

Minutes of meeting
Tuesday, 28th October 2025
At Brora Community Centre

Present: David Andrews DA (Vice Chair), Gina Stewart GS (Secretary), Robbie MacIennan RM, Peter Fassen de Heer PFDH (Treasurer), Dawn DeHavilland DDH (Minute Secretary)

Also Attending: 8 Members of public.

Apologies: Becky Clay BC (Chair), Ruwan Uduwera-Perera RUP & Richard Gale RC (Highland Councillor)

Non-Attendees: Mhairi Burd MB, Russell Rekhy RR

Minutes meeting 16th September 2025:

The minutes of last meeting were accepted on the proposal of Robbie RM and seconded by Peter Fassen de Heer PFDH (Treasurer)

Welcome: The Vice Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Member of the public enquired if enough BCC members were present to hold a meeting? David DA (Vice Chair) advised that although the community council meeting requires a quorum of four voting members to be present, the meeting would go ahead any topics requiring a vote would be deferred to the next meeting.

Police Update:

An email report received, no local issues. Gina GS reported that as part of the police initiative of going into schools Sara Mackenzie had a successful visit to the school.

Peter (PFDH) raised road safety issues, David DA (Vice Chair) advised it will be added to the agenda to be discussed at the next meeting.

Ongoing from August 2025: Police reports to be uploaded to Facebook.

Action: Police Report FB **Member:** Ruwan RUP **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Action: Add Road Safety to the agenda **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Matters Arising:

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Preparing an information leaflet outlining the roles and goals of the Development Trust, Brora Community Enterprises Group & Brora Community Council.

Action: Produce Leaflet **Member:** Becky BC & Russell RR **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Ongoing from September 2024: Red Barriers

Peter (PFDH) will contact Russell (RR) and Richard (RG) to establish what the current situation is, as no work has been carried out.

28.10.2025 (See previous minutes for past actions).

Action: Peter (PFDH) to update **Responsible Member:** Peter (PFDH) **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from September 2024: Fountain Square repairs are still to be carried out.

16.09.2025 Richard RG advised the amenities Team said they are not responsible. BCC to investigate who is responsible.

28.10.2025 (See previous minutes for past actions).

Action: Chase up repair work **Member:** BCC **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from September 2024: Clyne Kirkton, Old Parish Church and churchyard 40m N of Balranald, Ellen Lindsay reiterated that Clyne Kirkton is a listed building & the trees are now dangerous.

19.08.25 (See previous minutes for past actions).

Gina GS advised Richard RG (Highland Councillor) hasn't moved any further forward with the issues in sourcing a suitable contractor, Historic Scotland will need to be involved & trees need to be assessed.

Ellen Lindsay EL advised BCC that a report was carried out by Historic Scotland in 2008, it's very disappointing that the information is given time and again with no action being taken, Ellen EL will once again ask Nick Lindsay to pass the information onto BCC.

Action: Highland Council Update **Member:** Richard Gale RG **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from October 2024: Nick Lindsay there are no AGM minutes for the last two years.

19.08.2025 (See previous minutes for past actions).

Ellen EL advised Nick Lindsay still has not received copies of the minutes, Becky BC (Chair) asked if he could check his spam folders as she is sure they were sent, if Nick NL has not received then Becky BC (Chair) will resend, past AGM minutes will be sent to Sarah Morrison to publish on the Discover Brora website.

Action: Email Past AGM Minutes **Member:** Becky Clay **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from April: Concern about campfires, BBQs etc especially on the beach near the Harbour given that Wildfire Alerts have been issued across the Highlands

19.08.2025: (see previous minutes for details.)

Gina will ask Richard RG (Highland Councillor) to chase the Countryside Rangers to obtain posters like the ones in Golspie. From the floor: Signs should also be put up at Loch Brora.

Action: Contact Countryside Rangers **Member:** Gina GS, Richard RG **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from May: Gina & Becky on the Micro Grant posters.

28.10.2025: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Becky BC (Chair) & Gina GS to publish posters & advertise on social media

Action: Produce Leaflet **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from May: RTS (Radio Teleswitch Service) switch off

16.08.2025: Becky BC (Chair) has downloaded a poster from OFCOM.

28.10.2025: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Action: Arrange deliveries **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from May: Royal Mail.

19.08.2025: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Action: Contact Jamie Stone **Member:** David Andrews on behalf of BCC **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Ongoing from September: Facebook

Becky BC (Chair) Chair requested that everyone on the committee get access to posting on Facebook page.

