BALLOCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ballochcc1@gmail.com
Website: https://ballochcommunitycouncil.co.uk/

MINUTES OF MEETING ON Wednesday 16th September 2026

1	**Members present**: Sine MacKay, Ron Gray, Pip Johnson, Matthew Watkins, **In Attendanc**e: Cllr T Robertson, Cllr Morven Reid, Cllr MacPherson **Apologies**: Rachel Arkell, Ian Williams, Bernadette Watkins, Cllr K Gowans
2	**August Meeting minutes**: Proposed – Mathew Watkins Seconded – Pip Johnson (with one alteration)
3	**Matters Arising –** **Dog waste Bins –** The council has received a complaint about the position of the waste bin in Torris Road, the council are looking at options. There is also an issue with the location of the bin in Forrest Road, this has been moved from its position at the entrance of the path going up to the woods. Cllr Robertson advises the council are trying to resolve this issue too. **Flood Maps –** The issue now is to monitor and record flooding in Balloch so we can better cross reference with the flood maps. This will help to pin down the areas of responsibly. Residents should be encouraged to give feedback. Feedback regarding recent rains were water pooling at Cherry Park at the Culloden Road end, and pooling at the Barn Church Road junction to the A96. **Water force damage to Culloden Road and pavement at the vets** – This has been repaired and the pavement retarmacked. Cllr Robertson said the council said it could happen again. This would indicate the root cause is not identified or not dealt with. So we can only guess this might be an area of dual responsibility as discussed in the last meeting. **Land around Balloch Primary/School Estate** – BCC has not received the plan. Cllr Reid said she would send a copy to the secretary so it could be distributed.
4	**Secretary –** **R Arkell unable to continue with full secretary duties** - due to work commitments. No further progress **Email briefs-** **Call for ideas –** this runs till 20/11/26. In the latest Email we have been advised that, although the place plan we originally submitted was not validated, if we resubmit it the ideas will be given consideration. The also ask if we are preparing a new submission and we can advise them that we are, but it is unlikely to be ready for submission before 20th November. **Greenspace biodiversity strategy management –** Deadline for feedback is 4/10/26. However even if there is no feedback given at this time, this is also an important document as a source for supporting evidence when compiling the place plan. **Application for Tesco Food Veg grant –** needs to be in by the end of September. Apparently they are short of applications. PJ going to look at for the scouts, but school and nursery need to be made aware. Project applications need to be 50% about food, such as growing your own and healthy eating. **Local Fire and Rescue Plan –** The consultation is open till 15/10/26. Web site Consultations | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Anyone can log on. For Balloch the issue going forward may be the increasing risk to properties next to woodland, which is something that can be visited in the LPP too.
5	**Place Plan –** Part one of the LPP consultation presentation was circulated to CCs. No feedback has been received. The plan is to have part two ready for presentation at the next CC meeting in October.
6	**Highland Councillors Report –** **Cllr Robertson** **-**Provided information on the status of the dog waste bins. (complaint re Torris Road was about the smell close to a property.) -Advised new process for ordering a Christmas Tree – Quote sent from Council to CC → CC reviews accepts or declines quote → tree delivered or not depending on response from CC. Price for tree will be £907.20 The Christmas tree costs more than we get in council grant. Various options were discussed. Options included approaching other bodies to contribute (the church) or sponsor (Cllr MacPherson suggested approaching Highland Foresters), or donation box in the co-op. Other options was to invest in a dummy tree that could be used annually. Cllr MacPherson reminded that the council price included set up, removal, disposal and insurance. Cllr Reid advised we could apply through her to the ward discretionary fund for some financial assistance. This needs to be followed up with councillor Reid.

	-Updated on the situation regarding vandalism and litter in the vicinity and grounds of Balloch Farmhouse. Cllr Glynis is arranging for the fence and gate to be repaired. There is a woodland management plan to create an official path through the woodland. There is a meeting scheduled to give more information on the plans on 30th September. - There is an emergency briefing film which Cllr Robertson wants presented to the local community. This is part of the resilience planning for climate change. Cllr Roberston to advise on the details on how we can proceed with this. (media type, presentation equipment, availability etc.) -The recycle bins at Culloden shopping centre are being moved while the carpark is being remodelled. There are ongoing discussions on where the bins will be located when the work is complete. **Cllr Reid** -Requested we give feedback re the Visitor Levy. One of the responses was whether it would apply to say the scouts hiring a camping ground or other activities. Cllr Ried says this is the kind of question/feedback they are looking for. -Will forward the planning map for land around the school. **Cllr D MacPherson** -Also raised the issue at Balloch farm, covered by Cllr Robertson -Advised that the rusty lampposts along Barn Church Road were being repainted, so far work has reached opposite the Academy, but this would continue into the Balloch section. -Updated on the signage at the Culloden Junction and that this would be complete by the end of the month -Has had a complaint regarding a pot hole that has been repaired between Forrest Drive and Edgemoor. The complaint is the repair has left raised sharp edges that cause a bump and may damage tyres. Not sure if he said it had been referred back to council, tbc.
7	**Chair's report** – none
8	**Treasurer –** Acc 1 - £7145.03 and Acc 2 £2461.54. Includes £896.86 Highland Council Grant. Invoice for Data Protection Service due by 19/10/26
9	**AOCB** -Speed indication display on Culloden Road is still calibrated to 30mph -Discussed issues register for tracking issues. RG has produced one but not circulated it yet. Will circulate for comment before next meeting
10	**Next Meeting – Wednesday 21st October 2026 7.30pm Balloch Hall**