

Kiltearn Community Council



Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 12th May 2026

PRESENT

Elected Members

John McHardy (JM),
Annelie Graham (AG) & Minute Taker
Shelagh Dennett (SD)
Mandy Macleman (MM)
Sarah McNair (SM)
Gabrielle Buist (GB)

Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson
Cllr Sinclair Coghill

Public

Gary Payne
John Ross
Claire Gordon

Item Discussion

1 **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Mike Finlayson (MF), Susan Crookes (SC)

2 **Finance**

2.1 **For April**

- Business Reserve Account: £84,837
- 95 Day Current Account: £52,366
- Business Current Account: £7,290
- Overall Profit/Loss: £6,236

2.2 **For year end, 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026**

- Business Reserve Account: £64,793
- 95 Day Current Account: £52,252
- Business Current Account: £13,686
- Overall Profit/Loss: £50,299

2.3 Cash flow projections and budgeting will be looked at in detail for the new year.

SD, JM

3 **Previous Minutes/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 14th April 2026, were agreed as proposed by SM and seconded by MM. An amendment was highlighted as being required for the Minutes

of 10th March 2026 – the amount of the grant agreed for Kiltearn Primary should have read as £5250, not £5000. **AG**

- 3.1 • **Removal by Stagecoach of prime bus routes to Dingwall & back:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that Highland Council have confirmed that they will continue to run their replacement service throughout the summer and into the next school term.
- 3.2 • **Disabled Parking bays – outside Cornerstone and outside Co-op:** Cllr John Edmondson advised that there should be an answer on this by the end of the week.
- 3.3 • **Planned road closure - A862 Dingwall - Ardullie TTRO for Scottish Water Mains Renewal.** Nothing further to report.
- 3.4 • **Defibs :** MM reported that the Novar Arms are arranging to have their own defib so looking at to install the spare one either on the new toilet or down at the shore. MM will contact Kiltearn House to ask if they would be willing to have it near them & supply electric for it. **MM**
- 3.5 • **Benches – for playpark & ECT –** GB has arranged for these from Community Payback @ £150/bench. **GB**
- 3.6 • **Roads –** a date will be arranged between JM, Cllr Sinclair Coghill and Gary Urquhart (Roads Officer) to meet and discuss various issues. **JM**
- 3.7 • **Community minibus –** a meeting has been arranged with Malcolm Macleod, Transport Officer, on 29th May 10am, to discuss interest in participating in a community transport initiative for the area. SC will attend, GB said she will also try to attend. **SC,GB**
- 4 Correspondence**
- 4.1 • Draft proposal from Highland Council of Parking Places Order for off-street car parks across the Highlands which will seek to impose certain conditions for those parked. In Kiltearn this would only apply to the beach carpark. Response to be considered. **JM**
AG
- 4.2 • Consultation in relation to tree planting on Novar Estate, deadline 1st June – to be circulated. **AG**
- 4.3 • Survey from Forestry Policy Group to hear local voices in relation to national policy discussions. To be circulated. **AG**
- 4.4 • A member of the community has highlighted that there are large amounts of broken up what appears to be asbestos on the shore. Will contact Cromarty Port Authority. **GB**
- 4.5 • Easter Ross Community Partnership are holding an in person meeting in the Tain Community Campus 26th May 3-5pm. GB advised that she would attend.
- 4.6 • Notice of Proposal to designate the Highland Rural Short-Term Let Control Area. Kiltearn area is not included in this.
- 4.7 • Letter from Lynn MacGillivray, Highland Council Playpark Strategy Co-ordinator, advising of available support for communities wishing to fundraise to upgrade their local school playground or local Council playparks. Copy of letter given to SM. **SM**

5 Police Report

April Report for Ward 6 was circulated. No notification of next Inspectors quarterly meeting as of yet.

6 Councillors updates

Cllr Sinclair Coghill

6.1 • Still no work having taken place refurbishing the Novar Crescent playpark. Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that he has been told it will start before the end of the month.

6.2 • Regarding playpark funding – Highland Council at the moment only have budget for maintaining or removing items. Cllr Sinclair Coghill will also try and find out about developer contributions due from the housing scheme contractors. Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that funding from the Port Authority is also recommended pursuing.

Cllr John Edmondson:

6.3 • Cllr John Edmondson talked about the Transport forum. They will have one more meeting. The plan is to have a meeting with the community councils in late August to gain views and to focus on certain issues.

Looking at street audits for basic issues like the need for dropped kerbs, placement of bus stops etc

With reference to the meeting regarding A9 junctions, unfortunately BEAR and Transport Scotland did not attend, although the Road Safety Team did.

6.4 • The warning sign for 'queues ahead' has been ordered for the Evanton A9 turnout before the railway bridge.

6.5 • It was discussed again that a dedicated cycle track on the back road to Dingwall should be a priority. GB will contact Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust.

GB

7 ENERGY

7.1 Ceislein Wind Farm

JM advised that an extension until 19th June has been advised. There have been numerous issues with the submission process of responses with a lot of technical glitches.

It was agreed that a poll will be put on Facebook to try and gain the general view of the public before we make our representation.

JM and John Ross will meet with David from Ardrross CC to put together a response.

JM

8 PROJECTS

8.1 • **Toilet** – the groundworks are ready. MM advised that she is still waiting for a confirmed delivery date and will continue to chase up.

8.2 GALA WEEK

- various events and activities have been finalised.
- It was agreed that KCC will fund for a banner to be ordered
- It was agreed that a simple Google doc expense form will be created for groups who require KCC funding for their activity.

SM

9 **NEW PROJECTS**

- 9.1 • **Training café** – not discussed this time.
- 9.2 • **Co-opt a younger person onto the committee** – not discussed this time.
- 9.3 • **Memorial steps renovation** – not discussed this time.

10 **Village Groups**

10.1 Evanton Community Trust

The Jubilee Hall is now finished and they are now concentrating on the edible garden and seating area project behind the Jubilee Hall.

They are continuing to work on ideas to further develop the Village Green.

10.2 Black Rock Community Sports Association

SM advised the Octopus energy account is now up and running.

They are looking at funding for the pavilion upgrade.

They are planning being involved in some activities for the Gala which will also promote the group.

JM advised that he is due to have a meeting with Highlife Highland in regards to the management of the Sports Hall.

JM

11 **AOCB**

- 11.1 • GB felt that having the dog poo/large rubbish bin right outside the Cornerstone Café was not attractive. There is already a smaller bin both across the road outside the Co-op and by the village green. Cllrs / GB will contact Les Ross, Waste Operations Manager, to see about replacing the small bin outside the Co-op with this larger one.

GB

12 **The next meeting combined with the AGM will be held on Tuesday 23rd June 2026 at 7pm**

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.