

# Kiltearn Community Council



**Minutes of Meeting –**  
Held in Cornerstone Cafe

**Held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

## **PRESENT**

<b>Members</b>	John McHardy (JMCh) Chair Shelagh Dennett (SD) Treasurer Cai Maclver (CM) Secretary Celina Peoples (CP) Mandy MacLeman (MM) Alpin Macdonald (AM)
<b>Admin</b>	Annelie Graham (AG) Minute Taker
<b>Public</b>	Gary Payne Preston Whyte Anne Macdonald Sheena & Janet

## **Item   Discussion**

### **1   Remembrance Day in Evanton**

1.1 Anne Macdonald advised that following an inspection of the Evanton War Memorial in preparation for Remembrance Sunday, it was found to have significant health & safety issues. The steps up to the platform are too narrow, have only one handrail and are not fit for purpose. Anne suggested that, for the service, the steps are blocked off and the wreaths are laid on the steps and then moved up to their position afterwards by a designated person.

In addition, Anne advised that the current position of the Memorial has become more dangerous as it is near to the busy road, is not central to the village and has become unsuitable over the years and suggested that a public meeting be called to seek agreement for a secondary memorial to be built somewhere safer and which does not have steps.

Anne advised that despite efforts to contact the Highland Council for the current Memorial to be maintained, there has been no response and no maintenance work has ever been done. CM said that she would track down who is responsible for this within the Council. JM said that he would remove the weeds and take away the old wreaths.

**CM**  
**JM**

It was agreed by all that the KCC would pay for the piper for the service.

Anne put forward that it would be appropriate if the laying of the community wreath should be done by local Evanton former and current servicemen and women and this was agreed. Anne will approach the relevant people.

CM advised that the wreath is ready to be collected and is in the Dingwall Council buildings. Anne advised that she had been informed that wreaths needed to be ordered by June at the latest. **CM**

1.2 Anne also gave an update on the Recreation Park to say that it was doing well and getting well used. They plan on getting quotes to have CCTV installed to pre-empt any vandalism.

1.3 Anne said that the outing and high tea in Ullapool for the old folks had been successful and also wanted it recognised that a poem by local Evantonian Ella Maclennan had been commended and appreciated by King Charles.

## **2 Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from, Acting Police Sergeant Harry Milton and Sgt Gallie of Police Scotland.

## **3 Previous Minutes/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023, were agreed as proposed by CM and seconded by SD.

## **4 Compass housing application**

4.1 AM asked for the details of what the KCC response was that was submitted on the proposed plans. CM advised that it could be viewed on the Highland Council website but the response had raised concerns about footpath links, flood risks and school capacity.

4.2 AM asked if there was a list of those waiting for housing in Evanton that could be viewed, but CM advised this is not published due to data protection legislation. MM advised that those on the housing allocation list were subject to a points system which determined their place on the list. It is possible to find out the numbers of those wanting allocated housing in Evanton by following this link:

[https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/Housing\\_prospects?noLoginPrompt=1&fbclid=IwAR0F30IfNsOwlwighthXd9B8As6dnABCrX\\_8\\_zmKp53WSWxm8RRjxg7q74p8](https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/Housing_prospects?noLoginPrompt=1&fbclid=IwAR0F30IfNsOwlwighthXd9B8As6dnABCrX_8_zmKp53WSWxm8RRjxg7q74p8)

## **5 Rail Halt**

JM is still to contact Frank Roach for any update. **JM**

## **6 Vandalised bus shelter panels**

As these have still not been replaced, CP will continue to chase it up. **CP**

## **7 Highland Council Local Development Plan**

The Easter Ross Place Plan meeting has been rescheduled to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. MM advised that she will try to prepare some information and attend the meeting. CM will also be attending. **MM**

## **8 Christmas lights**

8.1 The lights have now been ordered.

8.2 Later in the meeting, JM advised that the ECT had contacted the KCC to say that the Jubilee Hall windows would again be available for a light display. It was discussed if the trees on the main street should also be festooned and it was agreed that quotes would be sought and if the costs are still within the previously agreed Christmas light total budget of £20 K then it should go ahead.

