

Minutes of the Cluny, Midmar & Monymusk Community Council Meeting
Held online via Zoom 7th January 2026

Position	Name	Contact	Attendees	Apologies
Chairman/ Midmar C.C.	Frank Murray	07555-237903 frank.murray1@googlemail.com	✓	
Treasurer/ Midmar C.C.	Judith Stokoe	07729-561859 stokoej3@gmail.com	✓	
Midmar C.C.	Lesley Tierney	lesley.midmarcc@icloud.com	✓	
Monymusk C.C.	Sarah Flavell	gariochadvise@outlook.com	✓	
Monymusk C.C.	Mark Lappin	Lappin.complete@gmail.com	✓	
Monymusk C.C.	Robin Worsman	worsmanrobin@gmail.com	✓	
Secretary/ Cluny C.C.	Ian Forbes	secretarycmmcc@gmail.com	✓	
Open Positions		Any members of the public interested in filling these positions should contact the Community Council Secretary; note the CC constitution allows one of these positions to be filled by a resident in one of the other subdivisions if required		
Cluny Subdivision = 3				
Midmar Subdivision = 1				
Monymusk Subdivision = 1				
Aberdeenshire	Councillors	Ward 13:		
	Cllr Ron McKail	01224-742095	-	-
	Cllr Iris Walker	07876-475272	✓	-
	Cllr Craig Miller	07788 187521	-	-
	Cllr Fatima Joji	07787 955311	-	✓
Aberdeenshire	Councillors	Ward 14:		
	Cllr Gwyneth Petrie	07891-296064	-	-
	Cllr Lauren Knight	07787 824950	-	-
	Cllr Jeff Goodhall	07788 144320	✓	-
	Cllr Robbie Withey	07388-956147	-	-

C.C. = Community Council

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/738161263007490>

Web Site – <https://cmmcommunitycouncil.org/>

Members of Public	Invited Guests
0	0

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	Due to the poor weather conditions (heavy snowfall) meeting held online via Zoom. Decision to move online advertised to public well in advance, but no requests received from public asking to attend the meeting.	
	Meeting Agenda Item	Action
1	Welcome and apologies Meeting started 19:35. Frank Murray chaired meeting. Apology from Councillor Fatima Joji.	Info.
2	Conflicts of interest None declared.	Info.
3	Adoption of minutes of previous meeting Accepted as fair reflection of meeting. Proposer Judith Stokoe, seconded by Sarah Flavell.	Info.
4	Financial Position and Community Council Expenditure Judith Stokoe updated group. Since last meeting, two bills paid (Monymusk Hall rental and Contribution to renovation of the Cluny War Memorial) totalling £757.20. Resultant bank balance is £2485.39.	Info.
5	Community Council Membership Changes Nick Ananin tendered his resignation from the Community Council on the 20 th November 2025 (with immediate effect). Group sincerely thanks Nick for his contributions. Group discussed need to get new members onboard and what could be done to drive interest in volunteering. Robin Worsman made group aware of a possible volunteer for Monymusk. Group heartened to hear this, invitation to attend next meeting to be passed on by Robin. Comment that volunteer bodies in general have been struggling to get people since COVID, though there is some evidence of things starting to recover. https://www.volunteerscotland.net/news/early-signs-of-recovery-in-volunteering-participation-in-scotland This leaves the community council with 5 open positions, and any members of the public interested in filling these positions should contact the Community Council Secretary.	Info. Info. Info. Info.
6	Matters arising from 19th November 2025 meeting/actions update Backhill/Castle Fraser dangerous camber Group glad to report that Aberdeenshire Council have completed repairs. The adverse camber has been removed (and road slightly widened). Trees close to the road have also been felled.	Info.



Gravitate NE – Pitfichie Hill - Potential Mountain Bike Park

Noted that this project (which is very much in a pre-planning application stage) is still proving contentious.

Minutes of the 13th Nov 2025 meeting between CC and Gravitate now available on the CC website (<https://cmmcommunitycouncil.org/2025-minutes/>)

Gravitate NE have confirmed that they will hold a public drop-in meeting in Monymusk Hall in the next few months. As a reminder, the CC will not be organising or hosting this meeting.

NE Scotland Convention of Community Councils (NESCCC)

Frank Murray provided update on the NESCCC meeting held in Stonehaven Town Hall on the 13th Dec 2025. Representation from 29 Community Councils at meeting. After discussion, a final unified statement agreed upon and released – this is given below. Agreement at the meeting to keep NESCCC active as a standing organisation with further meetings planned in 2026.

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Unified Statement of the North East of Scotland Convention of Community Councils (NESCCC).

NESCCC is supported by (the 85)* Community Councils within the North East of Scotland, collectively representing over 700,000 residents in Aberdeenshire, Angus and Aberdeen City.

NESCCC wholeheartedly endorses the work done by Highland Community Councils to address the impact on communities of major renewable energy infrastructure developments.

NESCCC recognises the impact of climate change, the loss of biodiversity, the transition to renewable energy and the need to make more efficient use of energy. However, NESCCC does not accept the industrialisation of the North East of Scotland is necessary or represents a Just Transition. We also object to the ongoing operational impacts of such infrastructure on our landscapes and communities. We expect the Scottish Government, UK Government and Scottish Local Authorities to give weight to the vital importance of our communities' voices in these and other pertinent issues.

