

**Rural Community Led Local Development (RCLLD) Fund
Local Action Group (LAG) Meeting
Conference Video Call via Microsoft Teams
Tuesday 30th September 2025 1pm**

Present:

Amanda Roe	Aberdeenshire Council	(Public) (Vice Chair)
Keith Anderson	Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action	(Private)
Duncan Leece	Banffshire Partnership	(Private)
Derek Jennings	Buchan Development Partnership	(Private)
Gina Ford	Fintray Community Council	(Private)
John Loder	Formartine Partnership	(Private) (Chair)
Henning Wagner	Kincardine Development Partnership	(Private)
Gerald Banks	National Farmers' Union Scotland	(Private)
Lorna Paterson	National Farmers' Union Scotland	(Private)
Dawn Tuckwood	NHS Grampian	(Public)
Jenny Meredith	North East Scotland College	(Private)
Gordon Drummond	Scottish Land & Estates	(Private)

Officers in Attendance:

Moira Beverley	Investments and Projects Executive
Martin Brebner	Team Manager
Catriona Nicolson	Investments and Projects Officer

Apologies:

Aileen Longino	Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action	(Private)
Mike Duncan	Federation of Small Businesses	(Private)
David Hekelaar	Formartine Community Councils	(Private)
Bill Slee	Marr Area Partnership	(Private)
David Jackson	Visit Scotland	(Public)

1 Welcome & Apologies

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed those present and apologies were noted as above.
- 1.2 The following new members were welcomed to the LAG: Derek Jennings (Buchan Development Partnership), Jenny Meredith (North East Scotland College), Gordon Drummond (Scottish Land & Estates) and Henning Wagner (Kincardine Development Partnership).

2 Declarations of Interest (DOI)

- 2.1 Duncan Leece made a DOI for application CLLD-CAP-10 The Banffshire Partnership Dial-A-Bus.
- 2.2 Duncan Leece will leave the meeting during discussions and not take part in discussions or voting on this applications.
- 2.3 Gerald Banks made a DOI for two applications CLLD-CAP-27 Strichen Community Park Lodge improvements and CLLD-CAP-40 Strichen Town House Upper Hall Floor, Wash room and Tower Stairs.
- 2.4 Gerald Banks will leave the meeting during discussions and not take part in discussions or voting on these applications.

3 Minute of LAG Meeting (3rd June 2025)

- 3.1 The minute was approved by the LAG. This was proposed by Gerald Banks and seconded by Duncan Leece.

4 Minute of PAC meeting (9th and 15th September 2025)

- 4.1 The minute was approved by the LAG. This was proposed by Gerald Banks and seconded by Jenny Meredith.

5 Paper 1 – Outstanding Items from previous minutes

- 5.1 Moira Beverley reported back to the LAG. Items 1 and 2 are complete. Item 3 on selecting Vice Chairs will be addressed during this meeting. Item 4 on a potential website for LAGs will be discussed at the workshop in November and will be discussed at December's LAG meeting.
- 5.2 Jenny Meredith suggested that HND students, through North East Scotland College (NESCol) could possibly look at developing a website as part of their curriculum. The production of a video to promote the LAG was put forward

6 Paper 2 – Governance Election of Vice Chair

- 6.1 Amanda Roe fills the first position as Vice Chair. One Vice Chair position is currently vacant. 1 nomination has been received for David Hekelaar.

6.2 The LAG will delay voting in a second Vice Chair until December's meeting, to allow new members in particular to consider putting forward nominations.

7 Paper 3 – Capital & Revenue Grant Funding Applications

7.1 Moira Beverley or Martin Brebner will investigate converting revenue funds into capital funds and the parameters around this.

7.2 The following changes have been noted since Paper 3 was written as follows: CLLD-REV-26 New Aberdour Church Building Purchase - Feasibility Study and CLLD-CAP-24 Beannachar Garden Expansion have been withdrawn. There are therefore 17 capital and 2 revenue projects under review today. The capital fund is oversubscribed at £597k with a budget of £517K and the revenue fund is undersubscribed at £35K with a budget of £130K.

