

Minutes of Aultbea Community Council Meeting (Summary)

Monday 16th June 2025, 7pm, the Crows Nest, Aultbea Hall, Aultbea

1. Present: Philip MacLachlan (Chair), Susan MacLean (Treasurer), Gail Bellamy (Zoom), Roddie MacKenzie, Murdo MacLean, Liz Kraft (Zoom), Jenny Maslin (Minutes). **In attendance:** Katie Grant (Zoom), 11 members of the public (MotP). **Apologies:** Peter Davison, Colin Bell

2. Minutes of meeting 19th May 2025: Approved by MM and seconded by SM.

3. Financial Report: Nil expenditure or income since last meeting. Bank balance at 16th June 2025 is £4049.95, of which £1365 is ring-fenced for defib maintenance.

4. Ongoing items of business:

- **Campervan waste disposal:** No updates. Agreed to take off agenda.
- **MOWI Building:** Re safety concerns, ACC to provide details of location of building, as requested.
- **Road Repairs:** Pleased to note work done outside Aultbea Stores. LK to chase up white lines needed (outside Stores and on road in Mellon Charles) and crossing indication Aultbea Nursery.
- **Local Bus Connections:** Westerbus to retime Thurs am bus journey to connect with City Link bus to Inverness at Braemore Jn. Not possible to reschedule return service.
- **Dental Services:** Awaiting updates, possibility of a link with a new Torridon dental service.
- **Laide Telephone Box Removal:** Awaiting response to ACC request for telephone box to remain.
- **Local Schools:** The Parent Council are actively asking people to register their interest with HC for a Nursery place. Please also give LK any names, so she can reinforce need. Concerns about the process of 'mothballing' and no clear HC policy on this reiterated. LK continues to push for 1. Improved consultation 2. Ways to ensure early years provision and 3. Inclusive working with parents and schools. LK to also check whether the electricity will be turned off at Aultbea Nursery, as this will cause a problem for the defibrillator.
- **Aultbea Summer Flotilla:** ACC & Aultbea Hall liaising to confirm insurance cover.

5. Any other business:

- **Local Housing:** ACC to send email support to Mid WR Housing Group for a project officer post.

6. Correspondence:

- **WR Fisheries Interpretive Panels:** KG explained WR Fisheries Trust propose four interpretive panels relating to the area's marine life and fisheries in the large A832 layby north out of Laide. Permissions need to be sought (roads, landowners, planning) before commenting further.
- Our local **Highland Access Ranger** is Darren Boa whose job is to ensure that visitors are adhering to the SOAC in our area. Contact Darren.boa@highland.gov.uk with any concerns.
- **Public Consultation on CC Scheme Review:** Public comments invited by 13th August at https://www.highland.gov.uk/news/article/16645/final_phase_for_community_council_scheme_review_public_consultation
- **Latest Police Report:** Monthly reports continue to be received.
- **Christmas Tree Query:** Email query regarding Christmas tree in Aultbea. Discussions continue.
- **Teleswitch Service:** ACC to promote reminder that RTS meters need to be replaced by 30.6.25.
- **Gairloch Museum Roundhouse Project:** ACC to invite Museum to Aug meeting.

7. Planning:

- Planning 24/03390/FUL Laide. This application (in amended form) was approved by Committee on 11th June.

8. Questions/Contributions from Members of the Public:

- Suggestion for a website to be developed promoting our local area – to be discussed further.

9. Date of next meeting: Monday 18th August 2025, **Further Dates:** 15th Sept, 20th Oct, 17th Nov 25.