

**BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(BoGCC)**

Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Monday 9th February 2026 in Boat of Garten Community Hall

1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:

Community Council Members: Kathryn Gillings (KG), Chair; Alan Bennet (AB), Treasurer; Lesley Taylor (LT), Secretary; Don Walker (DW)

Ex Officio: Muriel Cockburn, (MC), Member, Highland Council

CNPA: Bo Mansell, Sustainable Transport Officer/Active Communities Project Lead (BM)

Mott MacDonald: Gordon Scott, Transport Planner (GS)

BOG Standard Team: Jackie Wilson (JW), Jacquie Macintyre (JM), Leigh Galloway (LG)

Apologies: Julie Mossman, BOG Standard team

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th December 2025:

The minutes were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by AB, seconded by DW.

3. Matters Arising

3a. Road signs to Street of Kinkardine

No response as yet from Craig Irvine, Roads Officer, Highland Council.

- **MC follow up**

3b. Emergency Planning

LT contacted A Gristwood (AG), Hall committee.

AG confirmed that discussions about the purchase of a generator, capable of heating water, did happen but nothing moved forward.

- **AG to get an update on where things stand and get back to BoGCC**

DW contacted Alice Fogg at VABS for guidance.

- **For discussion at BoGCC meeting March 26**

To aid emergency planning, a breakdown of the demographics of the village had been requested by BoGCC. MC sent information about School Roll Forecasts up to 2036/37.

AB asked for further information to provide a picture of the wider community.

- **MC to look in to getting this information**

3c. Village Signs Competition

One person has noted interest in the competition so far. The closing date is the end of February 2026.

JM said that CNPA funding may be available for the project.

- *DW/JM to explore further*

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Reports

- **Police**

The latest information we have from Police Scotland is an email from December 2025. It confirms that if there is anything of a police matter we need to discuss, then we should feel free to email our named contact.

It also clarified that if a crime has occurred which needs to be reported, we should use either the 'Contact Us' page on the Police Scotland web page or call 101 or 999 depending on the urgency.

BoGCC agreed that the data previously provided was valued and reassuring for the community. We are disappointed that this information will no longer be made available at a local level.

This was echoed by other local community councils in the minutes of the recent meeting of the Badenoch and Strathspey Community Council Forum.

- ***B&S Community Council Forum to invite Police Scotland as a standing item at each quarterly Forum***

- **CNPA**

BM and GS attended to allow follow up discussions to the Active Communities event which took place in Boat of Garten Community Hall in January 2026.

General details of the project can be found on the CNPA website at:

<https://cairngorms.co.uk/our-work/active-communities>

Details of the project with respect to Boat of Garten, as well as copies of all the relevant maps and diagrams, can be found at:

<https://cairngorms.co.uk/document-collection/active-communities-boat-of-garten-supporting-documents>

BM presented the background to the project including:

- Current designs were informed by prior engagement undertaken in 2022/23.
- The funding context - National Lottery Heritage Fund and Transport Scotland are the two major project funders.
- The Highland Council is a major stakeholder and the project leads are working with them on the designs.
- Project leads are aware from the recent drop-in event that a crossing at the post office is a point for re-consideration.

BM outlined the constraints on the project funding from Transport Scotland, The Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (ATIF). Funding will be judged on bids from across Scotland.

GS talked through the potential designs and provided hard copies.

- Emphasised the need to balance different community, stakeholder, and funder requirements to secure investment.
- Discussed wheelchair accessible crossings - central to project concept.
- Presented the rationale for crossing location outside post office - at the intersection of the main desire lines for crossing and does not block driveways.
- GS noted there may be alternative locations for crossings and presented options.

BM clarified that wheelchair accessible crossings must feature as part of the project.

There was wide ranging discussion by all attending the meeting, with the following focus areas:

- Focus on crossing design, especially re: width, current and alternative locations, impact on parking.
- Focus on traffic calming - a preference for a raised table (long speed hump) rather than speed cushions - speed cushions not good for motorcycles.
- Broad agreement re: raised table at the start of the 20mph limit to replace existing chicane and bollard.
- Focus on wheelchair and mobility scooter accessibility requirements, as well as parking requirements.
- Recognition that some people may be driving due to the village centre having low accessibility by wheelchair or mobility scooter.

MC asked that suggestions, such as better car parking opportunities within the village, which lie outside the National Transport Strategy priorities, still be fed back from the consultation to allow the possibility of them being taken forward by different organisations.

