

Kiltearn Community Council



Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 10th February 2026

PRESENT

Elected Members

John McHardy (JM)
Shelagh Dennett (SD)
Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker
Susan Crookes (SC)
Mike Finlayson (MF)
Sarah McNair (SM)
Gabrielle Buist (GB)

Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson
Cllr Sinclair Coghill

Public

Claire Mollet
Tony Welsh
Larisa Jansen
Rebecca Stallon
Trina Hastings
Anna Myeshlcova
Margaret Macdonald
Stanley
Gary Payne

Item Discussion

1 **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Mandy Macleman (MM), Cllr Richard Cross, Charlotte Young

2 **Finance**

- Business Reserve Account: £84,902
- 95 Day Current Account: £52,020
- Business Current Account: £11,609
- Overall Profit/Loss: £32,727

2.1 It was agreed that it is important to take into consideration all the KCC ongoing and future project commitments as well as the overall spend when looking at the total financial situation. Budget sheet to be produced for next meeting.

JM, SD

3 **Removal by Stagecoach of prime bus routes to Dingwall & back**

A discussion was had around the short notice that Stagecoach have given in removing their morning and late afternoon service between Dingwall and Evanton –

this has caused a great deal of concern in the community as the routes are well used by Academy pupils, people going to work, doctor, shops etc. The routes are also used by those coming from Alness and Invergordon.

Due the level of concern, Cllr John Edmondson advised that the Highland Council are going to provide Council buses according to the original timetable as a temporary measure until the summer which provides more time to find a viable solution. Cllr John Edmondson said that he would ask if the service will also continue during the school Easter holidays as it affects not just school children.

The members of the public present agreed that these bus routes are very well used, although a more convenient time would be better for the children if there were a option to change it. GB asked if it could be established what the minimum passenger count has to be to justify keeping the service. Larisa gave Cllr John Edmondson the survey figures and communications that had been done in 2018 when Stagecoach had previously withdrawn the route.

Cllr John Edmondson advised that the Transport Forum was being held the next day and all the issues will be raised there.

4 Previous Minutes/Matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of 20th January 2026, were agreed as proposed by SD and seconded by SC.

- 4.1 • **Disabled Parking bays – outside Cornerstone and outside Co-op:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that this is on the Highland Council list.
- 4.2 • **Double yellow lines being ignored outside Co-op:** JM said that a complete rethink / major structural change of the junction would be the only way to prevent parking on the corner and making it less dangerous.
- 4.3 • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** JM advised that he had contacted Dingwall CC and Strathpeffer CC and also spoken to the surrounding landowners, but there has been no response from Scottish Water. Cllr John Edmondson advised that Iain Moncrieff has said he will not pass the consultation until Scottish Water come back with a better plan/solution to completely closing the road.
- 4.4 • **Lamppost light on bridge – still to be fixed.**

5 Police Report

January Report for Ward 6 has been circulated. SM agreed to attend the next meeting 25th March. **SM**

- 5.1 There has been increased anti-social behaviour from youngsters in the Teandallon area. Claire Mollet said she would raise this with the Parent Council and see if PC Mike Gallie would be willing to come into the school to raise awareness. It was pointed out that not all primary age children living in the village attend Kiltearn Primary School and some will be of Academy age.
- 5.2 A fire had been started in the Sharing Shed and this matter is now with the police.

6 Correspondence

- 6.1 • Scottish Forestry have submitted a felling application to fell the poplars lining the Industrial Estate as they have become too tall and many are damaged.
- 6.2 • The next Easter Ross Community Partnership meeting will take place on 26th Feb at 10am. GB said she would try to attend. GB
- 6.3 • Creachan wind turbine consultation documents will be available to view in Alness Library until 20th March.

7 Councillors updates

Cllr John Edmondson

- 7.1 • Ardross CC have put in a participation request for the pylon route. This access route is also likely to go past Evanton so worth KCC doing same. Cllr John Edmondson also advised that the KCC look at finding out how to make representations on all large energy projects. JM

Cllr Sinclair Coghill

- 7.2 • The consultation on playparks is due to close on 27th Feb. SM will look at this, and also involve Parent Council. SM
- 7.3 • The Easter Ross CC's collective online meeting is on 12th Feb. GB will try to attend. GB

8 ENERGY

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

9 GRANT APPLICATIONS

9.1 Scouts, Beavers & Cubs

Trips, activities and fees

Applied for £5200

Held for further consideration upon receipt of more details

9.2 Evanton Social & Events Group

For costs of seniors dinner

Applied for £2000

Further details required – breakdown of costs & bank statement

- 9.3 When an organisation applies for a grant it must be emphasized that they need to supply all the required documents as per the form e.g. constitution, a full breakdown of the costs, recent bank statement, other fundraising etc. The applicant is also asked to publicly recognise the KCC if the grant is approved, and to provide receipts after the event.

10 PROJECTS

- 10.1 • **Hanging baskets** – will be organised
- 10.2 • **Village Officer** – ongoing

- 10.3
- **Toilet** – has been built so should be delivered soon

11 NEW PROJECTS

- 11.1
- **Community minibus**
- 11.2
- **Co-opt a younger person onto the committee**
- 11.3
- **Road issues**
- 11.4
- **Memorial steps renovation**
- 11.5
- **Youth café** on same model as Artisans providing training and employability. GM said she would contact the Calman Trust around this and research options. **GB**
- 11.6
- **GALA WEEK in May** – SM & SC have met and are in the process of contacting village groups so that each group can run its own activity – possibly one each day/evening. AG will also be a part of this. **SM,SC, AG**

12 AOCB

- 12.1
- JM & MF gave a talk to Kiltarn Konnects about the KCC and the work it undertakes and there was good feedback.
- 12.2
- Lorna MacDonald from Wyvis Estate has advised that she has a defib to give to the village. It was thought the Novar pub would be a good location – SM will ask about this. MM to be asked ref a box for it. MF suggested the church might also be a good location. **JM,SM, MF,MM**
- 12.3
- JM put forward a suggestion as to an option to consider at the Transport Forum for the A9 junction – to use the big bridge over the A9 (past the railway bridge at the end of Balconie Steading) for all those heading southbound and then create a slip road onto the A9. As per original plans of the 1970's. **JM**
- 12.4
- JM raised a concern about the Skiach river core path which is being eroded by the changing course of the river. Access Officer Phil Waite / Matt Dent to be consulted around this. **JM**
- 12.5
- Gary Payne advised that the newsletter will be out by the weekend. He emphasized again that it is really important that all the village groups contribute a news story to the newsletter in each publication.

13 **Next meeting: Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7pm**

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.