Action: Facebook Access **Member:** BCC & Ruwan RUP **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Ongoing from August 2024: Place Plan

From the Floor: What is happening with the revamped questionnaire? As Becky BC was absent this will be addressed at the next meeting

Action: Place Plan update & Paper version, Engage with young people **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Date:** 18.11.2025

Ongoing from September:

28.11.2025: Not discussed

Defibrillator positioned in Gordonbush, EpiPens & Aspiven. Information showing where defibrillators are currently placed in Brora.

Action: Update & information list **Member:** Becky BC (Chair) **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Councillor Update: Richard Gale RC Not Present therefore carried forward to 18.11.2025

Ongoing from September: From the floor: graffiti on signs at the top of Academy Street Richard RG advised this has now been passed to the roads department.

Ongoing from May: Robbie RM the land by the Old Bakery is very overgrown & encroaching on to the public pavement. Following discussion Becky BC will contact James Wilson to ask for the land to be maintained.
22.07.2025: Becky BC has not received a reply from the landowner, Richard RG will ask the Highland Council to contact the landowner.

Action: Update **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Ongoing from August: John McMorran asked BCC & Richard RG for information on a consultation taking place by the Scottish Government with regards to BESS applications, neither had any information both would look into it as a matter of urgency as John JM advised he understood the closing date to be within the next seven to eight days.

Action: Update **Member:** BCC, Richard RG **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Ongoing from April:

28.11.2025: Not discussed

Richard RG advised that regarding the War Memorial a survey had been carried out by Fairhurst Consulting and Structural Engineers. BCC has past information that may be useful Gina GS to forward the relevant emails to Richard RG.

Action: Update BCC with report details **Member:** Richard Gale RG **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Action: Email information to Richard RG **Member:** Gina Stewart **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Planning Issues:

Diana DR & Ruwan RUP attend the Golspie meeting about the proposed Murphy Camp, it was apparent more information is needed as there is no specific information available, Diana DR will attend the next public information meeting in Fountain Road Hall on 18th November 2025.

Action: Update BCC with outcome **Member:** Diana DR **Review Date:** Ongoing

28.10.2025: Not discussed

Diana DR suggested producing an A4 information sheet to assist residents in making planning objections. It should be black & white with precise clear information. Robin Ward RW agreed to produce a map to be added to the document.

Action: Produce Document **Member:** Becky BC, Diana DR & Robin RW **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Member of the public: What is happening about the retrospective planning for the Murphy compound next to the recycling centre? Gina GS to get an update from Richard RG.

Action: Planning Update **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

General discussion about the ongoing issues with the proposed pylons & associated works.

Member of the Public: Doll residents are feeling frustrated at the lack of communication from SSEN, although they receive emails from Jamie Stone, it is very unprofessional of SSEN not to reply to emails from residents.

Correspondence:

All correspondence has been circulated & discussed with the whole committee by email.

Diana DR advised Sutherland Estates are carrying out forestry works with a ten year maintenance plan, she will draft a response on behalf of BCC.

Treasurers Report:

Current Account: £9807.84

Foundation Scotland account: £174,167.00

David DA (Vice Chair) advised the drawdown fund will be added to the agenda.

Action: Add item to agenda **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Community Feedback

Robbie (RM) has received complaints that people are exercising dogs in the cemetery. David DA (Vice Chair) advised BCC would contact Richard RG & ask for signs to be erected.

Action: Contact Richard RC **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Robbie (RM) reminded that it was time for the Salt Bins to be revised. Member of the public is concerned that a road off Cemetery Road (does not have a name) Mosshill, is rarely gritted & has no yellow salt bin. Richard RG had asked back in April 2025 that the issue in September when the winter plans are reviewed. Gina GS to contact Richard RG to arrange for salt bins to be installed

Action: Contact Richard RC **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Member of the public: The 40mph speed sign near Dunrobin is facing the wrong way & causing issues. Gina to contact BEAR to get this rectified.

Action: Contact BEAR **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Diana DR there is an ongoing issue with vehicles parked in the lorry park at the Scout Hall, several have been abandoned & not only are they an eyesore they are making it difficult for legitimate vehicles to park. Gina GS will contact Richard RG & ask him to liaise with the Environmental Health department to take enforcement action.

Action: Contact Richard RC **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Diana DR advised Helmsdale Community Council hold their monthly meeting in various venues in the locality of the village & asked if it was something the BCC could do, as this would reach a wider audience for example residents who live in Doll, a resident from Doll said the Community Hall would be happy to host BCC for a meeting. John JM agreed this is a good idea, but the BCC should be mindful of letting the public know of any venue changes as not everyone is on Facebook. BCC to discuss & update at the next meeting.

Action: Update **Member:** BCC **Review Date:** 18.11.2025

Micro Grant Applications: Discussed in Follow on Meeting.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 18.011.2025 7PM, BESS Sub Group Monday 10.11.2025