PORT OF MENTEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the general meeting of the Port of Menteith Community Council

At 7.00pm in the Port Hall on Monday 16th February 2026

Approved Minutes

1. Members Present and Apologies for Absence

Jim Riach (Chair) (remote)
Peter Stewart (Vice Chair)
Becky Saunders(Secretary).
Martin Stewart (Treasurer).
Robin Armstrong (CC Member)
Alastair Orr-Ewing (CC Member) apologies

Jane Baron – Resident
Kenny Higgins - Resident

2. **Declarations of Interest in the Items of Business**
None given

3. **Adoption of the Draft Minutes of the OGM held on 8th December 2025**
Minutes of the meeting held in December 2025 were adopted. Proposed by Peter Stewart and seconded by Jim Riach

4. **Correspondence –**

4a **Flooding Consultation**
BS has contacted residents and sent out links for residents to have a say on localised flooding. JR has shared on Port Life also.

4b **Litter Picking**
Correspondence from Gene Maxwell was received regarding HWRC offering licences for Community Groups to dispose of waste collected from community litter picks. The contact is BSTPolmaise@Stirling.gov.uk BS asked if the CC want to peruse a community wide litter pick, it was agreed to do informally. Jane Baron asked about the hall bins not being emptied. **Action: BS to contact KH re who is responsible.**

4c **Cardross Bridge Weight Limit** – see point 7.3
Following correspondence from bridge engineer he confirmed that the weight limit has been raised to 10t, but with limited signage. New signage should be completed this week. Currently there is a temporary suspension of weight restriction available from BS.

4d **Roads and Various** – see point 7.2
Correspondence was received from resident Kenny Higgins with safety concerns regarding roads/pavements/bus stop and 20mph zone. 40 mile painted road signage needs to be removed. **MS** informed that the road will become a 20 mile zone shortly and it was hoped that the signage would be dealt with at that time. KH reported that there have been a number of incidents on the road. **PS** mentioned the CC had worked hard to have the island installed. **JR** said that

the physical road calming was more beneficial than just signage. **KH** mentioned that the signage was causing a 'blind spot' for drivers. It was agreed to wait for the 20mph signage first and then proceed from there. **BS** to submit a request about how to get flashing signage. **KH** has reported an issue with localised flooding from water running from behind the school. This flooding has impacted the septic tank of both the school and residents; this is being investigated currently by Stirling Council. **BS** has noted and will feedback views.

4e **Footpaths and B8034** – Sheena MCC – see point 7.1
Correspondence was received on 19th Dec re-closure of the B8034 with little notice and the impact on events and ceremonies planned at the Port Kirk. BS had multiple correspondence with Martin Earl about different approaches all of which would have extended the works further. On assurance that the workers would be as accommodating as possible, works have started and seem to be progressing. **RA** had spoken with workers and they have been very cooperative and accommodating for the community.

5. Ongoing Matters

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5.1 McLaren Community Futures - JR

JR recapped that this was a project focusing on climate change and bringing wider communities together in an attempt to promote local solutions. An action plan is being formalised, and the next meeting of the group is tomorrow. **JR** will be able to give more details at the next meeting. The group currently meets monthly. **JR** can provide details if anyone else wants to attend. Each meeting has a different theme to raise issues in the communities involved.

6. Local Place Plan and Community Action Plan MS & JR

MS informed that the PP was registered today 16th February 2026 with Stirling Council and had previously be registered with the National Park(NP). **MS** has also contacted the NP about whether an application was needed for the hub at the Hall for motorhomes. **JR** has details he can share with **MS** to the effect that if less than 5 campervans then no planning permission is needed. Now that the LPP has been registered, the Community Action Plan is the document that needs to be reflected and acted upon. **JR** informed that the CC had received correspondence from the new CEO of Stirling Council who would attend the next meeting. **JR** suggested there was a pre-meeting to discuss the LPP/CAP and how this should be presented to the CEO. It was suggested this be an online meeting 30th March 7pm Google Meet was agreed. **MS** discussed land purchase/rental/usage within the community, **JR** said you needed to be an incorporated body or charity in order to progress with land purchases and that the hall's new body would be a SCIO. **Action: BS**

7. **Roads and Other Issues**

PS asked if the CC could ask the Council for a report about the bridge at Ruskie as the bridge appears to be in poor repair. The impact of it being closed would be quite large for the community. **JR** suggested contacting Maria Lucey and ME **Action: BS**

7.1 Footways

See correspondence section 4e

BS reported the CC had received comments regarding the fact that the path would not be joining up to the bus stop or the cemetery. Agreement was reached that the path would continue to the cemetery but in order to link to the bus stop on the A81 a second application was needed. **PS** said the tree stump by the bus stop needed attention was the Council's responsibility. **KH** asked if there were plans for the footpath placement. BS explained it would be going in on the side of the field, **BS** had google maps images that had been annotated she could share. **PS** asked if the Council were undertaking the works themselves or sub-contracting the work. **MS** said it appeared to be Stirling Council.

