

2.	<p>Minutes of meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. These were proposed by DMn and seconded by AA</p>	
3.	<p>Matters arising register: Please note that some items are addressed under their respective agenda item.</p> <p>3.1 Community Centre Lease: A copy of the lease has now been obtained.</p> <p>3.2 Community Centre Informal Consultation: There has been a good response from both individuals and groups. The consultation period ended on the 31st of January. All comments received will be combined into an overview. This will inform our response to Derek Marting and THC. There will be no attribution to these comments.</p> <p>3.3 Brown Bins: Collection for the new brown bin has been confirmed to be from the school grounds. This bin will be delivered to AA at the start of the season. The volunteer who looks after the community garden will be refunded for this year & last years bin licence.</p> <p>3.4 Resilience Subgroup: RB sought volunteers to form this small group. DdP mentioned the online training resource available via the Mid Ross Learning Hub. RB stated that she would complete the twelve modules that are available. DdP and DMn both agreed to support this new group.</p> <p>3.5 Public Toilets: MMM stressed that funding must be applied for as soon as possible. She will resend the contact details of THC officer supporting Avoch.</p> <p>DM to cover current ladies & gents signage and post notices of nearest toilets at No.19 and Fortrose.</p> <p>AA suggested ramps to provide access for wheelchair, however there is very limited room within the building. A small additional module may be considered at a later stage to address this.</p> <p>3.6 Bus Shelter: MMM to follow up on the requested panels for the bus shelter.</p> <p>3.7 Gowans Place & Rose Street: Thanks were noted to the roads team for the remedial works already completed. Concern was noted over several new, deep potholes. These have been notified to THC by MMM. The provision of white lining between Gowans place and Rose Street and from Munloch to the A9 to be followed up by MMM.</p> <p>3.8 Dog Waste Bags Dispensers: A prototype has been built but is not yet fully effective. Options for purchase now being considered.</p> <p>3.9 Christmas lights: A suitable storage location is required for the lights to ensure they are kept off the ground during storage. It was suggested that this could be on a pallet at the community centre.</p> <p>NdP to forward invoice for maintenance and replacement costs from last year to TP.</p> <p>3.10 Football nets: The nets that have been stored near the pavilion are to be disposed of. RK to ask the caretaker to do this.</p>	<p>FB to create overview.</p> <p>RB to complete training</p> <p>MMM to send contact details.</p> <p>DM to sort signage.</p> <p>MMM to follow up</p> <p>MMM to follow up.</p> <p>NdP to look at options.</p> <p>NdP to review storage</p> <p>NdP to forward invoice.</p> <p>RK to contact caretaker.</p>