7.3 CLLD-CAP-11 Completion of a New Timber Framed Community Building

7.3.1 The eligible grant is restricted slightly due to a more expensive timber being selected by the applicant.

7.3.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.4 CLLD-CAP-27 Strichen Community Park Lodge improvements

7.4.1 Gerald Banks made a DOI for this application and left the meeting.

7.4.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
11	0	0	0	1

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.4.3 Gerald Banks joined the meeting.

7.5 CLLD-CAP-03 Extending the Finzean Community Path Network

7.5.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.6 CLLD-CAP-10 The Banffshire Partnership Dial-A-Bus

7.6.1 Duncan Leece made a DOI for this application and left the meeting.

7.6.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
11	0	0	0	1

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.6.3 Duncan Leece rejoined the meeting.

7.7 CLLD-CAP-56 Fraserburgh South Links - Pavilion Changing Room 1/Referee room

7.7.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.8 CLLD-CAP-46 Replacement wheelchair accessible minibus

7.8.1 The eligible costs are to be restricted to the lowest quote.

7.8.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

7.8.3 The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.9 CLLD-CAP-35 Fly Cup Enterprises - Kitchen Upgrade

7.9.1 The organisation offers a wide range of training and development opportunities.

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.10 CLLD-CAP-04 Banff Castle Catering Facilities Upgrade

7.10.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.11 CLLD-CAP-40 Strichen Town House Upper Hall Floor, Washroom and Tower Stairs

7.11.1 Gerald Banks made a DOI for this application and left the meeting.

7.11.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
11	0	0	0	1

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.11.3 Gerald Banks rejoined the meeting.

7.12 CLLD-CAP-42 Tarland Community Garden Replacement Resilient Raised Beds

7.12.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.13 CLLD-CAP-25 Number 30, The Square

7.13.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.14 CLLD-CAP-01 Garioch Sports Community Space & Changing Rooms Project

7.14.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.15 CLLD-CAP-07 MERCHAT: Installation of sea defences to protect coastal trail & public compost toilet and car park at Tangleha.

7.15.1 Concern was raised on the unpredictable nature of the elements that the rock armour would be susceptible to and the risk this presents. The ownership of the land was felt to be unclear. Moira Beverley will clarify on ownership of the land. The LAG agreed with the comments made at the PAC meeting.

7.15.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
0	12	0	0	0

The LAG voted to reject the application.

7.16 CLLD-CAP-43 Turriff Caravan Park Site Upgrades

7.16.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project

7.17 CLLD-CAP-08 Construction of a new Community Exercise Hub

7.17.1 The application looks to create an additional space to the existing building(s).

7.17.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.18 CLLD-CAP-13 Heat from Waste

7.18.1 The training and skills development the application would feed into will address a deficit within the Banff and Buchan and Buchan areas. The organisation is looking to address the issue of waste through recycling.

7.18.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project

7.19 CLLD-12 Milling Matters”: Developing Local Supply Chains for the Birse Community Trust

7.19.1 The eligible application costs have been restricted to the lowest quote. A second application was submitted for revenue costs but is not under consideration today for eligibility reasons. In general the LAG supported the principle behind the application but agreed that the capital project could not proceed without the revenue element. A revised application could be considered in future.

7.19.2

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
0	12	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to reject the application.

7.20 CLLD-REV-21 Greener Kemnay

7.20.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

7.21 CLLD-REV-45 Lumphanan to Torphins Path Design Completion

7.21.1

Approve	Reject	Defer	Abstain	DOI
12	0	0	0	0

The LAG voted unanimously to approve the project.

8 AOCB

- 8.1 Moira Beverley and / or Martin Brebner will investigate the suggestion ways of potential budget spend. Suitable suggestions included a youth LAG, looking at and targeting areas / communities where capacity is low and apparent high demand revenue funding with a low uptake. They will report back to the LAG in due course.
- 8.2 Moira Beverley and / or Martin Brebner will investigate potential use of the capital underspend
- 8.3 A partnership review report is to go before Infrastructure Services Committee (ISC) soon, requesting ratification for the next two years, with the LAG and that Aberdeenshire Council will act as the accountable body.

9 Date of Next Meeting

- 9.1 The next meeting is the full LAG meeting scheduled for Tuesday 16th December 2025.

Minute Taker

Catriona Nicolson