NESCCC is concerned that community consultation and engagement are inadequate, and local democracy is being overridden. Accordingly, NESCCC calls for all those elected to the Scottish Parliament, UK Parliament and Local Authorities to commit to acknowledging, supporting and protecting our communities and our environment at a national level.

NESCCC therefore calls on the Scottish Government to: -

1. Pause all major applications and pending decisions, given the impact upon our communities, until a clear National Energy Strategy is in place and Social, Environmental and Economic Impact Assessments are undertaken.
2. Establish an Independent Commission to examine the cumulative impact of all major renewable energy infrastructure developments, including transmission, storage and generation, with all ancillary infrastructure, on our communities, landscape and regional economy.
3. Develop a cohesive National Energy Strategy for energy generation, storage and transmission, in full and meaningful consultation with communities across Scotland, with clearly defined, pragmatic targets and spatial planning.

NESCCC believes it is vital for **all** those elected to the Scottish Parliament to understand the real strength of local concern on this matter and work together to deliver change to a system that is heavily weighted against our communities' interests.

NESCCC puts this Unified Statement forward in good faith on behalf of the people we represent, in full expectation that the parties named will take cognisance of our communities' willingness to engage constructively in a Just Transition.

13 December 2025

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Midmar – 12 Houses
 Tillyfourie – 10 Houses

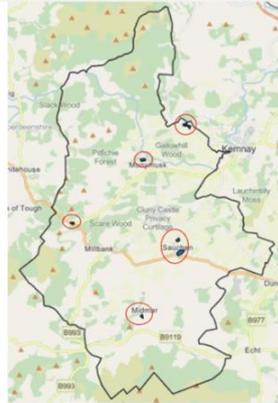
Cluny, Midmar and Monymusk Community Council

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Total Number of BIDs

6

BID Number	Land Use	Approximate Size	Approximate Number of Houses
BID20250211	Housing	1.4 Ha	12
BID20250247	Mixed	3.85 Ha	20
BID20250279	Mixed	2.7 Ha	36
BID20250325	Mixed	6.4 Ha	140
BID20250378	Mixed	1.63 Ha	10
BID20250385	Mixed	2.4 Ha	25



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	<p>The guidance received from the council regarding these proposals (and the call for ideas) is detailed on our website - https://cmmcommunitycouncil.org/2025/12/26/aberdeenshire-local-development-2029-call-for-ideas/</p> <p>Closure date for comments for the “Call of Ideas” is 16th March 2026.</p> <p>The group discussed how much weight would be given to any community input to the LDP process as part of the “Call for Ideas” vs the desires from developers.</p> <p>Noted that the Monymusk proposal and the Sauchen proposals have appeared without any noticeable input from residents (and none of the bids have involved any communication with the CC).</p> <p>Group decided it would be very beneficial to have a representative from Aberdeenshire Council attend the next CC meeting to address our questions on the proposals and the LDP process.</p> <p>That meeting should also have a Q&A session.</p> <p>Secretary to contact Aberdeenshire Council for feasibility for their attendance at next meeting.</p>	<p>Info.</p> <p>Info.</p> <p>Info.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Cluny/Sauchen Issues</p> <p>Noted that flooding of the road and pavement near to the bridge has still to be resolved, as per instructions from roads department the issue has been formally logged on the council’s “Report a problem” site so it can be tracked and added to the queue for repair.</p> <p>https://fix.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/</p>  <p>Noted that further storm damage has occurred in the recycling centre in Sauchen. Request for removal of fallen fencing on the NE side of the site followed through and this fencing has been removed. Houses to NE of site now have no shielding from the activity at the centre (bar a low hedge) but so far no know reported complaints about noise etc.</p> <p>Noted that snow clearance has been thanks to local farmers (much appreciated by community), but some surprise that the bus route through Sauchen has seen no ploughing/gritting from council vehicles.</p>	<p>Info.</p> <p>Info.</p>

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11	<p>Midmar Issues. Noted that many thanks need to be given to the local farmers who have helped clear the roads of snow.</p>	Info.
12	<p>Monymusk Issues Robin Worsman raised question as to how Aberdeenshire Council contract out winter maintenance work to local farmers/contractors. Noted that Monymusk Estate has been instrumental in helping clear the roads in the village and surrounding area – but they are not contracted to do so, so are picking up all the cost for doing so. Research online on the Aberdeenshire Council website gives limited insight into how the tendering process is done, and how people can apply – needs to be a lot more transparency. Cllr Goodhall to try and get some insight. Also noted that there is no guidance online as to how local contractors prioritise routes for clearing – this needs to be addressed. Donview Centre FLS/Community Transfer – project still progressing, albeit slowly. Community body finalising constitution.</p>	<p>Info.</p> <p>Info.</p> <p>Info.</p>
13	<p>Any Other Competent Business (AOCB) None.</p>	Info.
Next meeting date – 7:30pm, Wednesday Feb 11 th 2026, Monymusk Hall		

Chairperson –



Date -

11/2/26