- ***BM agreed to feed back to Colin Simpson, Head of Visitor Services & Active Travel, CNPA***

GS asked that BoGCC summarise their priorities and send them to BM/GS.

- ***AB, LT, DW to meet to draft this response***

6. Finance

Treasurers Report for meeting 09/02/26

Treasurers Account	£	
Balance at 05/12/25	4303.82	
Balance at 01/02/26	5140.32	
Credits this Period	700.00	Reidhaven Trust donation
	185.00	BoG Standard advertising
	885.00	
Debits this Period	8.50	Bank monthly service charge
	40.00	Hall hires Nov & Dec meetings
	48.50	
Environmental Account		
Balance at 05/12/25	3978.75	
Balance at 01/02/26	3974.50	
Debits this period	4.25	Bank monthly service charges
Credits this period	0.00	

7. Planning Matters

Since the December meeting, two new applications have been received for 'Use of property as a short term letting unit'. BoGCC has objected to these applications due to the ongoing concerns about the large percentage of short term let properties in our area and their effect on village life. This is in line with Highland Council concerns.

8. Correspondence

8a. Winter Resilience Programme

Correspondence was received from a member of the community who had been injured in a fall as a result of icy conditions. They requested access to a sand/grit/saltbox within their area so that locals would be able to take action to help clear snow and ice from footpaths.

Highland Council offers assistance to communities who wish to take action in their own area. The assistance takes the form of:

- provision of salt (in either grit bins or heaps)
- shovels and snow pushers
- gloves
- hi-visibility vests
- Health and Safety advice to volunteers who have pre-registered through their Community Council and are working on their behalf
- Provision of equipment and training is co-ordinated by the local Roads Area Offices.

Anyone who requires further information can contact their Area Roads Office by email. Details can be found at:

https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads_and_pavements/107/winter_road_maintenance/3

Highland Council requires details of a Lead Representative from the particular area requesting assistance to liaise with Roads & Infrastructure about Winter Aid.

- **LT to take forward**

8b. Electrical Fire Safety Week 2026

Electrical Fire Safety Week 2026, aims to raise awareness about the fire risks associated with not checking or testing smoke alarms regularly.

Details can be found at:

https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/efsw?utm_campaign=EFSW+2026+-+Councils%2FCouncillors&utm_source=force24&utm_medium=email&utm_content=textlink

8c. Badenoch & Strathspey Community Council Forum

Lewis Hannah, Community Development Manager, Highland Council, arranged a Badenoch & Strathspey Community Council Forum meeting in January 2026. This includes all community councils from the local area and gives a chance to discuss shared concerns.

Unfortunately no members of BoGCC were able to attend but we were grateful to receive minutes of the meeting and hope to attend future meetings, preferably in person.

9. BOG Standard Update

Members of the retiring editorial BOG Standard team attended the meeting to discuss the future of the BOG Standard.

JW put information on the Community WhatsApp group to notify any interested parties of the need for a new team if the BOG Standard is to continue. One volunteer has expressed interest so far but was not able to attend the meeting.

The retiring team has a very clear structure in place with guidance notes, templates, timelines and responsibilities within the team, all documented and shared with BoGCC.

The team also said they'd be willing to discuss any aspects of the production of the BOG Standard with anyone who may consider getting involved.

In the meantime, LG will continue to monitor emails and set up an automated reply as follows:

"The BOG Standard is currently on hiatus and seeking a new team of volunteers to take it forward. Could this be you? If you're interested in getting involved, please contact Boat of Garten Community Council at boatofgartencc@gmail.com

This inbox is currently being checked periodically, but responses may be sporadic."

10. AOCB

None.

11. Questions and contributions from the public

None.

The next ordinary meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for
Monday 9th March 2026
at 7.00pm in the Boat of Garten Community Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Community Councils are comprised of people who care about their community and want to make it a better place to live. If this sounds like you, we would love you to join us! For more details please contact boatofgartencc@gmail.com

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK WELCOME

The Community Council exists to see that the opinions of local residents are properly taken into account by official bodies and generally to foster local interests. Your opinions matter and we would like to hear any comments you have on what the Community Council does or does not do.

Residents are welcome at all our meetings and, subject to the guidance of the Chair, may contribute to all discussion. The Community Council is registered with the Information Commissioner in terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Copies of agendas and minutes, besides those circulated to members, Highland Councillors & officials etc.; can also be sent to residents who have expressed an interest in the work of the Council. If you would like to be included in this e-mail circulation, please contact the Secretary at boatofgartencc@gmail.com.