

**Minutes of meeting**  
**Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**At Brora Community Centre**

**Present:** Becky Clay BC (Chair), David Andrews DA (Vice Chair), Gina Stewart GS (Secretary), Robbie Maclennan RM, Peter Fassen de Heer PFDH (Treasurer), Ruwan Uduwera-Perera RUP, Mhairi Burd MB, Russell Rekhy RR, Diana Royce DR, Richard Gale RC (Highland Councillor), Dawn DeHavilland DDH (Minute Secretary)

**Also Attending:** 8 Members of public.

**Apologies:**

**Minutes meeting 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026:**

The minutes of last meeting were accepted on the proposal of Gina Stewart GS and seconded by Becky Clay BC.

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Police Update:**

Please see appendix 1a

Gina GS will forward the police report to Dawn DDH to upload with the minutes to the Brora Development Trust website.

Ruwan RUP advised that there is an online scheme called Neighbourhood Alert that community members can sign up to, updates will be sent by email with reliable, localised, alerts on issues of crime, safety and resilience. This keeps local people informed about issues affecting their area in a timely manner. The website link can be found here: [Alerts](#)

**Action:** Send Report to Dawn DD **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

**Matters Arising:**

17.02.2026: A response has been received from the Brora Heritage Trust, BCC will make further contact as more Information is now available.

Diana DR advised Clyne Kitchen (Brora Heritage Centre) have submitted a planning application for the erection of kitchen extension, a general discussion ensued, why was this not done at the time of the original application? Agreement the current kitchen does seem a bit small for the needs of the cliental.

The issue of the Solar Panels was raised the glare effect can be quite distracting from East Clyne especially when driving, could a non-reflective coating be applied if the extension work is carried out?

**Action:** Respond to Brora Heritage **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

## Place Plan

Becky BC advised only five paper copies of the place plan questionnaire have been returned, at present they are available from the Library

and the Community Centre. Gina GS will put posters up in the Co-op, the Notice Board and publish on social media.

Peter PFDH advised BCC need to be mindful of the timeline as it is believed the end date is April 2026.

A member of the public noted that since the original questionnaire has been completed there have been several changes in the village, these will have an impact on the answers given at the time, such as the Sutherland Inn closing.

**Action:** Publicise questionnaire **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026 Ongoing: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Becky BC & Gina GS have met with Sarah Morrison & Davie MacDonald, the existing resilience plan only covers electrical outages & Brora Development Trust are not going to expand it, therefore a new plan focusing on snow & storms will be introduced, Becky BC & Gina GS will produce the draft copy then meet with BDT for further collaboration.

**Action:** Draft Plan **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026 Ongoing: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Becky BC has contacted Struan Lodge and is awaiting a response.

**Action:** Map & Signage **Member:** Becky BC **Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: Not discussed

Gina & Becky have completed the Micro Grant posters. BCC members have been sent the posters and asked for feedback, any amendments arising will be made & Becky BC (Chair) & Gina GS will publish posters & advertise on social media by the end of the week

**Action:** Publish Posters **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: 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:** 17.03.2026

On Hold Awaiting response from Marine Scotland

Red Barriers:

Becky BC (Chair) received an update from the Bridge Manager at BEAR Scotland who advised as bridge is over a tidal, marine area we need to comply with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. This means obtaining a marine licence from Marine Scotland and this is a process that typically takes around 6 months to complete. This means the work cannot start before May next year. BCC will need to obtain three quotes from sub-contractors and submit them to BEAR. BCC will contact Marine Scotland for further advice.

**Action:** BCC to contact Marine Scotland **Responsible Member:** Becky BC **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: Becky BC ongoing.

**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:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: Not discussed

**Ongoing from May 2025:** RTS (Radio Teleswitch Service) switch off

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

18.11.2025: (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Action:** Arrange deliveries **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: Not Discussed

Becky asked David DA for an update Royal Mail not contacted yet.

**Ongoing from May 2025:** Royal Mail.

19.08.2025: (See previous minutes for past actions)

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

17.03.2026

17.02.2026 Issue now closed.

Vehicles parked in the lorry park at the Scout Hall:

BCC will contact the landowner directly to discuss a solution for the removal of the white van & boat.

17.02.2026 Not Discussed (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from January 2026:** Vaccinations

BCC will discuss this option further & if possible, arrange for vaccination trips.

**Action:** Update **Member:** BCC **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026 Not Discussed (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from January 2026:**

Robbie RM the community car needs to be upgraded

Becky BC to contact Richard RG with regards to an upgrade of vehicle one with more space that can accommodate a wheelchair.

**Action:** Contact Richard RG **Member:** Becky BC **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

## **Councillor Update:**

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from May:** Land by the Old Bakery is very overgrown

Richard RG advised the roads department will now clear this area.

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from September 2024:** Fountain Square repairs

Richard RG advised there are still difficulties ascertaining who is responsible.

