

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

28th May 2026 at 19:00 held at Grandtully Village Hall and on Zoom

1. **Welcome:**
2. **Attendance/Apologies:** Graham Huggins, Chairman (GH), John Grant, Vice Chairman (JG), Michella Samy, Treasurer (MS); Penny Kennedy, Community Councillor; David Mear, Community Councillor (Zoom); **P&KC:** Councillor John Duff (Cllr.D), 5 members of the public and members from Wills, Transport Scotland and Jacobs; David Campbell (Organiser for Grandtully River Races). There were no apologies.
3. **Minutes of Bi-Monthly Meeting held 23rd February 2026:** Proposed: JG/Seconded: MS
4. **Matters Arising:** Nothing that is not covered in AOB
5. **Secretaries Report:** Nothing that is not covered in AOB
6. **Chairman's Statement:** Trialling a hybrid meeting of in-person and Zoom to see how it works and if so, will roll out for future meetings.
7. **Business:**
 - a. **Treasurer's Report:** Opening balance was £1,358.86; Closing balance £970.93. We received £2,500 from Griffin to cover microgrants which were: Grandtully Village Hall - stretch tent, now in situ in the park for community events (£1,000 granted); Strathtay Golf Course - rewire the club (£1,000 granted); Breathe Youth Project - holiday provision 2026 for young adults and children (£500 granted). Expenditure: £387.93 for website maintenance, hall hire and 50% share of Zoom annual subscription. Proposed JG/Seconded: PK.
 - b. **Micro Grants:** See 7a. Update: No further microgrant funds are available at the moment. Awaiting replenishment from SSE.
 - c. **Planning Matters:**
 - i. **Pitcastle Estate:** Nothing further to report since 13th April. 19th March was the planning assessment. No decisions have been made since. Still waiting for a roads report to be done. An old flood risk report has been published as part of the LDP4 plans which shows it's at risk of flooding. PKC may be reconsidering in light of that. There is a timescale for determining a planning application, but not a strict one. The last date for public comments was 10th April and they will look to get all the consultee information back in and then it will go to the planning committee. They meet on a monthly basis but it could possibly be August at the earliest. Before the planning committee makes a decision, the planning officer will review all the information and make a decision as to whether he recommends approval/rejection. The applicant will then know whether it's going to be approved or rejected. The applicant can then withdraw and bring it back at a later date. The planning committee has 11 councillors. There is an opportunity whether for/against to attend and give a 10min presentation. The Planning Officer then addresses the planning committee and they decide the outcome. They will either accept it as it is, accept it with conditions or reject it completely. The applicant can appeal to the local review body (3 committee members). They will then put forward their own view as to whether it should be accepted or not and then see what happens from there. It can be a lengthy process. 2 months approx after comments and before the planning officer can take it to committee. There were 113 documents, so it will be a while. The Traffic Management Team will review what's suitable. Emergency and primary access will be at the Kindrochet bridge. In the documents, the words say Kindrochet but the map says the Strathtay Road. The revised site plans do not show the Strathtay end. There are a lot of inconsistencies in what is visually shown on maps and what is described in the documents. As the community council, we have put in

comments and that is all we can do at the moment. John Grant is working closely with Grandtully & Strathtay Consortium. The public/consortium can ask for a deputation up to 2 days before the actual planning committee meeting. They get 10 mins and it may be possible to separate the deputation into different categories. We should get more notice that the planning committee is coming but the papers are only 7 days prior and it comes through to everyone at the same time. JD to get an estimated timescale from Joanne Ferguson of which planning committee is likely to deal with this project.

- ii. **Atholl Monument Logierait:** They have started building above the monument for Atholl Estate sheds and there are plans for a bus stop at A827 and mine road.
- iii. **St Cedds, Ballinluig:** All objections were submitted by 27th April and new drawings were released on 26th May which shows a Surface Water Attenuation (a pond). It also mentions the houses are for rent only. It is going to committee on 10th June and will be the same process as Pitcastle Estate (7c above). Funding was received on 28th May from PKC to the Ballinluig Resilience Group of £5462.95. This will be used for items to be made accessible for flooding e.g. a shed and equipment to pump water away from the houses. It has been priced up and can now be ordered and paid for with a report on expenditure to be sent to PKC. Residents are keen to put the shed on St Cedds itself. Totally separate one-off and we do an end of project report to show PKC.

d. **Resilience Planning:**

- i. **Resilience Agenda:** This has been in abeyance, but will be kickstarted again between JD and GH.
- ii. **Flooding update:** There was an issue with heavy rain at St Cedds, but it was established that Algo had driven a vehicle across the field and created two holes in the banking and down into the site, which has now been rectified.
- iii. **Speed limits in Logierait:** Generally, everyone is happy with the speed limit signs. A public member owns the steading near Logierait and welcomes the 30mph speed limit and those who adhere to it, however, there are a lot of commercial vehicles that do not. The stretch of road is straight and they put their foot down. Whilst things have improved there is still a significant problem with people not adhering to it. JD will ask community police to do speed checks. 8-9am and 5-6pm is generally when the speeding occurs and having a clear timeframe will make it easier for police to identify the problem. The question of why there are different speed limits was raised. JD confirmed that the 20mph limit was initially put in place during covid in various areas. However, after covid it was no longer valid, but people had the option to change it. The Logierait stretch was not deemed suitable to keep to the 20mph limit. 30mph was more appropriate. It was suggested that by putting the 20mph back in place, those that do speed would more than likely only go up to 30mph. Enforcement is the issue not the signage.
- iv. A member of the public reported that a tree trunk near logierait had come down some time ago and huge trunks were dumped opposite her house. They need to be removed. Who is the best person to contact? JD confirmed that it belongs to the landowner i.e. Logierait House, therefore they must remove it.

