

Minutes of Meeting

Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community Council

Monday 10th February 2025 7.30pm

At Cawdor Community Centre

Item	Details	Action
Present	Kirsty Rose, CC Mike Ogden, CC Marion Mackay, CC Dougie Fraser, CC Alastair McGregor, CC Lizzy Rose, Alec Rose, Ric Westray, Carlo Cabrelli, Rowena MacWilliam, Anne McMichael, Rob Clarke, Lizbeth Collie, James Bruce, Fiona Bruce, Sue Saunders, Hugh Robertson, Meg Robertson, Jenny Nalder, Cllr Paul Oldham, Julie McIntosh, Halde Pottinger, James Cook, CC Stevie Webster, CC Robin Pope, Cllr Laurie Fraser, Philip Arkell, CC Lucy Barclay, Cllr Barbara Jarvie	
1.	Apologies - Cllr Green, Tony Twist, Alex Rennison, Ann Rennison, Jenifer Walker, Vanessa McGregor and Joanna McGregor	
2.	Minutes of Last Meeting (9/12/24) and Matters Arising Proposed - Marion Mackay Seconded – Mike Ogden a. Cawdor Christmas tree lights – these had been turned off but had yet to be taken down. SW to organise b. Snow Plough and Gritter Volunteers and Storage – Stevie had spoken to Mike and Halde and was trying to see if any other volunteers. Mike to set up Whatsapp group for this. SW had been checking prices for containers to be placed in the Cawdor Patch grounds for the storage of the snow plough. DF had also been looking at containers. This container could also be used for the storage of the Christmas decorations and tree lights. SW to continue to source a container. PA asked that this container could be green to blend in with surroundings. c. Pedestrian Crossing at Traffic Lights – These had now been repaired satisfactorily.	SW MO SW

	<p>d. Fireworks / Bonfire Sub Committee -</p> <p>Meeting to be organised for next week for SW / PA. JW had spoken to Fireworks Scotland and obtained a price for the event.</p> <p>e. Community Council and Ward Council Boundary Map -</p> <p>DF had been looking into this and Highland Council were looking into it. RP noted this was complicated at the moment due to the proposed boundary changes for community councils.</p> <p>AR drew attention to the fact that interactive maps of the area were available on the HRC Website.</p> <p>RP – there were some corrections to be made with the boundaries and these would be brought to HRC to be considered with the new boundary proposals. RP to check the situation with the boundary at Regoul.</p>	<p>SW / PA</p> <p>RP</p>
3	<p>Presentation by Sustrans and West Nairnshire Safer Paths – Realignment of National Cycle Network 1 and Local Links</p> <p>Anne McMichael of Sustrans, Lizbeth Collie of Highland Council, and West Nairnshire Safer Paths gave a very informative presentation on the latest developments and proposed future route of the path between Clephanton and Croy. The floor was then opened for questions.</p> <p>RP – did the ecological survey include the link to Cawdor ?</p> <p>The link would have been looked at had that section been surveyed and this would happen with any future surveys on the Cawdor section.</p> <p>RP – had they looked at the bridge over the River Nairn.</p> <p>Sustrans accepted that the bridge was narrow but changes to existing infrastructure would not be considered until after the main route had been established.</p> <p>JN – would there be a cycleway created from Cawdor to Nairn?</p>	

The current path by the riverside was unsuitable for cycling. The link at the moment is to go down the Clephanton road into Nairn

The next section they are looking to complete is between Croy and Clephanton with a turn off to Cawdor at Balcroy on the Clephanton to Nairn section.

RP – is there a time frame for this ?

Five to Ten years overall, but within two years would be what was hoped for the section from the leafy bends to Croy, with the Croy to Tornagrain and Balloch path already well established. This would all depend on funding which was at the moment very unpredictable.

Cllr PO – is it the intention that this cycle path would eventually come down to Balblair Road ?

That was confirmed as the plan

AM – Would there be enough space between the large white boulders at the end of the track for a tricycle to go through ?

When the path is extended it will also be widened. They would also ensure that wheelchairs and mobility scooters could pass through.

LR – the path where the boulders are comes downhill to the main road, which is a safety issue, so the boulders were put there to prevent people cycling out onto the road.

They are also used to prevent motorbikes using the tracks. But it was agreed that in any future improvements and extension that access for all users would be considered.

Cllr BJ asked about connections to existing trails such as the Moray Coastal trail.

