

Minutes of meeting
Tuesday, 17th March 2026
At Brora Community Centre

Present: Becky Clay BC (Chair), David Andrews DA (Vice Chair), Gina Stewart GS (Secretary), Robbie Maclennan RM, Mhairi Burd MB, Russell Rekhy RR, Diana Royce DR, Dawn DeHavilland DDH (Minute Secretary)

Also Attending: 10 Members of public.

Apologies: Peter Fassen de Heer PFDH (Treasurer), Ruwan Uduwera-Perera RUP, Richard Gale RC (Highland Councillor),

Minutes meeting 17th February 2026:

The minutes of last meeting were accepted on the proposal of David Andrews DA (Vice Chair) and seconded by Robbie Maclennan RM.

Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Police Update:

Please see appendix 1a

The police report will be available on the Brora Development Trust website.

Matters Arising:

17.03.2026: Ongoing

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:** 21.04.2026

Place Plan:

17.03.2020: Ongoing (See previous minutes for past actions)

Becky to explore the possibility of delivering copies of the questionnaire to residents.

Action: Publicise questionnaire **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

17.03.2026 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 Pan **Member:** Becky BC & Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

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:** 21.04.2026

Councillor Update:

Richard Gale RC (Highland Councillor not in attendance).

17.03.2026: (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:** 21.04.2026

17.03.2026: (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:** 21.04.2026

17.03.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

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, Richard RG will raise the issue.

Action: Update **Member:** Richard RG **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

17.03.2026: (See previous minutes for past actions)

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:** 21.04.2026

Action: Email information to Richard RG **Member:** Gina Stewart **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Correspondence:

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

Brighter Brora needs more volunteers anyone interested in helping should contact Kathleen Cunningham.

Diana DR asked if the letter could be sent to the current owners of the Sutherland Inn asking for confirmation that an offer has been accepted and to advise of the maintenance work that has been carried out. Members of the BCC decided to wait until April to do this

Action: Write to owners **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Public: Could something be done to improve the front of Captain Crabbs as it is unsightly when driving or walking through the village. Gina GS will write to the owners.

Action: Write to owners **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Public: Could the sign at the Bears Den be taken down if it has not been open for several years. Gina GS will write to the owners.

Action: Write to owners **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Diana DR asked if a separate meeting could be set with property owners in the square to discuss how the area could be improved. BCC will contact owners to discuss.

Action: Contact owners **Member:** BCC **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Planning Issues:

Diana DR attended the Transmission line meeting on 24th February 2026 in Edinburgh, a copy of her report is attached Appendix 2.

Energy Consents Unit - Emails used in Public Consultation

We also mentioned last Monday that emails were no longer going to be considered by the Energy Consents Unit as a means for people to lodge public objections.

Pollie and Community Benefit Discussions It was agreed it would be sensible to speak to Rogart CC. f to understand what their take is on this. Ruwan RUP has agreed to take this forward. As to meeting Coriolis, it was agreed that it would not be appropriate to speak to them about community benefits at this time

Ongoing from November: 17.03.2026: 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:** 21.04.2026

Public: Thanks was expressed to Daine DR for attending the meeting Edinburgh.

A planning application has been submitted to demolish a building at Corrie Mhor 6 - 7 Academy Street Brora KW9 6QP

Public: Disappointment that the place plan has taken so long to complete, no public consultations have taken place and now the submission is due in April.

Becky BC will advise of a consultation date soon.

Action: Publish date **Member:** Becky BC **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Treasurers Report:

Peter Fassen de Heer PFDH (Treasurer) Absent

Drawdown Fund:

17.03.2026: Information to be given on 21st April 2026

Community Feedback

Public: Complaints have been received about the light pollution from the Heritage Centre in the evenings, this is happening when no evening events are in progress.

Gina to write to the manager Ross Lewin and ask for an update on the solar panel issue.

Action: Write to Ross Lewin **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Diana DR and Anthony Urquhart will repair the sign on the Sutherland Inn.

Gina GS will contact the Highland Council to ascertain what buildings they own in Brora.

Action: Write to owners & Highland Council **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Robbie RM passed on thanks from his Great Aunt for the work carried out on her husband's memorial stone.

Deer have been getting into the graveyard, temporary fencing has been erected, Gina GS to contact Highland Council to ask when a permanent Deer fence will be put up.

Action: Write to owners **Member:** Gina GS **Review Date:** 21.04.2026

Micro Grant Applications: Discussed in Follow on Meeting.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 21.04.2026 7PM, BESS Sub Group 13.04.2026