

# Kiltearn Community Council



## Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### PRESENT

#### Elected Members

John McHardy (JM),  
Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker  
Susan Crookes (SC)  
Mandy Macleman (MM)  
Sarah McNair (SM)  
Gabrielle Buist (GB)

#### Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson  
Cllr Sinclair Coghill  
Cllr Richard Cross

#### Public

Gary Payne

### Item    Discussion

#### 1    **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Mike Finlayson (MF), Shelagh Dennett (SD), John Ross

#### 2    **Finance**

TBC – as SD is on holiday this will be distributed later on

**SD**

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

The minutes of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026, were agreed as proposed by MM and seconded by SC.

- 3.1    • **Removal by Stagecoach of prime bus routes to Dingwall & back:** no further update – still uncertain if the buses will be reinstated.
- 3.2    • **Disabled Parking bays – outside Cornerstone and outside Co-op:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that the consultation will be out for this in next week or so.
- 3.3    • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** Nothing further to report.
- 3.4    • **Lamppost light on bridge – now fixed.**
- 3.5    • **Easter Ross Community Partnership 26<sup>th</sup> Feb:** GB did not manage to attend.
- 3.6    • **The Easter Ross CC's Collective meeting 12<sup>th</sup> Feb.** GB did not manage to attend.
- 3.7    • **Defibs :** the defib from Wyvis Estate plus a case is now received, there is another one available. MM will speak to Novar Arms and also caravan site to

**MM**

see if they will have it on their premises. MF will ask if the church would have one on the outside wall. MF

Micheal will be maintaining the defibs. A defib training session will be arranged for general public.

- 3.8
- **Care home in Evanton.** ESEG asked advice from an Easter Ross NHS rep to see what the prospects are for this. It does however rely on private enterprises. Smaller care homes are closing in Scotland, a minimum of 40 beds is needed. Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that there is currently a push for care to take place at home. It was suggest that Kate Kenmuir is contacted to notify a concern around care packages.

#### 4 Police Report

March Report for Ward 6 was circulated. SM attended the previous meeting where discussion was had around school drop off traffic issues.

#### 5 Correspondence

- 5.1
- Easter Ross Community Partnership meeting taking place in the Tain Community Campus on 26<sup>th</sup> May 3-5pm. GB will try to attend. GB
- 5.2
- Community fund grants are available. SM will look at this for possible funding for the Sports Pavillion in relation to the sports club. SM

#### 6 Councillors updates

##### Cllr Sinclair Coghill

- 6.1
- Uncertain if the Novar Crescent playpark improvements have started. SM raised that the Teandallon playpark is still in need of improvement. The new housing scheme was supposed to bring £40k improvements. Park benches are also needed – agreed that KCC could fund these. GB will find out if Alness community payback will supply benches. GB

##### Cllr Richard Cross

- 6.2
- Advised that he is involved in supporting an Evanton resident who is in disputes with Albyn Housing for essential repairs.

##### Cllr John Edmondson:

- 6.3
- Cllr John Edmondson talked about the Transport forum. Scotrail will be looking again at their routes north of Inverness, so the request for an Evanton rail halt was raised once again. Cycle routes are being reviewed. A community bus purchased by Highland Council still being trialled in Culbolkie. JM asked if a representative from the Culbulkie or Ferintosh CC could come and talk about this at KCC meeting as they are trialling this. JM  
The next Transport Forum is about all the A9 junctions north of Inverness.
- 6.4
- The Ardross CC participation request has been accepted so they will now be involved in all roads and transportation decisions. JM
- 6.5
- JM had a copy of the petition signed by residents concerning the Camden Street potholes. A huge pothole on Assynt Street was also highlighted as was

the back road to Dingwall. JM thought it would be a good idea if Gary Urquhart, Roads Officer, came and did a walk about around Evanton to look at the issues in person. JM

## 7 ENERGY

### 7.1 • **Ceislein Wind Farm**

Cllr John Edmondson and Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that they can listen to the views given but cannot give their own views as they are members of the planning committee.

JM advised that the dead line for representations is approaching with the amended proposal now live. There are however 264 documents to view which is unrealistic for the public to gain a clear picture of what is being planned. It is understood that the majority of the locals are not in favour of the plans. Ardross CC have had detailed and professional consultations so JM will contact them and agree a suitable response. This response will be shared with the landowner. Cllr Sinclair Coghill suggested that JM contact other CC's in the surrounding area with details of the response to see if they would be willing to have a co-ordinated approach. JM

## 8 PROJECTS

8.1 • **Hanging baskets** – awaiting Munros to notify of when they are ready. Denika will continue to water them this year. JM

8.2 • **Village Officer** – Chris is always on the lookout for help. He will post tasks and help wanted on Facebook. The 'living wage' is due to increase – ILM will update on this. Suggestions for tasks for Chris are welcomed.

8.3 • **Toilet** – the groundworks will be starting next week. JM will chase up the module supplier for date of installation. JM

8.4 • **GALA WEEK** – various events are being organised and plans are coming together. JM Gala sub team

## 9 NEW PROJECTS

9.1 • **Training café** on same model as Artisans providing training and employability. GM said she has drafted a proposal but delivery would depend on finding a suitable venue. MM advised that there may be available funding through the employability scheme. GB

9.2 • **Community minibus** – discussed as per update from Cllr John Edmondson.

9.3 • **Co-opt a younger person onto the committee**

9.4 • **Memorial steps renovation**

## 10 **Village Groups**

### 10.1 Evanton Community Trust

A subgroup is looking at getting underway with creating an edible garden and seating area behind the Jubilee Hall.

The ECT have been looking at further developing the Village Green with the addition of an orchard and a bandstand or similar structure.

The ECT is looking to apply for funding to employ an Events & Marketing Officer to organise putting on events and activities in the hall and promote it more as a venue now that it has been refurbished. The KCC congratulated the ECT on the refurbishments that have been done.

## 10.2 Black Rock Community Sports Association

SM advised there have been ongoing issues with the electricity meter readings and SSE/Octopus contracts at the changing block.

A planning application is currently live for a storage container. The KCC have funded the application and will contribute to the cost of the container. Novar Estates agreed to level the site that it will sit on.

Highlife Highland are still to respond in regards to the Sports Hall.

## 11 **AOCB**

- 11.1 • The Daffodil Tea at Fowles is due to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2pm.
- 11.2 • JM advised that he had attended the meeting for CC's of the Dingwall Medical Group and that it was interesting and a valuable meeting.
- 11.3 • SC attended the Community Councils meeting hosted by the Port of Cromarty Firth. There was a lot of positive feedback. They reported that they had changed the way buses come to the cruise ships. They talked about their mural trail app. The cruise passengers are now directed to walk through Invergordon.
- 11.4 • SM suggested that there be a community sauna at the shore.
- 11.5 • Gary Payne advised that the deadline for the next newsletter is 30<sup>th</sup> April.

## 12 **The AGM will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 at 7pm**

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

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.