

Kiltearn Community Council



Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 10th March 2026

PRESENT

Elected Members

Mike Finlayson (MF) – as Chair today
Shelagh Dennett (SD)
Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker
Susan Crookes (SC)
Mandy Macleman (MM)

Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson
Cllr Sinclair Coghill

Public

Claire Mollett (Kiltearn Primary Parent Council)
Gary Payne
John Ross
Ann MacDonald
Lorna Shirran
Sheena Davidson

Item Discussion

1 **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from John McHardy (JM), Sarah McNair (SM), Gabrielle Buist (GB), Cllr Richard Cross

2 **Finance**

- Business Reserve Account: £84,735
- 95 Day Current Account: £52,128
- Business Current Account: £974
- Overall Profit/Loss: £43,192

3 **Previous Minutes/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 10th February 2026, were agreed as proposed by SD and seconded by SC.

3.1

- **Removal by Stagecoach of prime bus routes to Dingwall & back:** Cllr John Edmondson has spoken to the head of Transport, Paul Reid, who has confirmed that the Highland Council stand-in buses will run until the summer. Paul advised that their monitoring showed that all the passengers were school children. However, as it is a public bus this should not be considered an issue. John said it will be discussed on Friday.

- 3.2 • **Disabled Parking bays – outside Cornerstone and outside Co-op:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that a Traffic Order has been made up and there will follow a consultation process.
- 3.3 • **Double yellow lines being ignored outside Co-op:** as JM suggested at the last meeting, suggestions for ways to combat this with a complete rethink / major structural change of the junction should be proposed to Highland Council. **JM**
- 3.4 • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** Nothing further to report.
- 3.5 • **Lamppost light on bridge – still to be fixed.** Cllr Sinclair Coghill will chase this up.
- 3.6 • **Scottish Forestry felling of poplars lining the Industrial Estate – AG to forward the details of this to the Committee.** **AG**
- 3.7 • **Easter Ross Community Partnership 26th Feb:** GB to give update. **GB**
- 3.8 • **The consultation on playparks (to close on 27th Feb):** SM to give update. **SM**
- 3.9 • **The Easter Ross CC's Collective meeting 12th Feb.** GB to give update. **GB**
- 3.10 • **Defibs :** the Wyvis Estate defib: MM will contact Wyvis to use this for the village. Highland Council have agreed that the school can put their defib outside so more accessible and the new school janitor will be responsible for maintenance. MM suggested that as Micheal maintains all the other defibs he could get a stipend from KCC, all agreed. **MM**

4 Police Report

February Report for Ward 6 was not yet received. The next meeting 25th March.

- 4.1 Claire Mollett advised that the head teacher has spoken to the individual children involved in the anti-social behaviour around Evanton and done a general assembly to the whole school around community behaviour. There have been no further reports of trouble since then.
- 4.2 There is no further information regarding the fire that had damaged the Sharing Shed. CCTV has now been fitted inside.

5 Correspondence

- 5.1 • Cai MacIver - The CC support sent a Participation & Engagement Strategy survey that needs to be completed by 16th March. AG to forward details to all. **AG**
- 5.2 • Calum Goskirk - The CC support asked for documents relating to the annual CC grant. AG to forward details to SD. **AG,SD**
- 5.3 • Calum Goskirk - The CC support advised of Support & Guidance sessions for cc's on 23rd Mar, 24th Mar & 25th Mar. AG to forward details to all. **AG**
- 5.4 • Luci Ireland advised there is advice and guidance available for cc's in relation to gaining support for Renewables Engagement. AG to forward details to all. **AG**
- 5.5 • Clarke Telecom advised that the mobile mast Vm02 radio planner replacement (currently by BT shed / church) is likely to be replaced on the other side of the A9.

6 Councillors updates

Cllr John Edmondson:

- 6.1 • Cllr John Edmondson emphasized the need for a unified voice from the cc's and for one spokesperson representing their voices.
- 6.2 • Cllr John Edmondson talked about the Transport forum. In another community there is a trial run of the purchase by Highland Council of a community bus which would run as school service and as a public bus. Railway issues will be discussed on Thu 12th Mar. There have been 77 requested stations in Scotland.

Cllr Sinclair Coghill

- 6.3 • The Novar Crescent playpark should be under improvement by the end of the month.

7 **ENERGY**

- 7.1 • Creachan wind turbine consultation documents are available to view in Alness Library until 20th March. Ceislan will be due out next week to be viewed in Cornerstone. Locals should be encouraged to view them.

8 **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

8.1 Kiltearn Parent Council

£595 - Defibrillator heated case

£3150 – Swimming buses (£150 per Friday x 21 weeks until the end of term)

£3000 - Educational class trips (£500 per class x 6 classes)

£1500 – Buses for whole school trip (130 pupils + staff)

Cost of project £8245

Applied for £8000

Agreed to £5245

The £3000 for class trips to be held back for Parent Council to apply to Beinn Tharsuinn for this.

8.2 Evanton Woods Group

Concerts & activities

Cost of project £1050

Applied for £1000

Agreed

8.3 Flip The Coin

For running their creative greenspace sessions at The Flipside in Alness. It will pay for core costs as well as our session facilitators and artists.

Cost of project £120,000

Applied for £10,000

Withheld – needs to be more specific to Evanton and direct benefit to Kiltearn residents.

8.4 Scouts, Beavers & Cubs
Trips, activities and fees
Applied for £5200
Agreed

9 PROJECTS

- 9.1 • **Hanging baskets** – will be organised
- 9.2 • **Village Officer** – ongoing
- 9.3 • **Toilet** – has been built so should be delivered soon

NEW PROJECTS

- 9.4 • **Community minibus**
- 9.5 • **Co-opt a younger person onto the committee**
- 9.6 • **Road issues**
- 9.7 • **Memorial steps renovation**
- 9.8 • **Youth café** on same model as Artisans providing training and employability. GM said she would contact the Calman Trust around this and research options.
- 9.9 • **GALA WEEK in May**

SD,SC,
AG

10 **Village Groups**

10.1 Evanton Social & Events Group

Ann Macdonald advised that the Evanton Social & Events Group seniors dinner had been very successful and she handed in photos and details of how the grant funding towards this was spent.

Ann MacDonald put forward that Evanton should be considered for having a care home. There are no nearby suitable options for older folk. ESEG are meeting up with the Easter Ross NHS rep to see what the prospects are for this.

Cllr John Edmondson suggested it should go into the Place Plan, MM said she would discuss this with JM.

MM,JM

Ann added that there was also a general need for a better hospital than Raigmore which is severely stretched.

10.2 Evanton Community Cinema

SC asked if anything would be done in regards to the World Cup. MM advised that the Cinema would be hosting/covering this.

11 **AOCB**

- 11.1 • Lorna advised that the post van often has difficulties in getting parked due to the amount of congestion, especially from work vans, in the carpark. It would also be good if there was a shelter for those waiting. Cornerstone is available to wait. MM suggested the post van could maybe use the gravel

MM

standing inset, up from where the post office used to be. Some form of shelter could be looked at.

- 11.2 • Lorna advised that the traffic cone that was over the pothole/drain on the bridge had been thrown in the river. The hole needs to be repaired. Cllr Sinclair Coghill will look at this.
- 11.3 • SD advised that the new bridge at Redburn (Glen Glass road) has been hit and needs repaired.
- 11.4 • Gary Payne handed out copies of the latest newsletter.

12 Next meeting: Tuesday 14th April 2026 at 7pm

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.