

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2025

Members present Elizabeth Jones, Fiona Rennie, Andrew Donaldson, Hilary McGregor, Michael Bowdidge

Apologies Calum Mclean, Matt McCammon (Police Scotland), Frank Deas, Sarah Deas, Lindsay Kirk, Jim Ptolomey (Killearn Trust)

In attendance Cllr Rosemary Fraser, Graeme Fraser (KCFC), Tasha Houchin (KCC Planning Consultant),
21 members of the public,
Emily Semple

How to contact us Go to www.killearncc.org.uk and click on the contact button.

CC1571 - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 September '25

Minutes were approved by Andrew Donaldson and Fiona Rennie.

CC1572 - MATTERS ARISING

- B834 Blane Smithy Bridge - The review is complete and it has been recommended by the Council that the priority system remains as it is, and the vegetation is cut back. Stirling Council does not support the installation of traffic signals.

There are still concerns from the community based on the lack of visibility from the holding points at either side of the bridge and the number of near misses.

Discussions were had to establish who was responsible for cutting back vegetation to ensure that traffic signs remain visible. The landowners explained that they cut back vegetation to the boundary limit but in previous years the council has retained responsibility for ensuring the signage is visible.

A member of the public outlined that part of the road traffic act makes it the responsibility of the local authority. Landowners cut back roadside vegetation once a year but are restricted due to nesting animals.

Action: Cllr Rosemary Fraser is going to look into this directly to help advise

- EV charging units in the Health Centre Car Park - Unfortunately one of the council roads lorries involved in the recent roadworks bumped into an EV charging unit, taking it out. The EV company have been out to site and the Council has isolated the power supply and left a part of new pavement without top coating to give access.
the Council has a repair & maintenance contract with the manufacturer of the charging units as and following the accidental damage caused by the Roads Team a fault ticket was raised and once a quote for the repairs has been received the Council will instruct the necessary works to proceed.

Action: Cllr Rosemary Fraser is going to look into the installation of a faster charging port as well as installing an overstay fee.

- Blackwood's Beech House - Local residents have asked for help from KCC and Stirling Council to help preserve the existence of a care facility at Beech House on

Beech Drive. The current facility is operated by Blackwood, but the company is looking to close the facility / sell over the next few months.

Stirling Council have advised there has been some very helpful communications initiated by Councillor McGarvey and that the situation is being investigated and addressed by Council Officers already.

In the meantime KCC have been speaking with other local caregivers to see if there is an alternative option. Creating a tenants association was discussed and Michael Bowdidge offered his support as he has done this before. An idea for a multigenerational HMO was also shared following noting that there have been very positive trials in the Netherlands.

A member of the public asked who the building owner was as it is potentially under license - Tasha is already looking into this and awaiting an update.

- Local Place Plan - The consultation is now complete and a meeting has been had to review and discuss the additional comments and feedback made. Another meeting will take place to finalise the LPP document before its submission at the end of the month.

Thank you to all those who have been involved from the first surveys, through to comments and feedback.

- South West Stirling Climate Action Network LLP - Frank Deas was unable to attend but passed on that the SWSCAN LLP is also complete and now available for review and comment. A link to this will be shared on the KCC website.

A member of the public raised concerns about KCC promoting the LLP of another organisation. Liz outlined that there is no conflict as this group has been formed to represent all of the local rural communities - this is due to there not being enough momentum and expertise within individual community councils at this stage. KCC are members of the SWSCAN.

- Station Road path, mare's tail - <https://www.rhs.org.uk/weeds/horsetail>
This is coming up through the newly laid tarmac on the path up Station Rd - recently completed by the council, on behalf of CALA. The weeds are spreading along a considerable part of the path.

Stirling Council will have the road inspected for the location of the Mare's tale and the Land services team have agreed to spray the area once it has been inspected.

Please note that in order to spray, Stirling Council will have to wait for a weather window.

CC1573 - POLICE MATTERS

There was no report to share.

The full police report will be available on KCC website www.killlearncc.org.uk

CC1573– KCFC UPDATE

Graeme Fraser gave the following update relating to KCFC activities:

- The AGM will be held on Tuesday 21st October at 8pm, in the Village Hall - all members welcome. You can become a supporter/member for an annual fee of £10 via the website (<https://www.kcfc.co.uk/support-us>)

- Killearn Fireworks Display will be held on Sunday 2nd November - gates open at 7pm - the donations given are what keeps this event viable so please do remember to bring cash along. There will also be tap and pay terminals however these take longer to process.

