



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 29th May 2025

1. Sederunt: Wanda Clark (Chair), Adam Csenki (ACS), John Butcher (JBT), Fiona Wilkes, Pat Mackay, John Clark, Malcolm Brown, Pat Bray (PBR), John Bray, Elaine Stockdale, Janice Craib, Jack Wood, Peter Goodwin (PG), Fraser Cameron (FC), Bethany Cameron, Rhiannan Grant, Jennifer Middlecote, Catherine Main, Cllr Neil Cameron (NC), Cllr James Allan (JAL), Mandy Butcher (MBT), Norma McPherson, Maggie Taylor, S More, Malcolm Brown (MB)
2. Apologies: Pedro Abreu, Dennis Slater, Jim McPherson, John Tulloch, Leslie McPherson, Ellen Stewart, James Ferguson, Wilma Ferguson, Cllr John Cowe, Cllr Bridget Mustard, Carol Wood, Zander Craib, Ian Matthieson, Kate Matthieson

3. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting

The minutes of April's meeting were accepted after PBR proposed and MBT seconded.

4. Correspondence

Following an email from a concerned resident asking if the boats dredging and dumping material off Cummingston had a licence and were far enough out, it was confirmed that this was work at Ardersier port and all licences were issued by SEPA and there was nothing amiss.

5. Matters Arising from previous minutes

- a. Malcolm Brown - Sauna proposal



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 29th May 2025

Malcolm Brown, former resident of the village made his introductions and pitched setting up a mobile sauna at the picnic area at the second car park at East Beach. Questions from the floor included concerns about taking up parking spaces (it would be sited on

the grass and removed after use) and encouraging more people down to the beach area (there would be a discount scheme offered to folk who visit the sauna on foot or by bike). The committee accepted progressing a trial at that location and seeing how everything goes.

ACTION: Trustees to progress with MB.

b. Fraser Cameron (attending) - Report from event

Fraser Cameron, former resident of the village and owner of DJ Camo Inflatables made his introductions and gave feedback about the event on 17th May, including the fact that 245 children were in attendance, there was one incident which was dealt with by first aiders and that feedback had been overwhelmingly positive. PG was thanked for his support in getting the Safety Plan for the event written.

After congratulating him on a successful event which benefited our community, FC was reminded of his outstanding debt, having missed the deadline of 24th May. FC gave assurances that the payment was scheduled for 4th June and included a rounding up donation.

FC requested the use of Heras fencing for events outwith the village, and floated the possibility of doing a two day event on 21st and 22nd June.

ACTION: Trustees to discuss with the Gala committee and work out a general equipment policy, also to consider further dates for FC's business only after debt has been paid.

c. Campervans in Hopeman



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 29th May 2025

After a discussion about whether to encourage / discourage / or take no action on campervans using the East Beach car park, the committee agreed the following:

- It is not in HCA's interest or remit, bearing in mind proposed facilities in Lossiemouth and Burghead, indeed, Hopeman's own local business (West Beach Caravan Park) to encourage campervan parking at any East Beach car park.
- However, asking for donations for parking seems to work in other community-run car parks and, as HCA funds are currently low, it might be worth getting a 'donations' box and QR code system to place at the car park and raise some money.

ACTION: JBT to get quotes for a box, volunteers will need to be sought to empty the box, JMC to help with setting up a QR code for donations.

d. Speed warning sign invoice

JBT appealed to the councillors to get the VAT removed from the invoice for the speed warning sign.

ACTION: NC to look into this.

e. Twenty's Plenty signs

JBT informed the committee that one quote was in, just waiting on another. The committee agreed that nine signs in total (three of each design) should be purchased.

ACTION: JBT to continue with this.

f. Youth Space

WCL reported that, after making contact with Hopeman Sands, it is planned to have a weekly or fortnightly youth space there in the Autumn. HCA would like to support this



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 29th May 2025

and so WCL has started to apply for grants. It was also noted that Hopeman Primary School had reaffirmed their intention of always working together with HCA and that there is a plan to have a pupil / young residents' voice of HCA through the school in the new year.

6. New items for discussion

a. Beach Hut Rents

After a lively discussion about the beach huts, including the points that:

- HCA would like to see movement in ownership of hutties; in particular, more stances coming back into local ownership,
- The waiting list has been closed and not published for a significant period of time, making it difficult for residents to understand the exact process, generating ill-feeling about this topic in general,
- The HCA funds being low, any schemes to maximise revenue must be looked at,

the committee passed the following proposals:

- a) Rents for non-Hopeman residents (last year at £103.65 per annum) will face a rise of 250%, taking them into the region of £257 per annum for the next billing period,
- b) The waiting list will be reopened and new names can be added from residents,
- c) The waiting list will be published in the Memorial Hall and updated as needed, as is the case with the marina berths at the Harbour.

It was confirmed that the Hopeman rate at the previous billing period was £56.53 and this would only incur a rise with inflation, as is in the lease agreement. Some felt this local rate was too low but no action was taken in this meeting.



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 29th May 2025

For adding new names, there will be a ballot system for the initial period when the list is opened to try to ensure fairness.

b. Fundraising - ceilidh

ACS volunteered to get his band (The Boatshed Band) to come and play for a fundraising ceilidh, depending on finding a suitable date. It is hoped that this would happen at the end of the summer.

7. External Reports

a. Councillors' Report

NC updated the committee with information about the Library Users' Group and the banking hub which has opened in Lossie. Thanks was given to Moray Council for the Bus 333 which provides (finally!) a link between Hopeman and Lossiemouth. Residents are encouraged to use it or lose it.

After a question about the dredging plan for the harbour, JAL said he would look into it.

b. Planning Applications

None relevant

8. Sub Committee Reports (by exception)

• Memorial Hall

Report from JBR: Thanks to all who organised and ran the VE day coffee morning. Thanks to all who sponsored JBR's cycle from Land's End to John o' Groats. The lights have been replaced at the back of the stage. A ladder has been damaged and so a new one is needed.



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 29th May 2025

Regarding the roof repairs: there has been one quote in from Aberdeen at £18,000 + VAT which would not be for all of the work needed. JBR outlined how difficult it has been to convince any company to come and have a look, let alone agree to do the work. However, there is the urgent need to complete the most important safety work, if not, then Hall must close for winter, which would be disastrous for many groups and the finances for the HCA in general.

- Playing Field & Beach, Pavilion Sports Hub,

It was reported that a new fire panel has gone into the pavilion.

- Gala

JMC gave the report, stating that:

- The Committee hosted a very successful Gala Royalty event. A Gala Queen (Alexis) and 2 Princesses (Ava and Grace) were selected. All were delighted. Thank you to Nici for organising this event.
- Following community feedback, the Committee has agreed to start the Car Treasure Hunt from the School to ease congestion at the event.
- QR codes will be used, as well as buckets this year to collect donations.
 - SOS Group, Kirk Group

JCR reported that she attended a meeting which confirmed that there was no date to close the Kirk yet. Services continue at once every 3 weeks.

9. Finance

JBT gave the report, attached as a separate document. He also informed the committee that the electric meter in the ice house is an old meter and has to be replaced.

ACTION: JBT to sort.



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Thursday 29th May 2025

10. Any Other Business

- A noticeboard will be purchased for inside the Hall
- The committee would like to keep ownership of the phone box on Harbour St, ACS to follow up.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for Thursday 26th June 2025, 7pm in the Hall