

# Kiltearn Community Council



## Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### PRESENT

#### Elected Members

John McHardy (JM)  
Shelagh Dennett (SD)  
Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker  
Susan Crookes (SC)  
Mike Finlayson (MF)  
Mandy Macleman (MM)

#### Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson

#### Public

Gary Payne

### Item      Discussion

#### 1      **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Sarah McNair (SM), Gabrielle Buist (GB), Cllr Sinclair Coghill, Cllr Richard Cross, John Ross, Chris

#### 2      **Finance**

- Business Reserve Account: £84,608
- 95 Day Current Account: £51,903
- Business Current Account: £4,750
- Overall Profit/Loss: £39,768

2.1      It was confirmed that KCC has full liability insurance.

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

The minutes of the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025, were agreed as proposed by SD and seconded by SC.

3.1      • **Disabled Parking bay outside Co-op:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that this is on the Highland Council list.

3.2      • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** JM received a response today from Scottish Water but not clear who they have consulted and what the plans will be going forward. Cllr John Edmondson is meeting with Iain Moncrieff next week and will raise it. It was agreed that JM contact other CC's and relevant landowners to plan a strategy via a 'consultative meeting' and then have a public meeting on the back of that if necessary. **JM**

- 3.3
- **Katewell potholes** – Cllr John Edmondson will ask Iain Moncrieff for details around this proposal. MF raised the potholes around Teandallon Square and to find out if it is the housing responsibility rather than Highland Council.

JM/MF

- 3.4
- **Lamppost light on bridge** – still to be fixed, awaiting update from Cllr Sinclair Coghill

#### 4 **Police Report**

JM attended the December meeting.

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

#### 5 **Correspondence**

Nothing of note

#### 6 **Councillors updates**

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

- 6.1
- The request for a 'car queues' permanent warning sign before the bridge / A9 junction will be a part of the work Highland Council is doing looking at all the A9 road junctions.
- 6.2
- Ref the pylons installation – the planning committee is supposed to be in February. It is currently out for consultation awaiting more information.

#### 7 **ENERGY**

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

#### 8 **PROJECTS**

- 8.1
- **Village Community Caretaker** –Chris has been clearing paths and was very busy gritting pavements during the snowy weather. JM has been helping with some of the work. Suggested that if he was willing, Chris could set up a social media Caretaker account where he could show some of the work he has been doing, and also ask for volunteers to help him out when needed. JM will ask him. JM confirmed that the ILM insurance covers for volunteers and all work is risk assessed.
- 8.2
- **Winter relief fund** – nobody has contacted AliEnergy or applied for the relief fund. It will run until November and then be reviewed.
- 8.3
- **Toilet** – awaiting building warrant approval.
- 8.4
- **Bollards** – JM suggested that KCC could fund replacing the original (now mostly invisible) bollards that go around the grass area outside the cemetery to prevent cars from going across the grass. Likely estimated cost £150. Agreed.
- 8.5
- **GALA** – a subgroup, headed by SM to be organised

JM

JM

SM

#### 9 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

##### 9.1 **Evanton Social & Events Group**

For costs of seniors trip

Applied for £1500

APPROVED

9.2 Kiltearn Primary P7 class

For P7 trip. This grant application was paused from Nov 2025. Further information was provided.

Applied for £540

Not approved - thought that more fundraising by pupils would be advised. As not a constituted group, agreed that they should apply via the Parent Council.

9.3 Black Rock Rovers

Towards fees and set up. Agreed that this would be considered a 'restart grant' and not a regular pay out.

Applied for £4000

APPROVED

9.4 Fox & Friends

To expand the services over 7 days in the Alness hub.

Applied for £13,412

Not approved – should Fox & Friends do any events or services within Evanton then funding would be considered more favourably as it would be of clear benefit to the Evanton community.

9.5 **ANNUAL GRANT APPROVALS**

JM provided documents showing how much KCC have given in grants over the last two years:

- In 2024 - **£46,510**
- In 2025 - **£29,724** Please note that the 2025 figures do not include spend on projects such as the Village Officer, Christmas Lights, Flower Baskets and Village Toilet.

10 **POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS**

- **Community minibus**
- **Co-opt a younger person onto the committee**
- **Road issues**
- **Memorial steps renovation**
- **Youth café**

11 **AOCB**

- 11.1
- MM confirmed that there is a winter resilience plan for when there is a power outage with the hall having its own generator. This will be reviewed regularly.
- 11.2
- Cllr John Edmondson advised that KCC enter a Participation Request on any transport plans to ensure involvement in any decisions – like with the battery plant, housing etc where access will be a significant factor.
- 11.3
- The Repair Café will be visiting Evanton on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January.
- 11.4
- The ECT will be holding its AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> February at 2pm.

- 11.5
- Gary Payne advised that the Co-op is no longer able to keep his newsletters on their counter and other options were discussed for their distribution. It was agreed that the best idea might be for KCC to pay for a freestanding newsletter stand. KCC would pay for all future cost of printing, and newsletters would be free to public so Co-op does not need to deal with money transactions.

JM

**12 Next meeting: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7pm**

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.

DRAFT