National Cycle Network does overlap with a lot of existing trails and uses them where it is possible. Getting cycle routes into Inverness is very difficult.

Cllr BJ – did the plans take into account the proposed Nairn Bypass

The proposal would be that the cycle track would cross the bypass near the Howford Bridge.

	An invitation was extended for anyone to come along to meetings whenever they wanted and they would be looking for area volunteers as the scheme extended.	
4	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Treasurer's report is attached</p> <p>Bank of Scotland had advised that there would be change of account to a Community Account at a cost of £4.25 / month. This was the best deal available allowing online banking and with a branch in Nairn.</p>	
5	<p>Police Report</p> <p>No police report received. Again, it was noted that there had not been a police report in a long time. Cllr BJ advised that these are produced but not specific to the Cawdor area. She suggested we continue to ask for them.</p> <p>Cllr LF – had spoken to the police and they intended to step up the monitoring of speeding within the A96 and A9 due to an increase in accidents in the area.</p> <p>Cllr PO – there was a police report on the new Nairnshire Newspaper website.</p> <p>RP – we could ask again at the meeting next week of the Nairn Community Partnership.</p>	LR
6	<p>Planning Applications / Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24/04854/FUL - Erection of house, Land 90m SE of Cantraydoune Farmhouse, Cawdor – this should go to committee as the CWNCC had noted an objection re drainage feeding into water course and the siting of the septic tank. This was due for consideration on 14th February. ● 24/05260/FUL - Erection of house, Land 250 m NE of Glennie Blacksmith, Clephanton – there were objections re private septic tank. SW noted there was no treatment plant in Clephanton, just a septic tank. The applicant stated there was little difference between the two options available, the result would be the same. ● 25/00226/SCOP Ardersier Port Extension – no objections. 	

7	<p>Cawdor & West Nairnshire Community Benefit Organisation (SCIO)</p> <p>SW noted the new playpark, which was funded by the CWNCBO, and thanked Meg Robertson and Anna Clyne for their hard work on this.</p> <p>MR advised the park had been inspected by HRC and passed. The project was funded by CWNCBO fully at a cost of just under £30,000. Previously CWNCBO had paid for the installation and painting of the old equipment and also the boarding and bark.</p> <p>CWNCBO are going to be funding the replacement of the Cawdor village map and information board. And they are also considering installing another in a different area in the village, yet to be agreed</p> <p>CWNCBO had funded various grants for the Women's Institute Moray and Nairn Federation of around £1000. Funding towards accommodation and travel for training, a grant for storage at Keith and also for competitions in Nairn</p> <p>CWNCBO had awarded £250 to the Community Centre for the haggis at the recent Burns Supper</p> <p>The annual award of £15,000 was made to Cawdor Primary School to improve the educational experience of children at the school</p> <p>At the recent Trustees meeting it had been decided that Foundation Scotland would take over the administration of the fund for a three year initial period. This may affect the speed of response to applications.</p> <p>Trustees also decided to increase the small grant limit from £500 to £1000.</p> <p>The AGM will be on Tuesday 18th March at 7.30 pm in the Cawdor Tavern. All members are invited but asked to let CWNCBO know by replying to their invitation in order to help with numbers for catering. Membership is available at no cost to anyone over the age of 16 residing within the CWNCC area and the forms are available on the website – www.windsofchangeawdor.com</p>	

8	<p>Port of Ardersier Community Benefit Fund -</p> <p>KR – nothing to report</p>	
9	<p>Road and Traffic Safety Issues</p> <p>JC reported that the school were having some issues with parking at the school due speeding, families travelling from a wider area, and an increasing school role. The school was trying to connect with more active travel, including looking into parking further away and then walking to school – Park and Stride. So they are looking for a space to utilise for this. PA is assisting with finding a suitable location. Living Streets works nationwide to try to work with communities to see if this is possible.</p> <p>RP and SW to meet with Auldearn CC to look at their traffic calming measures.</p> <p>SW asked about the Howford Bridge roadworks. RP advised the first phase had been completed – this involved moving the barriers back further towards the road and putting in a drain. The next stage would be repairing the road surface.</p>	RP / SW
10	<p>Broadband</p> <p>Nothing further had happened with this. RP at the last meeting it had been decided that we need to ask for UPRN for each home in the area from HRC.</p> <p>Cllr HL said this information was available online for each property at the Scottish Government website. SW to see if they can get this.</p> <p>PA advised you could just put in a postcode and it would give a list of addresses.</p> <p>LR had details of a survey regarding rural broadband (R100). She would put this link on the CWNCC website</p>	SW LR
11	<p>Cawdor Hub update</p> <p>KR – AGM in December had been well attended but could have done with more of the Hub users attending.</p> <p>Cawdor Hub will be introducing a new pricing structure from 1st April. Cawdor Community use is highly subsidised.</p>	

