

## Minutes of Quarterly Meeting of Mid Atholl, Strathtay & Grandtully Community Council

Thursday, 27th August at 19:00 held on Zoom

### AGENDA

1. **Welcome:** Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Attendance:** Graham Huggins, Chairman (GH), John Grant, Vice Chairman (JG), Michella Samy, Treasurer (MS); David Mear, Community Councillor (Zoom); Provost Xander McDade, 6 members of the public. **Apologies:** Councillor John Duff.
3. **Minutes of Bi-Monthly Meeting held 28th May 2026:**
4. **Matters Arising:** Nothing to report not mentioned below
5. **Secretaries Report:** Nothing to report not mentioned below
6. **Chairman's Statement:** Chairman noted that the minutes of the last meeting have been published on our website for some time, with no comments. There were no objections. Minutes proposed by MS / seconded by JG.
7. **Business:**
  - a. **Treasurer's report:** Opening balance - £1,358.86. Income was £2500 for micro grants. Expenditure £387.93 (website and hall hire) & £2500 for micro grants. Closing Balance £970.93
  - b. **Micro Grants:** Breathe Youth Project (£500), Strathtay Golf Course (£1000), Grandtully Village Hall (£1000)
  - c. **Planning Matters:**
    - i. Atholl Monument Logierait (JG): Nothing further to report other than a unit has been built, presumably for the power. JG to liaise with Atholl Estates and report back.
    - ii. St Cedds, Ballinluig (JG): A site meeting has been arranged for 1st September with Mark Richardson from Algo. JG to report back. A member of the public reported that they have moved a lot of ground in preparation for the roads and drainage. A single point of contact is required. JG to confirm who best to contact.
    - iii. Lyon Cottage, Strathtay: One comment has been submitted from the G&S Collective. They would like the council to take a very close look at it, because obviously the footprint of it is quite significant relative to the existing cottage.
    - iv. Pitcastle Estate (LDP3): They have submitted two applications; demolition of a barn and a house-build on a greenfield site. The G&S Collective do not feel any major concern or cause to object to both applications. People can view the plans and applications on the PKC website. Regarding LDP3, the G&S Collective will keep checking the application developments and liaise with JG. The chairman did comment on how useful it is having the addition of the G&S Collective in regard to concerns of the local community, and that the community council are happy to lobby on their behalf, where deemed necessary.
  - d. **Resilience Planning:**
    - i. Resilience Agenda (JD): JD to report at the next meeting
    - ii. Flooding update (JD): The equipment for St Cedds has been ordered (via John Duff) and will be stored at a member of the public's house (Kirstene Mc) until PKC can erect a shed. MS also confirmed that the funds had been received into the community council bank account and two payments were transferred to JD to purchase the equipment.

## 8. Any Other Business:

- a. Cemetery Inspections (JD): Xander McDade reported on JD's behalf that PKC had a meeting on 26th August of the Finance and Resources Committee. Testing had been in place since 2019 due to a fatal accident. As a result, statutory regulations were put in place in 2025 for all burial authorities, which local authorities have to adhere to their guidelines. PKC's motion was to recommend changing the process particularly around communications, which have been poor. Now everyone who is the registered owner of a lair (burial plot) at a cemetery that's going to be experiencing the testing will receive a letter in advance. Previously there was just signage erected at the cemetery itself in advance, and then if a headstone was found to be unsafe, would be laid down, for owners to find it in that situation, which was upsetting. PKC have abolished the fee of £59 which was to help cover the cost of the admin involved in transferring the ownership of the lair. This is also in part to encourage people to think ahead and transfer the ownership of the lair, before the owner passes away.
- b. Proposed hospitality charge (JD): Xander McDade reported on JD's behalf that a formal consultation has been launched and ends on 11th November 2026. Everyone is encouraged to engage with the consultation, particularly as hospitality is a significant part of Highland Perthshire economy. Hospitality is probably the most taxed part of the UK economy as it stands, and hospitality in the UK is taxed at higher rates than it is across most of the rest of Europe. That's why holidays here cost so much compared with going abroad, because most of Europe charges somewhere between 5% and 10% for hospitality VAT, and we charge 20%, hence the need for a public consultation and would encourage everyone to respond to that and attend the various walk-ins in the area. More information can be found on the PKC website [here](#).
- c. Etape Update (JD): Nothing to report.
- d. Wildwater Racing event: Junior and Under 23 European Championships in Grandtully, 10th to 16th August 2026 (DM): DM reported that there were approximately 200 competitors over the week of the competition and an expected 400 supporters and visitors. All the meetings with David Campbell were very constructive and helpful. They put a lot of effort in to accommodate our needs and it was managed well. 19 nations took part including home nations. Parking in the field coming into Grandtully was a major advantage, otherwise it would not have worked, but having the cones on the road was an issue as it caused bottlenecks with the bigger vehicles and lorries and something to note for the future. On another note, a slalom event was taking place this weekend (29th August) which as part of the lease, notification should have been given to the community council, which it was not. DM has pointed this out to Roger Holmes at Paddle Scotland to notify us in the future. It clashed with a big wedding that was taking place at the same time, so parking was an issue and again, an influx of more people in the village again.
- e. Water Pressure at Ballinluig: A member of the public asked for the CC's help regarding water valves that go on and off in the street, outside number 21, and one at the bottom of the road to number 13, 14 and 15 (update: 09.09.26 - **and also for Learig**), which are the newest properties. It relates to the A9 dualling and the lorries need water down at the site where they are working. The residents are concerned that the constant use of valves going on and off by the lorries may cause the water pressure to spike. It happens several times a day. Can we enquire if there is another bowser that they can use, or if the constant use may cause issues going forward. John Grant to pursue.

9. **Next Bi-Monthly Meeting on Thursday 26th November 2026, (Virtual).**
10. **Dates of Future quarterly meetings: all meetings will be Thursdays at 19:00:** All meetings going forward will now be on Zoom, except for the AGM:
- a. 27th October 2026 **AGM** (Grandtully)
  - b. 26th November 2026 (Virtual)
  - c. 25th February 2027 (Virtual)
  - d. 27th May 2027 (Virtual)
  - e. 26th August 2027 (Virtual)
  - f. 25th November 2027 (Virtual)

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| <b>SCAN QR CODE FOR THE ZOOM LINK</b> ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ | <b>ZOOM</b><br> | <b>or go to our website below for the link on the day</b> |
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| <b>Please send any comments by email to:</b><br><a href="mailto:mid.atholl@gmail.com">mid.atholl@gmail.com</a> | <b>WEBSITE</b><br> | <b>Please visit our website:</b><br><a href="http://Mid Atholl Community Council – midathollcc.org.uk">Mid Atholl Community Council – midathollcc.org.uk</a> |
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