7.2 Island, Road Markings, Bus Stop and Flooding (KH Correspondence)

See correspondence section 4d

KH mentioned the need for a Bus Stop on both sides of the main street. **RA** stated there needed to be some type of bus stop signage. A discussion continued as there had been a number of incidents on this part of the road but unfortunately issues had not been reported. It was agreed that it would be best to take a staged approach, so allow the new speed limit to be implemented and signage installed and review later.

7.3. Weight Limit Signage Cardross Bridge 20

See correspondence 4c

Following a concern raised at the last CC meeting about potential blind spot on the bridge**, MS** informed that the forward visibility at the bridge meets the requirements for two cars to be able to stop if required.

8. **Financial – Statement of accounts – Martin Stewart (Treasurer)**

MS reported that £1049.56 in the bank. **MS** asked about website hosting, **BS** said it was bi-annual cost. **MS** discussed other expenses including; Public Liability Insurance £32. The hall meeting costs £180. **MS** mentioned payment for the minute taking it was agreed at £40 for OGM and slightly higher £60 for AGM. This still leaves monies available.

8.1 Payment for use of Hall

MS spoke that the payments to the hall hadn't been made to date due to administrative issues. It was agreed that a payment would be made to the village hall account of £180, representing 6 meetings at £30 per meeting.

9. Reports

9.1 Councillors Report
No councillor was present and no report had been received.

9.2 Port Hall &/or Combined Committees Report - JR
No report has been received but **MS** attended the Hall AGM and reported the main focus was the Hall becoming a charitable trust. **BS** also informed that she had sent some details to the Hall Committee about retrofitting solar panels and this had been passed to Lyndsay Neill on the Hall Committee.

9.3 School &/or Combined Committees Report – Natalie Bain
The parent council are having a quieter term following a busy end of 2025. We had successful fundraising especially with the fisheries event and the winter fayre. The winter fayre was generously supported by the community and the church that served the teas.

This term we are looking to fund a whole school trip to Edinburgh, outdoor activities for the upper class and paying for PVG's for our parent volunteers.

BS asked whether we should pursue the idea last year of a combined meeting with the school and village hall, maybe every second meeting. The June meeting was suggested. **Action: BS**

9.4 Carse of Stirling Project Group Report – Jim Riach
JR said the group were making good progress and information was available on Port Life and Social media.

9.5 Strathard & Trossachs Visitors Mgmt – Jim Riach
JR informed that there hadn't been any specific meetings, but the NP newsletter contains information regarding visitor management. A meeting is due to take place regarding camping management bylaws; there is a meeting on 25th February and **JR** can send a link around. **BS** mentioned ongoing discussion regarding Kate's Brae, NP say that signage is in the offing. Although there had been discussion about creating a more defined boundary for the parking space at Kate's Brae nothing has been forthcoming as to when this will happen. Welcome to the NP signage for the A81 is also in print.

9.6 Port Church & Cemetery – Robin Armstrong
RA informed that there wasn't much to report currently, but talks are in place for some more engagement events with the Church and School.
RA raised the issue with the Cemetery pathway stopping just before the Cemetery and the potential to convert land just past the gateway to allow additional parking for people attending the cemetery. **BS** informed that pathways and parking are separate departments. **BS** reported that when the Council had been contacted regarding this being an extension of the existing works the response had been no due to the funding comes from a different pot.

In other Port news, BS informed the CC that Joshua Ford (Manager of The Lake Hotel) is leaving at the end of February. The CC commented this was a shame has he had done so much to build links with community since his arrival and a desire for this to continue with the new appointment. Thanks from the CC was passed to Josh.

9.7 NPA Report & Entry Sign Progress
Entry sign is being made, nothing more to report.

9.8 Police Report
Reporting Period: 06/12/25 to 13/02/26 Compiled by PC Donald King

Antisocial Behaviour
You are concerned about antisocial behaviour including drunken behaviour.
No reported incidents during this period

Road Safety
You are concerned about speeding, dangerous driving and indiscriminate parking.
There have been no reports of this nature during this time

Theft
You are concerned about homes being broken into and travelling criminals.
There have been no reports of this nature during this time

Community Engagement and Reassurance
It is important to you to have community officers who you know, who are accessible and who address local problems.

Should anyone have any Policing issues or concerns that they wish to discuss, we can be contacted via email at StirlingCommunityPolice@scotland.police.uk

9.9 Forestry and Land Scotland – Julie McAlpine
BS has shared the report which identifies all the current active areas within the community and wider area.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 Brian Roberts from Stirling Council attending next OGM meeting

10.2. Follow up from last meeting on issue raised about streetlights. **PS** informed that lighting had been erected on A81 near bungalows, but no lighting in operation
Action: BS to contact ME

Date of Next Scheduled Meeting AGM 7.00pm & OGM 7.30pm
Monday 20th April 2026

7.00pm Port of Menteith Village Hall

Appendix 1: Meeting Dates

Name of Community Council: PORT OF MENTEITH

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2026

	Date	Time	Venue/Platform
January			
February	16th	7	Port of Menteith Village Hall
March			
April	20th	7 +AGM	Port of Menteith Village Hall
May			
June	15th	7	Port of Menteith Village Hall
July			
August	17th	7	Port of Menteith Village Hall
September			
October	19th	7	Port of Menteith Village Hall
November			
December	7th	7	Port of Menteith Village Hall