

**Minutes of the meeting of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust held at
The Wildside Centre, Whitebridge and via MS Teams.**

Wednesday 5 November 2025 at 19:00

Present	Peter Faye (PF); Maire Brown (MB); Lewis Fraser (LF); Chris Gehrke (CG); Craig Lightbody (CL); Stewart MacPherson (SM); Mark Sutherland (MS)
Apologies	Michael White (MW)
Non-attendance	Susan Greer (SG)
Chair	Peter Faye (PF)
In attendance	Jewels Lang (JL) - SFCT CEO; Kirsteen Campbell (KC) - SFCT Administration and HR Officer; Robert Butcher (RB) - Perspective Financial Management.
Minutes	Kirsteen Campbell (KC)
Declarations of interest	None

INTRODUCTION

PF welcomed the Board and Staff members to the meeting which commenced at 19.05. PF introduced Robert Butcher (RB) from Perspective Financial Management (formerly Clarendon) who was in attendance to deliver his report on the SFCT investment portfolio.

PERSPECTIVE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT UPDATE

RB provided an overview of the SFCT investment portfolio, noting that it has been a positive year. SFCT currently pays £12,645.00 every month.

Following a discussion on the Board's risk preference and future investment strategy, RB agreed to outline a number of options aimed generally at maintaining or lowering the overall risk profile. These will be included within RB's proposal, which, once received, will be discussed at a future Board meeting where a decision will be made.

MB joined the meeting at 19:20

MINUTES

CG **PROPOSED** and MB **SECONDED** the Minutes from the Board meeting held on 1 October 2025 and these were **AGREED** by all Board members present as a correct record and were **APPROVED** by the Chair.

ACTIONS

PF and JL went through the SFCT Action List, and all items from previous minutes that remain open were discussed and updates provided. The following actions were marked as completed and are now closed:

- JL to write to the the IRG Chair in relation to the vehicles stored at the Corkscrew compound site.
- JL to investigate into the current heating system at Errogie Church.
- JL to identify if there is any fuel remaining in the heater stored at Errogie Church, and if so, to arrange safe drainage.
- JL to find out THC Compliance Officer details and JL to write to them in relation to the information requested on the PEL form.

As per the Minutes from 3 September 2025, it was noted that the meeting to be scheduled between SFCT Directors; BCC Directors; Foyers Stores Steering Group; and Carol Masheter, SSE, in relation to the purchase of Foyers Stores and Cafe had not yet taken place.

The Board members present **AGREED** that given the time constraints at SFCT Board meetings, an additional Board meeting would be held to discuss the possible purchase of the shop prior to any decision on a potential funding application being made.

FINANCE REPORT

LF went through the Finance papers that had been prepared by Fiona Mustarde (FM), SFCT Finance Officer. Budgets are generally on track and in accord with plans.

LF **PROPOSED** and PF **SECONDED** the cashflow, and this was **APPROVED** by all Board members present.

AOCB

SFCT Strategy Group (SSG)

LF gave an overview of the previous meeting held on 29 October 2025 with JL which focused on developing a strategic five-year plan. Further updates will be provided following the next SSG meeting.

Errogie Church

JL provided an update on the work required to the mezzanine floor, which includes repairs to the balustrades and handrail adjacent the access stairs. These are to be assessed by the SFCT Facilities Officer, who, if possible, will make the repairs. If not, the contractor undertaking the works at the church

will be asked to undertake the repairs. Architects are instructed to make the necessary Building Warrant application.

Fireworks

JL noted the level of staff input into organising the Fireworks event and future SFCT involvement is to be discussed at a later date.

Foyers Primary School

JL updated the Board informing them that the relevant Health and Safety checks are currently in hand and will be complete shortly.

Wildside Tool shed

JL gave an overview of this proposed community facility where a range of tools would be available for hire. These would be stored at the Wildside Centre and organised by the SFCT Facilities Officer. An assessment of need is currently being undertaken, and a decision will be made in due course. Consideration must be given to the relevant Health and Safety legislation, training and any insurance requirements.

Staffing

The Board members present **AGREED** to award the staff a contribution to their Christmas end of year dinner as a thank you for their hard work throughout the year.

Large Group Grant Guidelines

The Board members present **AGREED** to amend the current two-stage application process for Large Group Grants to a one-stage application only.

Action: KC to update the current large grant guidelines and application form.

Sporting and Excellence Grant

A Sporting and Excellence Grant application was received out with the usual grant cycle by Alex Sutherland who is participating at the British and Irish Masters Cross Country International running event to be held in Leeds on 15 November 2025. This grant was **APPROVED** by a majority of Directors via email on 20 October 2025 and an award of £189.00 was **AGREED**.

CL **PROPOSED** and CG **SECONDED** the grant award of £189.00 and this was ratified and **APPROVED** by all Board members present.

Community Liaison Director

A meeting to arrange the terms of reference for the role of CLD has been organised for the 18 November between PF; Alice Duthuille from Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS); Mark Hindley (MH), Chair – Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council Chair (SFCC); and Helen Grainer (HG) Vice Chair – SFCC.

CL to circulate his report from the previous SFCC meeting in due course.

Events

Pie, Pint and a Song – PF reminded the Board that this event is taking place on Friday 14 November with tickets on sale for £5.00 per person.

Christmas activities – PF went over the activities planned for the Saturday 20 December, and encouraged Directors to volunteer to assist on the day. Community volunteers will also be approached to assist with preparations. Planning is underway and the community will be notified of all events taking place in due course.

Firewood

SFCT have very kindly been offered fallen trees by a local resident that could be distributed to the community as firewood. The Board discussed how the wood could be processed and JL is to contact KW Firewood, who was previously employed by SFCT to process wood, to find out what their capabilities are and the costs involved.

Action: JL to speak to KW Firewood regarding the processing of fallen trees and the costs involved.

Membership

The Board welcomed three new Ordinary Members.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

SFCT AGM – Wednesday 26 November 2025

SFCT Board Meeting – Wednesday 3 December 2025

The meeting closed at 21:50