8. **Any Other Business:**

- a. **Hackel Rally 2027:** Classic car rally happening in the area. Details of where they are driving is on our website and the only area affected within our CC boundaries is Logierait/Dunfallandy. The date has changed and is now 14th March 2027.
- b. **Proposed hospitality charge (JD):** PKC are planning to bring a report to the council meeting on 17th June to consult on the visitor levy scheme for PKC. The Scottish

Government capitulated to it being a percentage fee and it will now be a fixed cost. They will bring forward a scheme for a 3-month consultation. If approved and goes out to consultation, PKC will decide if they want to implement it or not. If introduced it needs 18 months lead time for businesses to prepare. PKC were considering excluding residents from being accommodation led. Statutory exemptions - disabled. If you are a PKC resident you shouldn't pay the levy if you stay in accommodation. Legislation is you pay the levy and then get it back. The levy will depend on the rate, how many nights of a stay included, whether it covers the whole of PKC or a certain area. There will be VAT on the levy - i.e. £3 + 60p VAT. The VAT will contribute to the hospitality VAT threshold. It could push businesses over the VAT threshold. Complication is between HMRC and the Scottish Government. If it goes to consultation, then the community council can get involved. There was significant opposition from residents, visitors and businesses. By having a fixed rate, it makes it easier, but there is no automation, making it a huge administrative overhead for smaller businesses.

- c. **Etape Update (JD):** It was reported that an emergency ambulance was not allowed through, for which JD is making enquiries, other than that no other complaints apart from signage issues.
- d. **Wildwater Racing Event:** Junior and Under 23 European Championships in Grandtully, 12th to 16th August 2026 (DM). Davie Campbell, Wildwater Race Event Lead reported that everything is progressing as discussed. Car parking was an issue and agreement was made with Shona Calder to rent the field directly opposite the get out. All parking will be there. The gate will be upgraded, and they can use the exit at the back of the field as well. PKC met with them and they are broadly supportive of the plans. Discussed the 20mph limit through the village and temporary parking restrictions on the main road through the village from the Monday through to Saturday. They don't have final numbers as the deadline for entries is 29th June.
- e. **Resignation:** Penny Kennedy. PK is moving away from the area and therefore has resigned. PK was thanked for her service. Graham Huggins and Michella Samy - confirmed they will not be standing at the next election which is 2 years from now and if nobody wants to stand, the council will fold.
- f. **Approval of the Grandtully & Strathtay Planning, Conservation and Biodiversity Sub-Group:** Officially approved by the community council and agreed unanimously.
- g. **Construction A9 from Ballinluig to Jubilee Bridge:** Members from Wills Bros Group, Transport Scotland and Jacobs attended the meeting and reported on its progress. A summary of what was reported at the CC meeting is available on our website, but progress is going well with the works. The main focus point is to get the interim roundabout constructed which is estimated to be December/January. It will make the turning of construction vehicles a lot easier and help local networks. The compound is fully established. Also focussing on getting the bridge at Kindalachan started which will roughly take a year to build. It will then switch existing traffic onto the new build and then they will build that area. A member of the public noted the environmental devastation and what is going to be done to the biodiversity and areas that have been felled. The trees needed to be felled in order to enable the footprint of the new road, but new planting will take place. There is a compensatory programme to replace trees that have been felled in place. Questions were raised regarding tunnels (DMU's) or culverts for mammals and cavities for Daubenton bats. The Ecology Department is constantly doing bat surveys and will address any issues concerning local wildlife. A direct contact was given for the public to speak to the A9 Construction team members directly. The question of overnight closures was raised and how best to keep updated. Information is available on the Transport Scotland A9 Duelling website [here](#) including all travel bulletins. Traffic Scotland also has updates and they are working on a plan to give

as much notice as possible. Please refer to their website [here](#). Standard delay time would be under 15 mins for any set of traffic lights. We were informed that the whole of the Rotmell Junction will be closed on 15th June before the A9 is done. Completion date for that section will be September 2027. The entire project 2028/29.

9. **Next Bi-Monthly Meeting on Tuesday 18th August 2026 2026, Ballinluig Hall (may be subject to change)**
10. **Dates of Future quarterly meetings: all meetings will be Thursdays at 19:00:**
 - a. 18th August 2026 (Ballinluig Hall)
 - b. 26th November 2026 (Virtual) (subject to change)
 - c. 25th February 2027 (Virtual) (subject to change)

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Please send any comments by email to: mid.atholl@gmail.com	WEBSITE 	Please visit our website: Mid Atholl Community Council – midathollcc.org.uk
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