CC1574 – PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Planning Applications

Only 2 new applications:

- 25/00499/FUL Greenend: Cottage 36 Balfron Road - Alterations to enlarge window openings, infill external doorway and rear window openings and installation of rooflights.

Action: KCC not to object, but to comment in regards to concerns over changes to the original cottage (not changes to the newer extension)

- 25/00498/FUL: 26 Balfron Road - Formation of framed door/window to the side elevation of existing detached garage

There are still 5 applications pending, 1 has been approved and 1 application withdrawn. Details of these are on the KCC website. <https://killlearncc.org.uk/planning.html>

TPO

There is no TPO on the Glen but Ingrid (Stirling Council Tree Officer) is looking into this. There is an LNCS so there is protection and it is Council owned.

Concern was raised by members of the public around whether a TPO in the Glen would just add a layer of unnecessary bureaucracy.

Additionally, following the LPP and interest in extending areas of the TPO Ingrid will be reviewing these. It was discussed that it isn't necessarily about one particular tree but the character of the area.

Action: KCC to share suggestions and specific trees to be considered as part of this review.

CC1575 – ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT

In Calum's absence, Fiona shared the following updates with reference to local road activities:

Road Closures

- Station Rd. above Blane Bridge closure - 27th October to 29th October: The B834 (Station Rd. heading to Finnich Toll over bridge) – will be closed from its junction with the A809 to its junction with the A81 from 0900 hours until 1600 hours to facilitate road maintenance works.
- Station Rd. closure - 2nd November: B834 Station Road will be closed from its junction with the A875 (Balfron Rd.) to the junction of Gartness Road for fireworks night. Parking will also be suspended on B834 Station Road on both sides from its junction with the A875 to the junction of Gartness Road, and along the A875 from the junction of The Square to a point 200 metres or thereby north-east of Greenend Road from 1830 hours until 2000 hours to facilitate a fireworks display.

- Remembrance Service, Memorial Procession - There will be a procession from the Church to the memorial for the remembrance service on Sunday 9th November during the period of 10.45 – 11.15. *Please note that the service is planned to take place in the Church but should this not be possible, it will be held in the Church Hall.*

Speeding & Road Markings

- It is proposed that the 20-mph speed limit be extended further out to the location of the 30-mph speed limit signs into the village. Consideration will also be given to the implementation of a 40-mph speed limit buffer zone in advance of the 20-mph speed limit. This work will be carried out this financial year. Speed surveys have been carried out in all towns/villages subject to a 20-mph speed limit. The results will be shared with KCC when they are available.
- Review of double yellow lines at top of Station Rd. - The lines were repainted a few months ago, but not extended through the narrowest part of the road, which now means people park at the narrowest section, which also has the poorest visibility. Stirling Council have responded that the position of the Service will not have changed since the response which means, unfortunately, additional double yellow lines will not be considered.

Street Lights

- Lighting on Station Rd. - The link footpath is part of the major residential development being constructed by Cala Homes, the road and footpath were illuminated to aid the safe passage of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to and from this new development to Killearn. The lighting design was commissioned by Cala conforming to the road classification with the lighting applied to the recommended levels, all LED lanterns installed by Stirling Council are Dark Sky certificated. The lighting design was required to be completed to the standards below - Stirling Council has no current agreement in place that allows for the switching off any operational street lighting on adopted roads and footpaths.

Access Visibility

- Accessing Station Rd. from Gartness Rd. – KCC has asked SC for help to place a mirror at the junction to help improve visibility – after a local resident raised concerns. Stirling Council responded; due to the limited extent of the public road, they are unable to improve the visibility at this location. They would not provide, nor would they approve the erection of a mirror within the public road network. There are several issues associated with the erection of a mirror on the road network, such as:
 - Difficulty judging the distance and/or speed of approaching vehicles,
 - They can be subject to glare from the sun or headlights,
 - The images may be distorted due to dirt, rain, frost or damage,
 - They provide a reduced field of vision which may not show approaching cyclists or pedestrians
 - The presence of a mirror can lead to over-reliance, leading drivers to neglect normal safety precautions.

