

Dores and Essich Community Council

Public Summary of the Community Council Meeting

Held at Dores Parish Hall on Monday 19 May 2025

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Seven members were present. No apologies were received.
- Minutes from the previous meeting (24 March 2025) were approved.

KEY UPDATES

- The proposed Statkraft pumped storage scheme was discussed. Reference was made to community benefit comparisons with other projects. Members agreed it would be opportune to revisit the current offer and to approach the developer.
- Cemetery extension roadworks are scheduled to begin on 5 June 2025. Tree clearance was to be completed on 20 May. Road construction is expected to take approximately 13 weeks. The cemetery extension works are expected to follow completion of the road.
- Affordable housing development plans (currently in for planning) include traffic calming features such as raised tables and pavement widening on the B862. Concerns were raised regarding planning gain contributions to be allocated to Hilton Community Centre. The CC will seek clarification from Highland Council.
- The CC is awaiting updates on the SSEN Beaulay to Peterhead HV transmission route, currently proposed to cross Scaniport south of Cullaird. A special general meeting will be convened once the application details are available.
- The community library project is nearing completion. A new noticeboard is in place, a book exchange system has been launched, and additional shelving and a children's section are being finalised.

OTHER MATTERS

- Community members raised concerns regarding campervan use, verge damage, and misuse of toilet areas. Signage and low-post barriers are being considered, along with additional public bins.
- The impact of large coach arrivals was noted, especially with congestion and queues for public toilets. Cruise operator schedules will be reviewed and contact established for coordination.
- Rubbish overflow remains a concern. Two 240-litre bins are proposed for key locations near the Inn.

Discussions with the council are ongoing regarding collection responsibilities.

NEXT MEETING - Monday 28 July 2025 at 7:00 PM (followed by AGM at 9:00 PM)