

# FIX ABOYNE BRIDGE CAMPAIGN

## NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 – February 2026

### RECENT SUCCESS

Dramatic increase in membership to 1.1k

1<sup>st</sup> Public meeting held in Victory Hall – 75+ attendees

The original Leadership group were supported to continue the ‘campaign’ and new volunteers joined

BBC and ITV covered the 1<sup>st</sup> demonstration on Aboyne Bridge – extensive coverage on News channels

P&J covered the 1<sup>st</sup> Drop-In session in Birse



*Public Meeting – Victory Hall – January*

### Contact Us and Feedback

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Website: [www.fixaboynebridge.org](http://www.fixaboynebridge.org)

### SUMMARY

The leadership team have formed into a fully legally constituted Management Committee so that we can participate in formal meetings with Aberdeenshire Council and other political bodies and remove any constraints regarding ongoing communications. As a Fix Aboyne Bridge group, we are building momentum with 1.1k members. It is clear that the large majority of Community stakeholders are deeply upset and angry regarding the latest status report issued by Aberdeenshire Council last December.

Two new Options have now been presented : 1. ‘Propped Repair of Existing Bridge’ and 2 ‘New Modular Bridge’. Questions were raised regarding the credibility of the Options presented and the Council Reps and their Consultants confirmed that much more work on inspections, flood surveys, utilities diversion, design details, impact on environment, planning, landlord consent, road junction layout, effect on local businesses, risk management etc. had to be undertaken on both Options which then brought into question the validity of the delivery timescales and the indicative cost estimates.

### So, what now ?

Aberdeenshire Council advised that they would review all the comments received from the Community during the Drop-In sessions including any received online. They would conduct further inspections, perform surveys etc. and expect to present recommendations to the Local Councilors at the Infrastructure Services Committee in October 2026

### CURRENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

1. We have access to specialist technical expertise to assist in developing potential alternatives to the Options as presented and to explore temporary limited reopening options.
2. Tim Stephen – AC Marr Area Manager offered to facilitate a meeting between AC technical representatives and a delegation from our team which has been welcomed.
3. Meeting held with MDCC Chair to explore how best to work together including B2C2, ABA, LPP and ACT to avoid conflicts and optimise engagements with Aberdeenshire Council
4. Establish a fund-raising programme to pay for specialist expertise and other miscellaneous costs as and when required
5. Engage all key stakeholders – Councilors, political candidates etc