hoped to have speaking rights at that meeting.

MD then spoke about the now completed PKC consultation re Local Landscape Area and confirmed that a company called Landuse Consultants had conducted the work and that he hoped that the area considered did wrap around Loch Earn. Councillor Donaldson said it was his understanding that it included the National Park area.

A member of the public again raised the issue of dams built on burns by Oxygen Conservation (OC) and Gavin Bisset shared that he had been asked to walk over and look at the upland river areas with Ben Bidmead of OC. It was suggested to the resident that any concerns over the outcome of damming of burns should be reported directly to SEPA for advice.

8. Save Comrie Library Update

Alistair Forsyth (AF) reported on a recent meeting with the consultant employed by Culture PKC and that he had been unexpectedly informed there was to be a considerable reduction in funding.

He noted a recent article in the Perthshire Advertiser where Councillor Baille Brock had suggested Library provision should perhaps be returned to full Council control. The article suggested that library provision should be statutory and not pitted against other funding commitments.

Councillor Stewart Donaldson asked to be invited to the next meeting with the Consultant but explained that the strategic direction of travel is to save money on things like IT by amalgamating groups such as Culture PKC with Live Active.

SD suggested exploring options of collaboration with the CDT.

AF confirmed that he had discussions with the Head at Comrie PS and that there was a positive enthusiasm about using the resource outwith the school day.

The Chair (AS) thanked AF for his continuing hard work in saving our local library.

9. Access and Rights of Way

The Chair (AS) noted the apology from Andrew Thompson who would normally report on access issues.

Councillor Donaldson reported that the CDT Chair had been in touch with the access team at PKC and that a Section 13 process was now running in tandem with landowner discussions and that due process was being followed to restate the gate between the Camp and the pathway along Ruchilside.

10. Councillors Reports

Councillor Donaldson PKC (SD) reported that he would be attending the PKC quarterly Roads meeting.

Lindsay Brown (resident) informed SD issues of blocked drains at end of Dalginross still not addressed.

SD further noted that he had visited Comrie PS and been made aware of deterioration in the Portacabin but explained that expenditure on repairs often costs more at end of day and decisions to address the overall problem had yet to be made.

Terri Bacon (TB) CCC

TB thanked PFA and Fire Station for the donation of £5500 to be given to Comrie Primary School as a result of the amazing fireworks event. AS confirmed that the CCC will also make a donation as promised.

TB reported that the Legion Park works were now completed and that funding had been received to put on an advertised opening celebration event in the Spring. She said she felt the facility was already well received locally.

Andrew Scobie (AS) CCC Chair

AS reported assessing the condition of the flagpole/ replacement at White Church.

AS noted, a local resident had reported the sale of the Monzievaird Hall to an adjacent property owner and resident wondered why there had been no consultation or warning of the loss of the facility to the community. SD to talk to PKC Property Services about the sale to determine if due process has been followed by the Trustees of the Hall.

No other CC Councillor reports were made.

11. AOCB

A resident advised of a future online session run by **Climate Ready Tayside** which could be booked via EventBrite.

It was agreed that there would be no monthly Community Council meeting in December and the date of the next meeting in White Church was set for **Thursday 8th January 2026** at 7pm. All welcome.

APPROVED

APPROVED