	<p>Hub hosted the Parent Council Burns Supper and it was a great success. Thanks to Winds of Change for the haggis provided on behalf of the Parent Council and to local businesses who supported the event.</p> <p>Moray Firth Road Cycling event coming back this year.</p> <p>Rolling out the Wellbeing Vision and they are funding, via Highland Council, 'Relaxed Kids' (P1 – P5) and 'Chilled Skills' (P6 and P7, S1 and S2) helping children with their mental health skills.</p> <p>Currently looking to update the digital displays in both meeting rooms. Hopefully funded by Winds of Change.</p>	
12	<p>AOB</p> <p>LR – Delnies development have set up a community liaison group and the Cawdor Community Council would be sending two representatives to keep up to date with progress</p> <p>LR - The proposed Highland Council Visitor Levy Scheme survey is online and people are being asked to put forward their view on this. The Community Council would be putting their opinions forward. A link will be added to our website.</p> <p>LR – There is a Community Council Scheme review open to the public to offer their views on the changes HRC are proposing. LR would add details to website, or click on the link below: Community Council Scheme Review 2025 Highland Place Planning.</p> <p>LR – Spring Litter Pick in Cawdor. The Cawdor Guides had been in touch and would like to be involved in this. Green Hive had met the Guides and suggested making a bench from any plastics collected. The Guides have also offered assistance with the Jubilee Wood, which would need to be once the days are a bit longer as they meet on Thursday evenings. The Spring Litter pick however would be on a Saturday. Date agreed – 22nd March at 10 am.</p> <p>LR – Alex Rennison had contacted CWNCC advising that there had been further erosion of the river bank at Little Rosefield. PA advised that HRC wouldn't deal with it. He said that Aberarder estate further up river were doing work on the river to try to slow it down further up when there was a spate</p>	<p>LR</p> <p>LR</p> <p>LR</p>

	<p>which would help down at Cawdor. Cawdor Estates are keeping an eye on it and will be surveying soon. It is important the river stays within the flood bank, which it currently is. LR to report back to AR</p> <p>MM – concern for herself and her neighbours regarding the recently tarred brae from Knockaneorn to Clunas. The bank had been flattened and now there was nothing blocking the drop into a very deep gulley. MM suggested there should perhaps be some safety barriers.</p> <p>Cllr PO – encouraging people to take part in the consultation on the visitor levy which finishes on the 31st March. Re Delnies road works has a knock on effect on the traffic through the village – morning and evening lights would be stopping shortly and they would just be used during the day time which would help with rush hour traffic issues.</p> <p>Cllr BJ asked about the village road closure which had been postponed from before Christmas. PA advised the roads belonged to the Cawdor estate but the work needed to be done. When HRC do start the work they won't be closing any roads. Cllr BJ commented on the very poor communication from HRC regarding the original dates for this work.</p> <p>DF advised that the SID needs to be replaced. RP this money should come from Transport Scotland.</p>	
13	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Monday 14th April 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre</p>	
	Meeting closed at 9pm	

Annex A

C&WNCC Treasurer's Report for Meeting 10/02/2025 – No. 18

Bank reconciled at last meeting 09/12/2024	=£3,759.63
Income	=£Nil
Expenditure	=£402.21

Since the last meeting the following has happened:

Income:	=£Nil
Expenditure: L. Rose Beverage for Twinkle & Tinsel event	=£23.20
Wester Hardmuir Food for Twinkle & Tinsel event	=£96.00
C&WNCBO Refund for Xmas Tree Lights	=£15.01
Minutes Secretary	=£40.00
L. Stirling Repairs to Bog Rd. Decoration Lights	=£228.00
Bank reconciled to 10/02/2025	=£3,357.42

There are no further outstanding transactions.

I have had notification from Bank of Scotland that they will change our Treasurer's Account to their new Community Account. They will charge C&WNCC a monthly fee of £4.25 to administer this account.