CC1576 – CORRESPONDENCE

Fiona reported on the following correspondence:

- City Park Stirling - SC has announced that more than £750,000 will be invested at City Park Stirling to make it Scotland's leading sustainable outdoor events space with a 30,000 capacity. The funding will be used to improve the site (located in the

shadow of Stirling Castle) to make it suitable for large-scale music events, concerts and festivals.

It is hoped to attract large-scale concerts, festivals or events over the next 15 years. It is expected the works will be completed by 31 March 2026 (subject to planning permission and other relevant statutory consents).

- Oak Tree in Playpark - the council is currently progressing the contract for work to be completed Autumn/ Winter, once the leaves are off as this makes it easier for contractors to see the wood for the leaves and also to identify any potential protected species.
- Replacements for the flying fox and small slide in the kids play area - The council has committed to replacing the flying fox and the slide in the play area at the park. (There is a 6 week lead time)
- Lights at the Primary School MUGA - there are now lights at the MUGA ! (Multi Use Games Area) at the Primary School
- Bus Shelter cleaning - The award of the contract for the maintenance and cleaning of council owned bus shelters is close to being awarded subject to a few procurement related issues being resolved. SC are looking to award the contract at the earliest opportunity.
- New glass recycling bins - New glass bins will be arriving on Thursday 16th Oct. Collection frequencies for glass recycling will remain unchanged until 5 January 2026. After this date, the collection frequency will move to every eight weeks.

Should residents wish to no longer have their old 55 litre glass collection boxes - please put them beside the new bins on their next scheduled collection date and Stirling Council will dispose of them.

- X10 Last Bus Cancellation - In light of the 2 last X10 buses being cancelled leaving residents stranded and having to make their own way home - Please get a receipt and attach it to an email to McGills with the date, time and stop you were waiting at to get a refund. Please note that this only applies to the Last Bus.

Email: enquiries@mcgillsscotlandeast.co.uk

CC1577 – QUESTION TIME

- Rhododendron at Cala Homes Site - A member of the public raised concerns over the removal of a rhododendron patch along the roadside at the Cala homes site. It has been mulched and is now fenced off but there doesn't seem to be signs of spraying. As part of planning 24 there should be a treatment plan to prevent spreading.

Action: KCC to look into this.

- Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam - A member of the public raised concerns over large quantities of these various plants on verges coming into Killearn and the potential spread into the village.

It was noted that the council can only manage these plants on council owned land and anything private needs to go through Nature Scot.

A member of the public outlined that Japanese Knotweed only spreads through its roots/soil, whereas the others can pollinate and travel through rivers etc.

Action: Cllr Rosemary Fraser requested that she is sent the exact locations of these plants to ensure they are treated.

CC1578 – COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

Cllr Rosemary Fraser presented the following report:

- There is a bi election in Stirling East on Thursday 30th October

CC1579 – TREASURER’S REPORT

Andrew Donaldson presented the following report:

Outgoings: £47 (Registration with the Information Commissioner's Office)

Income: £802.78 (Grant)

Current balance: £1,937.41

CC1580 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Broadband Update - Openreach have been at work in Beech Drive. BT engineers have been installing a fibre 'spine' down Beech Drive and fibre branches down the other side roads eg Harper's Road, Alder Road, Birch Road, etc and then interconnecting these to make a full-fibre service available within the whole Trees estate. Hopefully towards the end of the year, using the postcode checker should show that full fibre (ie FTTP) is available to order for these premises.

Full-fibre options range from about 40Mbps (down) and 10Mbps (up), to 1000Mbps in both directions, depending on the package you choose i.e. cost.

- KCC membership - it is with sadness that KCC is losing Susie Henderson as a co-opted member of KCC. Susie has recently moved to Strathblane and is therefore no longer a resident in the community council area. Thanks were noted to Susie for her time on the council. Vacancies for community council members will be advertised in due course.
- Youth Members - Due to the Summer break we have a change in Youth members.

Action: KCC to follow up with Balfron High School to confirm who this will be.

CC1581 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next KCC meeting will be on Wed. **19 Nov. 2025 at 8.00 pm**

This meeting ended at 21:08.