

Kiltearn Community Council



Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 23rd June 2026

PRESENT

Elected Members

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

Councillors

Cllr John Edmondson
Cllr Sinclair Coghill
Cllr Richard Cross

Public

John Ross
Claire Gordon (Kiltearn Primary Parent Council)
Ann MacDonald
Lorna Shirran

Item Discussion

1 **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Mandy Macleman (MM), Gary Payne

2 **Finance**

- 2.1
- Business Reserve Account: £64,881
 - 95 Day Current Account: £52,469
 - Business Current Account: £7,027
 - Overall Profit/Loss: £6,353

3 **Previous Minutes/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 12th May 2026, were agreed as proposed by SC and seconded by SM.

- 3.1
- **Disabled Parking bays – outside Cornerstone and outside Co-op:** It was agreed that the waiting time should be 2 hours (due to time that may be spent in the hairdressers). Proposal will now be out for consultation.

- 3.2 • **Defibs** : One now installed in Kiltearn House porch. Proposed that there should be signage in the cemetery car park / outside Kiltearn House to indicate that it is there. JM/MM
- 3.3 • **Benches – for playpark & ECT** – Benches now received. They were used for the Gala but will now be moved to where needed. JM
- 3.4 • **Community minibus** – SC attended a meeting with Malcolm Macleod, Transport Officer. It was advised that the best option for Evanton was to set up a community car scheme where volunteers use their own cars. SC to contact other areas that have this model in place for comparison & guidance. There is a £27,000 Developers Contribution provision available for community-based transport provision in Evanton. If we submit our plan and the survey of transport needs in Evanton, as per Place Plan, then we should be eligible. There is then a Community Transport Grant which runs every three years from the Highland Council, applications are open from July 2026. It was advised that we would apply for this for years two and years three to help with the ongoing funding needs. We need to gather a team of people who would be interested in supporting this, map out a plan of what we would like to see started, of what the community need is and how with this would be implemented, and then apply for the £27k Developers Contribution and Community Transport Grant. SC
SD said she had asked Chris (Village Officer) if he would be willing to take on some of the driving.
Cllr John Edmondson advised that he would chase up Laura for SC for more information.
- 3.5 • **Cycle track on the back road to Dingwall** Cllr John Edmondson advised that there may be funding for road markings to designate a safe space for cycles but that is only viable if the traffic flow is under a certain level / speed limit of 40mph. It was agreed that 40mph was acceptable for that road. Cllr John Edmondson will progress this. The steep/drop off verges are to be filled and JM asked about the passing place signs to be reinstated. It was confirmed that the cycle track is highlighted in the draft Evanton Place Plan, JM to forward to Cllr John Edmondson. JM
- 3.6 • **Ceislein Wind Farm** JM advised that a KCC submission comment has now been made on the planning consultation.

4 Correspondence

- 4.1 • **Port Authority Community Liaison meeting** – next one on Tuesday 7th July at 4.30pm. JM will try to attend with possibly another KCC member. JM
- 4.2 • A member of the public, John MacDonald, sent information highlighting that there are a number of Himalayan Balsom sites on the Evanton river. “The seeds are getting washed down the river and if it is not dealt with it will spread to Evanton beach and Balconie Point and will be impossible to stop”. SC looked up that it should be reported to The Invasive Plant Reporting Form. As John Macdonald knows the details the form should be completed by him, with KCC support if needed. JM to forward details of link to John Macdonald. JM
- 4.3 • Scottish Air Ambulance sent an email advising that they want to raise awareness about their service and are looking to go out into the community

giving talks etc. The email to be forwarded to Parent Council, Scouts and AG
Kiltearn Konnects.

- 4.4 • A member of the public, Moira McKenna, reported a lot food rubbish, cans and bottles dumped beside the bottle bank. It is understood that this has now been cleared.
- 4.5 • Network Rail advised that they were closing the railway track North of Dingwall for a period of 3 weeks – 7th June to 29th June. This was put on Facebook at the time of the email.
- 4.6 • The Highland Council Community Support & Engagement Team sent an information pack for supporting Community Council members. Circulated.

5 Police Report

May Report for Ward 6 was circulated.

- 5.1 Next Inspectors quarterly meeting will be on 23rd September 2026 and 16th December 2026 at 6.30pm, online.

6 Councillors updates

Cllr Richard Cross

- 6.1 • Cllr Richard Cross thought that it would be of value for the Community Cinema to show a film by the National Emergency Briefing in reference to the climate emergency. Details to be forwarded GB.
- 6.2 • Discussion was had around Legacy Housing for workers to support the energy infrastructure proposals and if this would revert to community housing once complete.

Cllr Sinclair Coghill

- 6.3 • Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised about information gathered from a Climate Change Committee that there is funding for coastal erosion from a Nature Restoration Fund. This is in reference to the path erosion at Evanton shore and the danger to the salt marsh. A sustainable solution needs to be considered. JM
- 6.4 • Fyrish swing park work has been started but not finished.

Cllr John Edmondson:

- 6.5 • Cycle route on back road to Dingwall as previously discussed above.
- 6.6 • The warning sign for 'queues ahead' should be in place very soon – the pole for it has been erected, (for the Evanton A9 turnout before the railway bridge).
- 6.7 • Discussion around crossroads at top of hill before entering the 20mph limit into Evanton. Suggested signs could be put up warning of 'concealed entrance'.

7 GRANT APPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Evanton Social & Events Group
For costs of seniors summer outing
Applied for £2000

APPROVED

8 **PROJECTS**

- 8.1
 - **Toilet** – still no confirmed delivery date due to delay on supply of locking mechanism from manufacturer.
- 8.2
 - **GALA WEEK** – was a huge success with a good turnout. The general feedback from the community was very positive. The school fayre raised an amazing £4k.

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 Kiltearn Primary School Parent Council

- Claire advised that the school defib is still awaiting on Highland Council to connect.
- There is a safety issue with regard to the high grass growing on the verge of the school road for cars' line of sight. Also ongoing issues with the holly trees growing across the school access path, and the trees by the Sports Hall progressively leaning further and likely to fall.
- The fayre was excellent and Claire was advised to submit Gala expenses to SD to be approved by KCC committee.

11 **AOCB**

- 11.1
 - SM advised that the basketball court at Teandallon play park has a very rough surface and it would be good to have astro turf or similar to make it more usable. Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that he would look into funding for this. SM also mentioned the need for goal posts on the play park green (raised previously) – may have to get permission from Highland Council if the land is theirs (unknown). Ross County may be willing to fund goals. To be looked at further.
- 11.2
 - Lorna advised that the Evanton sign as you come into the village is overgrown and grasses/bushes around it need to be trimmed back. SD to ask Chris to take this on.
- 11.3
 - Ann MacDonald talked again about the need for a care home in Evanton and the lack of care provision nearby. The councillors will look at this.

SM

SD

12 **The KCC will now break for summer recess, July & August.**

It was agreed that any decision that needs to be taken will be agreed by emails circulated between all the committee members.

Next meeting: Tuesday 8th September 2026

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.