

# Kiltarn Community Council

## Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall



**Held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

## PRESENT

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>Elected Members</b> | John McHardy (JM)<br>Shelagh Dennett (SD)<br>Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker<br>Susan Crookes (SC)<br>Sarah McNair<br>Gabrielle Buist (GB) |
| <b>Councillors</b>     | Cllr Sinclair Coghill<br>Cllr Richard Cross   |
| <b>Public</b>          | John Ross<br>Gary Payne   |

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Discussion</u>  |
|-------------|--|
| 1           | <b>Apologies/Welcome</b><br>Apologies noted from Mike Finlayson (MF), Mandy Macleman (MM), Cllr John Edmondson, Cllr Tamala Collier  |
| 2           | <b>Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business Reserve Account: £84,535</li><li>95 Day Current Account: £51,772</li><li>Business Current Account: £45,210</li><li>Overall Profit/Loss: £487</li></ul>   |
| 2.1         | Cai MacIver, Community Support Officer, to be contacted for advice over having all accounts held within the same bank. <span style="float: right;"><b>JM,SD</b></span>   |
| 2.2         | JM & SD will continue to work on and update the draft budgeting spreadsheet. <span style="float: right;"><b>JM,SD</b></span>   |
| 3           | <b>Previous Minutes/Matters arising</b><br>The minutes of the meeting of 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, were agreed as proposed by SD and seconded by SC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Disabled Parking bay outside Co-op:</b> ongoing.</li><li><b>Christmas</b> – many thanks to SM for organising the big 'switch on' event on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November. It was a great success with a good turnout despite the weather.</li></ul> |

3.3 • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** This has moved no further forward and no information or discussion has been initiated by Scottish Water despite repeated efforts to contact them.

#### **4 Police Report**

November Report for Ward 6 has been circulated. Nothing noted in Evanton area.

4.1 There have been unreported recent incidents in the village of children throwing stones at house windows, vandalising gardens and racist graffiti. Advised that this should be reported to the police. Cllr Sinclair Coghill suggested contacting Douglas Livitt, Police Scotland.

4.2 Next online Community Council meeting with police for Ward 6, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec at 6.30pm.

#### **5 Correspondence**

5.1 • **Joint Community Council meeting** to take place on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at 5.30pm in the port offices.

#### **6 Councillors updates**

##### **Cllr Richard Cross**

6.1 • Cllr Richard Cross viewed and then reported ref the Katewell loop potholes. Gary Urquhart is aware but is currently constrained by weather and time to deal with these issues.

##### **Cllr John Edmondson**

6.2 • Cllr John Edmondson sent a report that he has followed up on several items most of which involved the cutting of vegetation. He has been advised that these might not get done until next year. This includes Teandallon but he was assured the whole area is on the maintenance list now.

6.3 • SM reminded that Cllr John Edmondson was going to look into asking for a 'car queues' permanent warning sign before the bridge / A9 junction.

##### **Cllr Sinclair Coghill**

6.4 • Getting the broken street lamp at the Skiach bridge is an ongoing issue – possibly constrained by its unusual fixtures and fittings.

6.5 • Fyrish Crescent playpark may be done in the Spring.

6.6 • The Crossing Patroller vacancy issue is still being looked at and Cllr Sinclair Coghill is in discussions around this.

6.7 • There may be SSE funds available to put in a cycle path on the Evanton/Dingwall back road, and working on this with Dingwall CC would be a good idea.

#### **7 ENERGY**

Nothing further has yet been heard on any of the proposals.

## 8 PROJECTS

- 8.1 • **Village Community Caretaker** – suggestions for additional work tasks are encouraged. He is happy if anyone buddy's up with him on tasks to keep him company.
- 8.2 • **Winter relief fund** – nobody has contacted AliEnergy or applied for the relief fund. More notifications to be put out on Facebook, information to be sent to the school and to [Evanton.online](http://Evanton.online)
- 8.3 • **Toilet** – the toilet unit has now been ordered and the area is to be cleared of vegetation to prepare for that next year.

JM

## 9 GRANT APPLICATIONS

### 9.1 Evanton Community Trust

For costs towards maintenance of the village green – this should have been submitted in February but was overlooked.

SD

Applied for £1800.

APPROVED

### 9.2 Kiltearn Primary P7 class

For P7 trip. This grant application was paused from last month. Further information was provided. Queried why the Highland Wildlife Park trip was so expensive per pupil. SC to talk to the parent council around this. Will reconsider in January.

SC

## 10 REFLECTIONS ON 2025

The KCC has been very busy throughout the year and a lot has been achieved, with a good sum of money being spent on community projects and grants. Should we have explored other funding options as well?

- Set up of the Black rock Sports Association
- Village Officer
- Installation of toilet – ongoing
- Winter fuel relief fund – fully available
- Flower baskets in summer, Christmas lights in winter
- Full support for the ECT with their many successful projects including the Jubilee Hall & Village Green
- Tackled issues regarding roads, energy applications, water pipe installations

## 11 POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS

- 11.1 • Gala week – include all groups and make a big event.
- 11.2 • Community minibus options. Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that there is Highland Council funding for community bus transportation.
- 11.3 • Co-opt a younger person onto the committee to bring fresh ideas and alternative approach.

- 11.4     • Roads – look at options for making the Co-op junction safer for cars turning out & for pedestrians eg, traffic lights, a barrier on corner to further try to prevent parking on the double yellow lines. Better disabled parking options. Ways to mitigate speeding in the village.
- 11.5     • Memorial steps – find out who would be responsible for getting them renovated, possibly the War Graves Commission, contact Ian Burnett of Alness CC for advice.
- 11.6     • Youth café possibilities

## **12     AOCB**

- 12.1     • Large storage needed for equipment, tools etc. Planning application to be put in for a container at the Black Rock field.
- 12.2     • SC suggested organising Christmas carol singing around the village on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec – open to all.
- 12.3     • It was agreed that ILM will be asked to take away the old Christmas lights for recycling.

**JM**

**SC**

**JM**

- 13     **Next meeting: meeting will be held a week later than usual on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7pm.**

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.