

Kiltearn Community Council

Minutes of Meeting



Held on Tuesday 12 January 2021, 7pm

PRESENT

Members

Cai MacIver (CM) Chair
Shelagh Dennett (SD) Treasurer
John McHardy (JMCH) Secretary
Alpin Macdonald (AM)
Celina Peoples (CP)
Gary Payne (GP)

Highland Councillors

Cllr Carolyn Wilson (Cllr CW)
Cllr Michael Finlayson (Cllr MF)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
1	Apologies/Welcome	
1.1	Apologies were noted from Cllr Pauline Munro, Cllr Maxine Smith, Mandy MacLeman and Sgt Michael Gallie of Police Scotland.	
2	Grant Applications	
2.1	Applications were considered and decisions/actions agreed as follows:-	
a)	Evanton Scouts. CP noted that she was a Leader within the Group. It was agreed to award a grant of £3,000 to cover the cost of annual subscriptions.	
b)	Evanton Guides. It was agreed to award a grant of £750 to enable 13 Guides to attend a planned event at Fairburn.	
c)	Evanton Community Wood Company. CP noted that she was a Board Member of the Company. It was agreed to award a grant of £1,500 towards the estimated £8,650 cost of a toilet at Mags Wood. Also agreed to support the bid of £2,000 made to the Bein Tharsuinn Fund.	
d)	Evanton Social & Events Group. CP noted that she was a member of the ESEG Committee. AM proposed that KCC award a grant of the requested £20,000 which would assist in funding the proposed phase 2 works to the Black Rock Pavilion (total £25,000). The Secretary suggested that the Group be encouraged to seek part funding from sources out with the Community, such as The Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF) which had part	

funded the Cornerstone improvements and the School play area. The Secretary further proposed that KCC confirm that they would support any bid to SLCF, noting that this would be 10% of any bid / award. It was agreed that the Secretary should contact ESEG and confirm the support for any bid to an external funder.

JMcH

- e) **Kiltearn Primary School Parent Council.** It was agreed to award a grant of **£4,924** to assist in meeting the cost of an outdoor shelter at the School.
- f) It was noted that figures were awaited from the Evanton Community Trust and Cornerstone and reported that the groups were awaiting quotes.

3 Previous Minutes/Matters arising

- 3.1 Notes of meeting of 8 December 2020 agreed. Proposed by CM and seconded by SD.
- 3.2 2.2 **Speed Signs.** Noted that the “smiling face” speed signs had been erected. Preston White who was present at the meeting thanked the KCC for providing the signs, commenting that the sign on the Swordale Road appeared to be having the desired effect.
- 3.3 2.5 **Traffic Calming, Fyrish Crescent.** The Secretary reported that the Council had confirmed that there were no submissions to the proposals for Fyrish Crescent which had been advertised (apart from the note issued by KCC).

- 3.4 7.7 **Newsletter.** Noted that the Secretary would draft an article.

JMcH

4 Diamond Jubilee Hall

- 4.1 Noted that the Christmas lights would be removed by the end of January. Commented that the finial above the front door should be looked at but that it had previously been assessed as secure (although at an angle)

5 Police Report

- 5.1 Apologies were noted from Sgt Michael Gallie who had provided a written report which was read by the Secretary.

6 Finance

- 6.1 Noted that the Treasurer had provided a written statement which would be circulated along with notes of the meeting. Current Balance (end Dec 2020) recorded as £128,203.84 (before any grants awarded as included 2.1 of these notes.

JMcH

- 6.2 Following discussion, it was agreed that the honorarium which was due to the minute Secretary should be offered to the Book Keeper. Also noted that the Honorarium due to be paid on 1st April 2020 should be paid.

SD

6.3 Noted that Evanton Community Trust are providing financial services to We Are Evanton (reporting on use of grant monies) and that monies are held by ECT with separate reporting from ECT funds.

7 **Councillor's Report** (including answers to questions raised).

7.1 **COVID.** Councillor Wilson noted the reported "spike" in reported infections within the area but shared the view of the meeting which was the numbers would hopefully reduce.

7.2 **Pandemic Response.** Councillor Wilson noted the Invergordon HUB was still operational, managed by Helen Ross assisted by John McHardy. Also noted that Councillor Pauline Munro continues to work with the group operating from the Milnafua Hall.

7.3 **Alness Academy.** Noted that the recently appointed Headteacher, Craig Paterson, is due to take up his post in March.

7.4 **Cornerstone.** Councillor Finlayson reported that the Cornerstone may be able to open towards the end of March (depending on Scot Gov guidance).

7.5 **Village Improvements.** Councillor Finlayson reported that £20,000 is available to fund improvements to the entrances to the Village, currently planned around new lighting on the bridge over the river Skiach.

7.6 **Burial Ground.** Councillor Finlayson reported that consideration was being given to planting within the "new" section of the burial ground and that proposals would be passed to the KCC for comment.

Cllr MF

7.7 **Novar Crescent Playpark.** It was noted that there had been previous discussion on the use of the Community Benefit Fund to part fund replacement equipment. Following discussion, it was agreed to contribute **£5,000** towards the cost of new equipment utilising monies held by KCC within the Community Benefit Fund.

SD

7.8 Cllrs Wilson and Finlayson were thanked for their attendance.

8 **Other Business**

8.1 **Wood Group.** A written report had been received which would be circulated along with notes of the meeting.

JMcH

8.2 **ESEG.** GP reported for the Group, noting:-

- a) The group had been joined by a number of new Members
- b) Works continue at the Black Rock Pavilion (works to toilets underway)
- c) Christmas tree planting area due to come down soon
- d) Shed has been erected at the Blackrock Football Pitch
- e) Unfortunately, the Group had, with reluctance, declined an offer of food intended to be used for a Burn Supper due to concerns of

targeting of those to be included.

- 8.3 **Christmas Lights.** Noted that a number of the former lighting units had been assessed as beyond repair. Noted that orders made early in the year were likely to benefit from a discount. Agreed to consider further. SD
- 8.4 **Post Office.** Those present noted with some disappointment that the PO had closed but fully understood the reasons why the family who had served the Village so well over the years had been unable to continue. Following discussion, it was agreed that SD and CM should seek more details of potential replacements for the service and that the Secretary would seek guidance from the Ward Manager in relation to the possibility of KCC offering a gratuity to a Post Master using monies held within the Community Benefit Fund. SD
CM
JMCH
- 8.5 **Potholes.** Noted that the large pothole opposite the Post Office has again appeared, but accepted that the Council had effected repairs previously.
- 8.6 **Street Names.** Noted that Drummond View was the final name choice for the new development to the West of Teandallon and that this would be confirmed to the Highland Council. JMCH
- 8.7 **Strathroy Wind Farm.** Agreed that CM should attend the Community Council Roundtable Meeting on Thursday 28 January with the Secretary offering to attend to take notes for circulation. CM
JMCH
- 8.9 **Next meeting:** agreed as **Tuesday 9th February 2021** using MS Teams. Secretary to issue invite prior to meeting.