

## **BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Draft MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 11th May 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, member, Highland Council

**Apologies:** None

#### **2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12th May 2025:**

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

#### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. Chair's Annual Report:**

Another year has passed since the last report on the work of the Community Council. This year we had 8 meetings. This is a brief report of some of our activities.

After requests from residents, we got a 'Road Liable to Icing' warning sign erected on the B970 Boat of Garten to Coylumbridge road.

We are still trying to get a signpost to Street of Kinkardine erected at the Boat end of the same road.

The Community Action Plan was drawn up after consultation with the Boat of Garten community.

For the first time The Bank of Scotland has applied charges to our accounts. This is at a rate of £4.25 per month, per account as well as charges for some types of transaction.

In July 2025, our police liaison officer Neil Maciver retired and was replaced by D Garland. Our liaison officer does not attend meetings, in line with the Police Scotland Policy of non attendance.

We no longer receive monthly reports on crime figures which has caused a lot of disquiet amongst community councils in the area.

We had complaints of unpleasant smells from residents and Deshar School. Highland Council have been contacted but it appears that little can be done.

We had a visit from S Malcolm of Carrbridge Community Council regarding Emergency Planning. The suggestion was for some sort of 'twinning' with Boat where an alternative safe space was required. We also revisited the idea of an emergency generator for the Community Hall. The matter is ongoing. An emergency plan is being drafted using the template supplied by VABS.

A competition for the design of a new village sign was instigated but there was only one entry. At present we are trying to find a source of funding for the project. Not as easy as it sounds!

As part of the Active Communities Project, we had a visit from CNPA Sustainable Transport Officer/Active Communities Project Lead and the Transport Planner with Mott MacDonald. They brought along plans for traffic calming and crossings to make it easier for wheelchair users, etc to get around the village. We had the opportunity to give ideas and we made a written submission clarifying our preferences.

In February, representatives from the BOG Standard attended the meeting. They informed us that they were unable to continue production without more volunteers. So far one person has come forward.

We have had a lot of discussions about planning matters. A lot of this has involved Short Term Lets. We know that tourists are important to the area but we are also in desperate need of housing for workers moving to the area.

In 18 months there will be elections for the Community Council and we will need several people to come forward to serve their community. If there is no response then there will be no community council for Boat of Garten.

**Kathryn Gillings, Chair, Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council**  
**May 2026**

## **5. Treasurers Report for the Financial Year 2025-26**

Financially, yet again 2025 - 26 has been another quiet year.

The key financial factors were:

- 1) With income of £3162.14 and expenditure of £1775.85, we ended the year with a surplus of £1386.29.
- 2) When added to the balance at the end of 2025-26 of £7319.58, we now have total funds of £8705.87. This is split between the Environmental account £3961.75 and the Treasurers account £4744.12.
- 3) The only transactions on the Environmental account during 2025-26 were bank service charges of £38.25.

- 4) The Treasurers account shows income of £3162.14 being a donation of £700 from the Reidhaven Estate, advertising income of £2025.00 via the BoG Standard and the Highland Council admin grant of £437.14.
- 5) Expenditure breaks down into administrative costs of £675.85 and £1100 for the printing of our community newsletter, the BoG Standard.
- 6) With timing changes to the frequency of the BoG Standard, the accounts include income from 3 editions but only show expenditure for 2 editions. This has contributed to our overall surplus this year, which at the moment will not occur again.

While our financial position remains healthy, there are a couple of factors that should be noted. Firstly, now the BoG Standard is no longer active, our net additional income will drop by approximately £150 per edition. Secondly, we may have potential charges from Highland Council with regard to Festive lighting costs.

In closing, there are a number of people to thank. Firstly, we are grateful to Reidhaven Estate for their continued support and donation of £700 to the community. We are also grateful for all those who were involved with the BoG Standard. To mention a few, the BoG Standard editorial team, our varied and loyal advertisers, Jackie Wilson for her work with our advertisers and of course thanks to the team of BoG Standard distributors.

Finally, thanks to John O'Donnell for his added scrutiny and examining the accounts. Thank you.

**Alan Bennet, Treasurer, Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council.  
May 2026**

## **6. Demit of current office bearers and election of office bearers**

All office holders stood down. MC thanked all on BoGCC for the work they do. She asked for nominations for chairperson. KG was proposed as Chair by DW and seconded by LT.

KG then asked for nominations for treasurer and secretary.  
AB was proposed as Treasurer by DW and seconded by LT.  
LT was proposed as Secretary by AB and seconded by KG.

- ***LT to return details of office bearers to Highland Council***
- ***LT to submit annual accounts and AGM minutes to Highland Council***

## **7. Meeting Dates for the Coming Year**

The following dates were proposed, with the proviso that we can call a meeting at 7 days notice if necessary:

11 May, 10 Aug, 14 September, 12 October, 9 November and 14 December 2026  
8 February, 8 March, 12 April, AGM 10 May 2027

- ***LT book the meeting room up to May 2027***

## **8. AOCB**

There was no AOCB

KG declared that the provisional date of the next AGM will be **Monday 10th May 2027**, following which she brought the meeting to a close at 7.35pm.