Diana DR noted the fountain in Dornoch has been repainted, Richard RG will ask who did the work and pass the Information to BCC as he is meeting with Dornoch CC on 18.02.2026.

**Action:** Contact Dornoch CC **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Signs re no fires etc.

Richard RG advised signs will be erected before the start of the tourist season

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from September 2024:** Clyne Kirkton, Old Parish Church

Richard RG (Highland Councillor) hasn't moved any further forward with the issues in sourcing a suitable contractor, following discussion Richard RG had not been aware of the hazardous state due to deterioration, with risks of falling onto surrounding roads, Peter PFDH the concerns about structural safety are a health and safety issue. Richard RG Richard Gale will investigate this further and discuss with John MacLean.

**Action:** Highland Council Update **Member:** Richard Gale RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

Salt Bins:

Richard RG advises Salt Bins will be put in place.

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Richard RG advised the retrospective planning for the Murphy compound next to the recycling centre this is ongoing, Diana will contact environmental health with regards to the impact of the light pollution.

**Action:** Planning Update **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

**Action:** Contact HC **Member:** Diana DR **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

**Ongoing from November:** BCC legal indemnity

Richard RG advised Community Councils (CCs) are now responsible for arranging their own insurance, as the previous centrally managed scheme no longer covers them. He will ask for this to be reviewed in April, however nothing may change. It is therefore crucial that BCC obtain advice from an insurance broker on how best to move forward.

**Action:** Update **Member:** BCC **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

As of mid-February 2026, major road reports for the north of Scotland indicate significant planned roadworks and ongoing maintenance, Richard advised eleven of the proposed works are in the Brora area.

Public: The newly laid tarmac roads have been left significantly higher than the adjacent verges this is creating serious safety hazards, including potential for vehicle accidents and pedestrian falls. Richard Gale will raise the issue with the Roads Department.

**Action:** Update **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

Robbie RM reported a sunken drain in Johnson Place, Rochard RG will raise the issue.

**Action:** Update **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

17.02.2026: Not Discussed

**Ongoing from April:** 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.

17.02.2026: Not Discussed

**20.01.2026:** Diana DR asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the clock? Becky BC thought that Kathleen & Nick were, David DA advised he offered his services given he is a extremely experienced Stone Mason, but Nick Lindsay declined the offer.

**Action:** Update BCC with report details **Member:** Richard Gale RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

**Action:** Email information to Richard RG **Member:** Gina Stewart **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

### **Correspondence:**

All correspondence has been circulated & discussed with the whole committee by email. Daina DR has received a written response from Glenmorangie, she will respond to set up a meeting in April. A member of the public suggested that residents affected should contact the environmental health department.

**Action:** Update **Member:** Diana BR **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

### **Planning Issues:**

#### **Ongoing:**

17.02.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

Diana DR will attend the Transmission line meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 in Edinburgh, it will be Webcast details will be circulated to BCC members. Helmsdale Community Council have agreed for Diana DR to advocate on their behalf, Rogart & Golspie will be ask if they would agree to that as well.

**Ongoing from November:** 17.02.2026: 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:** 17.03.2026

### **Treasurers Report:**

Current Account: £7696.49

Foundation Scotland account: £181,426.00 unconfirmed as the portal is undergoing a software update.

Administration Fund is -£215. as no money has been received from the Highland Council, Richard RG will investigate this as Golspie Community Council have reported the same issue.

**Action:** Admin Fund **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 17.03.2026

### **Drawdown Fund:**

17.02.2026: Not Discussed (See previous minutes for past actions)

BCC to write to Kilbraur to get clear guidance on the ring fenced funds to see if this can be accessed for future projects.

### **Road Safety:**

See Police Report appendix

### **Community Feedback**

Diana DR posters have now been put into the menu boards outside the building.

The Sutherland Inn is looking a bit tired, volunteers will be sought to clean the windows & tidy up the flower beds etc.

Public: Is there a community trailer? Beck BC this was discussed last year (confirmed by Dawn DD July 2025) as far as BCC members are aware no trailer is owned by the community. The member of the public believed this was going back fifteen years or more, Russell RR advised it was not something the Community Council would purchase.

As the member of the public was unwilling to give any specific information as to who has the trailer in question the matter is now closed.

Public: Could the old Heritage Centre be used for something like the Community Innovation Campus in Tain? Following discussion BCC will discuss what options are available & if such a project is possible. Richard RG advised the property is owned by the Highland Council & Brora Development Trust could approach the Highland Council about a transfer of Assets, as this project would be more suited to BDT.

Diana DR asked Richard RG why Community Councils are not informed when Highland Council owned properties are being sold, he advised the process is to put a note of interest into the Highland Council then if the property becomes available for sale the BCC would be notified.

The Sub Committee planning meetings will be held at the Brora Rangers Social Club for the foreseeable future.

**Micro Grant Applications:** Discussed in Follow on Meeting.

**Date & Time of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 17.03.2026 7PM, BESS Sub Group 09.03.2026