**JM**

## **9 Flower baskets**

JM will now organise to get these taken down.

**JM**

## **10 Village Officer**

As agreed previously, this will be discussed when the newly elected KCC are in place.

## **11 Windfarm**

The Invicta rep will be asked to discuss the plans for the proposed windfarm project when the newly elected KCC are in place.

## **12 SSE proposed new power line construction**

JM and John Ross attended the meeting hosted by the Strathpeffer Community Council which included other Community Councils affected by the project. Nothing of note was discussed or decided and will likely be more forthcoming once the newly elected Community Councils are in place.

## **13 Bollards on cycleway**

Helen Ross still to advise on response from Highland Council.

## **14 Storage container**

JM advised that Cornerstone is happy for a container or shed to be placed behind their premises. John Ross is in the process of getting quotes.

## **15 Highland Broadband – tarmac sealing**

CM advised that any issues and potholes can be logged on the Highland Council website for further action.

## **16 Roads**

16.1 JM advised that he had not yet received a response in regard to the issue highlighted by Preston that the light up speed sign at the start of the village only says 'slow down' if a car is going over 30 and does not give the speed.

**JM**

16.2 Later in the meeting CM advised that she had received a response from John Swanson in regard to the new Jubilee Hall road layout. All agreed that John

Swanson's proposal for additional road markings was still not appropriate and CM will reply to that effect and ask him to come and look at it himself. **CM**

## **17 Noticeboard**

JM advised that the noticeboard has now been erected. The plan is to have a box in the shop where people can post the posters and notices that they want put into the noticeboard. It was agreed that a section of the noticeboard could be devoted to business cards, but posters will only accepted if from community groups.

## **18 Community Council election**

Twelve candidates have put their name forward so an election will now take place with ballot papers being posted out to the village households from 31<sup>st</sup> October. All votes to be in by 27<sup>th</sup> November.

## **19 Correspondence**

### **19.1 Police update**

PC Jaia Pirrie advised that Acting Police Sergeant Harry Milton is currently on paternity leave, but in the meantime PC Pirrie is happy to be contacted for any police issue that arises.

PC Pirrie attached a document detailing any incidents of note for the Evanton area since the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Only one incident of note was recorded which turned out to be a false call.

Many felt that there had been several incidents of note within the village recently and it was agreed that a police representative should be invited to attend a subsequent KCC meeting for further updates and queries. **JM**

## **20 Councillors - No updates given.**

## **21 Finance**

21.1 Balances are £65,190.84 & £78,844.17.

21.2 AM asked for a copy of the annual end of year list of grant applications. **JM**  
CP asked for a copy of the end of year accounts as she did could not find her copy. **SD**

## **22 Village Groups**

22.1 **Evanton Wood Community Company** - This group is due to hold its AGM tomorrow.

22.2 **ECT** – MM advised that the Seeds of Scotland event was very successful. There has been a lot of online interest in the Tri-shaw demo as part of the Cycling Without Age event due to take place on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Film Hub Scotland will be doing their screening on 26<sup>th</sup> November, there is still a chance to vote for film preferences. On 25<sup>th</sup> November Liz Macdonald is organising a multicultural ceilidh event.

22.3 **Scouts** – the camping gathering on the Black Isle was enjoyed for the most part despite the poor weather, but the new tents leaked.

**23 Other Business**

**23.1 Gullies**

CM highlighted concerns about blocked gullies in the village, especially evident during the recent very bad weather. CM will email the Councillors to chase up getting them cleared. **CM**

**23.2 Evanton.online**

Gary Payne advised that the Evanton.online newsletter is due to be published in the next few days.

**24 Next meeting: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in Cornerstone Cafe**

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.