	<p>3.11 Wall from MacKenzie place to school: The wall needs attention as there are some gaps in the stonework and the wall appears to be bulging in places. AA to send photos to MMM who will then notify to THC.</p>	<p>AA to send photos, MMM to notify THC</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Routine Community Council matters</p> <p>4.1 Finance report: TP advised the group that we currently have around £3000 in the account. It is recognised that this will need to be topped up at some point as funds are gradually being depleted. Various grants have still to be applied for which should help. The maintenance for the Christmas lights has still to be paid for, RK suggested that Avoch Amenities may be able to support that.</p> <p>DdP introduced TP to the treasurer of Avoch Primary Parents Council to help look at options for banking without charges. The Royal Bank of Scotland will provide a free service for two years only. The Co-operative bank is not geared up for unincorporated or business banking. AA suggested looking into Starling (online) banking.</p> <p>4.2 Planning Applications: One application this month for a garage/workshop. No concerns noted.</p> <p>4.3 Community concerns arising</p> <p>4.3.1 Suspicious Behaviour: FB was informed of a prowler sighted via CCTV in Moray Wynd at 0240 on the 7th of January. DdP stated that a prowler had also been seen at Feddon Hill in Fortrose. DMn Suggested a social media post to raise awareness.</p> <p>4.3.2 Police Inspectors meeting: FRCC have highlighted concerns about speeding, particularly on the approach to the village from the Avoch side. Police Scotland plan to monitor this by carrying out a camera survey. County lines were of concern and resilience planning needs to be addressed. Hate crime was also mentioned. Police presence is to be increased.</p> <p>4.4 Police liaison report: November & December 2025 reports were sent out with the papers for this meeting. Main points of note are concerns over online/phone fraud, with public being advised to be wary. Police Scotland also urging the public to be vigilant in the securing of property & outbuildings particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>4.5 Correspondence</p> <p>4.5.1 Moray Flow Park: FB advised that an overview written by FB/AA had been sent to FRCC.. The Flow Park will create wind turbine storage parks at Nairn and Burghead. There will be an Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken and the Civil Aviation Authority are involved. Particular concerns were around the clutter impact to Radar for navigation of aeroplanes landing at night. If there are any further comments, please forward these to FB. A meeting is to be arranged with the chair of FRCC to consider the way forward.</p> <p>4.5.2 Community partnership meeting: RB advised of the meeting which takes place from 1000-1200 on Wednesday 18th March Via Microsoft teams. Link can be sent to anyone interested.</p> <p>4.5.3 Opportunity Black Isle: They are looking for volunteers to become part of this group; link can be sent to anyone interested.</p>	<p>TP to consider Starling bank</p> <p>DMn To post on social media.</p> <p>FB to meet with FRCC.</p>

	<p>4.5.4 Ready for winter guidance: paper received via the CC support team. This will be added to our new website in due course. It will also be used to inform our resilience and emergency plans.</p> <p>4.5.5 Fossil Free Fuels: Public consultation paper received from OFTEC. DB offered to complete on behalf of AKCC.</p> <p>4.5.6 Scottish Water Survey: Scottish water looking for feedback from key stakeholders. DMn to post on facebook.</p> <p>4.5.7 Highland Play Sufficiency Assessment: Consultation document forwarded from THC by the CC support team. Seeking feedback on a draft report. RB to forward link to DdP for distribution via the primary school.</p> <p>4.5.8 Kessock Bridge: Letter from BEAR Scotland advising of overnight lane closures from the 1st to the 27th of February.</p> <p>4.5.9 Electric Vehicle Charging: Email from EZO advising of change over from ChargePlace Scotland along with the roll out of additional charging points. RB to establish whether the proposal includes a point for Avoch.</p> <p>4.5.10 Community Events Library: E mail from the CC Support team looking into the viability of a shared library of equipment required for events. DB & RK agreed to review this.</p> <p>4.5.11 Fortrose Academy Stakeholders meeting: The first meeting of this group will take place on Wednesday 4th February at 1830 via Microsoft Teams. RB to attend on behalf of AKCC.</p>	<p>TP to add to new Website.</p> <p>RB to fwd link, DB to complete survey.</p> <p>RB to fwd link, DMn to post on FB</p> <p>RB to fwd link to Ddp, DdP to distribute via school</p> <p>RB to establish provision of charging point.</p> <p>RB to fwd link, DB & RK to review</p> <p>RB to attend meeting.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Avoch Amenities Association (AAA) update: The AGM took place on the 15th of January with several AKCC members in attendance. New office bearers have been appointed as; Rikki Keanie (RK) as Chair, Nick Underdown (NU) as vice Chair and Alistair Patience to remain as treasurer. They have still to secure a secretary. RK & NK have also been nominated as directors.</p> <p>They are still trying to resolve the issue of a significant water leak as the result as a burst pipe. There is concern that the resultant water bill and the remedial works required could run into thousands of pounds.</p> <p>AAA have established a new Black Isle darts league involving Avoch, Culbokie, Fortrose & Rosemarkie. This initiative has been well received locally.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Black Isle Community Councils & Place Plan update: There will be a meeting of the BICC on Monday the 9th of February at 1900 in the Pavilion. FB & TP to attend on behalf of AKCC. The new terms of reference will be discussed at this meeting.</p>	<p>FB&TP to attend meeting</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>AKCC Website update: TP advised that our new website is ready to go live. The website will be dynamic and will be updated and amended as we go forward, particularly with ongoing projects. The Inbox will be used to highlight correspondence etc. prior to meetings. TP & RB to agree protocols and responsibilities for the site.</p> <p>TP has sent out links to the members only section on the site. This will be used to discuss documents and information not yet ready for public distribution. It was agreed that this link should be made available to our associate members.</p>	<p>TP & RP to agree protocols etc.</p> <p>TP to send link to associate members</p>

	<p>RB advised of the support available from FRCC. FB noted that FRCC had used their website to help promote AKCC correspondence.</p> <p>It was recognised that news stories will need a moderator, TP happy to “own” at present.</p> <p>DdP suggested that there might be an easier way to access the main menu, perhaps using a breadcrumb trail. TP to investigate. DdP also suggested considering Instagram to raise the AKCC profile. NK also suggested LinkedIn. We also need a separate initiative for recording local business and skills.</p>	<p>TP to review main menu</p>
8.	<p>Public Toilets working group update: DM advised that the drainage is still the main issue preventing the toilets from being reopened. The plan is to get a camera down to assess the drain within the coming week. He stated that there is not much work required internally.</p>	
9.	<p>Sharing Shed update: TP aware of a number of items still to be addressed.</p>	<p>TP to action</p>
10.	<p>Flood Prevention report: The draft document has been sent out for comment. FB received a vote of thanks for the huge amount of time & effort spent on developing this very comprehensive and exemplary report.</p> <p>DM enquired what the next steps were. FB stated that at this point he is seeking AKCC agreement for this draft to be Approved for Consultation. All members present approved this proposal.</p> <p>A small group will then be formed to collate feedback and stakeholder’s interests. A consultation programme will be put in place, seeking expressions of interest, community engagement and involvement. This will also inform an action plan. DMn agreed to support FB with other members being co-opted in as required.</p> <p>DM expressed concerns about ditch and drainage clearing, stressing that there must be a balanced approach, recognising that every area is different thus needing full consideration of all aspects.</p> <p>FB acknowledged the insightful and helpful comments received from CE & NdP, and contributions from others.</p>	<p>DMn & FB to meet.</p>
11.	<p>Nature Plan & Community Improvement: Railway path improvements were discussed during the pre-meeting.</p> <p>CE provided a paper on the Cherry Trees which was distributed prior to the meeting. The planting will go ahead as soon as possible. We are currently waiting for advice, permission and funding (once the approval is in place). The resultant timeline will inform whether bare root versus potted trees are to be planted.</p>	
12.	<p>AKCC Assets: maintenance and records: No update available. DB to contact SB & NdP to form a sub group.</p>	<p>DB to contact SB& NDP</p>
13.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>No 19. Sale: FB extended a welcome and thanks to Jenni Carmichael in acknowledgement of how important No.19 is to the community. JC was also thanked for the support and input to AKCC over the years.</p>	

	<p>JC advised that the comfort scheme currently awarded to No.19 would cease at the end of March.</p> <p>Ploughing Match: DM advised that this would be held at Bennettsfield from 0930 -1400 on Saturday 7th February.</p> <p>Railway path Improvements: TP sought clarity on the scope of works. The estimate for works is around £480 /day for the digger & operator. The clearing works may take up to 7 days with a further 2-3 days required for topping. The total works could amount to around four thousand pounds.</p> <p>The preliminary work will inform the detail for the scope of works which will be used to apply for funding. It is hoped that the funding will be shared with FRCC.</p> <p>Community Bins: JC advised that the missing bins at the harbour/community garden are now back.</p>	
14.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday 2nd March in Avoch Pavilion</p>	