

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 MARCH 2026

Members present Andrew Donaldson, Fiona Rennie, Heidi Bryce, Hilary McGregor, Michael Bowdidge, Tasha Houchin.

Apologies Calum Mclean, Elizabeth Jones, Emily Semple, Paul Henke.

In attendance Graeme Fraser (KCFC), Jessie Malcom (NHS), Frank Deas (SWSCan), 20 members of the public,

To contact us - pls. go to www.killlearncc.org.uk and click on the contact button

CC1618 - MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY '26

- 18 February minutes approved by Tasha Houchin & Andrew Donaldson

CC1619 - MATTERS ARISING

- Blackwood
Still no update but still operating with minimal staff.
- Nursery and budgets
Council to bring together providers in the village. Hasn't happened yet but they are keen to do so.
- EV chargers in Health Centre Car Park
Still out of order - KCC still chasing SSE
- Access across Drumtlan Rd/Buchanan views
Mhari, the access officer has met with the landowner, who was present at the meeting. They have bought land with the intention to move to Killearn over the next few years and are hoping to build a house on the plot. They have put up a fence, planted 1500 trees and have been working to tidy up an agricultural field which has been left untended for the past 20 or so years. In the short term they would hope to rent out the field for agricultural use.

Mhari advised that there is currently no public right of way across the land, but would encourage the landowner to put in a stile / styles to provide access. They are not obliged to do so – but this would allow access for walkers.

There was shared disappointment at the meeting about stories of fly tipping and dog mess left in the field and local residents will continue to challenge those who are leaving mess, whilst the landowner is happy to consider access options.

KCC was represented at the meeting with the landowner and the access officer and happy to speak to residents who might want to share views etc.

- Balfron Gym facilities / classes
Concern the current facilities management contract is coming to an end and there is not yet certainty over pricing / access in the future as the Council takes over. The council hire charges have been shared with parents and facility users and charges appear to be significantly higher than current arrangements – more discussions ongoing.

See link for charges information:

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/media/5v4jnpmw/charges-2024-25-t-and-c.pdf> .

- 41 Station Rd

The landowner has been issued with a breach of condition notice with respect to lack of action to mark out and respect root protection zones for significant trees. The notice gives a period of 28 days to meet conditions – and will incur a £1,000 if conditions not met.

Other issues appear to have been addressed – drainage, fencing, replacement planting.

- Flying fox

Works have started to replace / relocate the flying fox but the land surrounding it has been left boggy due to entry to the works from Birch Rd. Following complaints from local residents, the Football club and KCC, the Council has agreed they will re-condition and re-turf the area.

The Football club and the 10k team have matches / events coming up and there is an urgency to get the work done. There is still no wire on the flying fox yet, so it is still not operational. Oversight of contractors needs to be addressed with the Council and lessons learned.

Action: KCC to write to the council for an update on the plans for landscaping and completion of the flying fox.

CC1620 - POLICE MATTERS

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

No crimes reported in Killearn but noted that there seems to have been a spate of quad bikes being stolen in other villages.

CC1621 – KCFC UPDATE

→ The latest edition of the Killearn Courier has just been delivered. Graeme thanked all of those who play a part in editing, production and delivery – it's such a community effort and much appreciated.

→ The Village Hall is promoting its 200th anniversary year this year and will be celebrating by supporting local community events / activities in and around the hall.

The first of those events was the Let's Dance event held on Sunday 8th March. A lovely day in the hall, with lots of local residents and guests getting the chance to move / dance – try some new moves! There was a bucket collection at the event with funds raised going to Dance and Sing for Parkinsons

<https://www.danceandsingforparkinsons.co.uk> and the Village Hall.

Graeme thanked all who supported.

CC1622– PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Tasha presented the planning report - there have been 5 new applications as below, none of which she felt raised any concerns at this stage.

→ 26/00095/FUL 12 Allan Road - Single storey extension to dwellinghouse

→ 26/00082/FUL 15 Elder Road - Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of one and a half storey extension to side, alterations to existing building, including new rooflights

- 26/00080/FUL 4 Oak Place - New pitched roof over garage to replace existing flat roof
- 26/00001/FUL 71 Main Street - Erection of perimeter fence around garden
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- 25/00548/FUL Replacement dwellinghouse - Drumore Farm Cottage Gartness Road

- Local Place Plan

Tweaks made and returned to Stirling Council for validation and posting on the Stirling Council website. Fiona explained that there were plans being discussed to provide a small leaflet summarising the plan to help residents understand more about the key points and messages put forward.

Action: LPP to be posted on SC website and Fiona to provide details of summary leaflet

- Call for Sites

Another communication coming out imminently to show who has put in sites.

Questions around whether locally used land could be put forward for development despite the value it brings to many aspects of village life - Unsure but presumably objections relating to ecology, liveable neighbourhoods etc would be made and they would be taken into account.

CC1623 – ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT

Fiona read out the roads report sent in by Calum:

- Station Road

The missing bollard at the chicane has been reported to Stirling Council, and via the Report It website. Awaiting update on the replacement.

- Station Road

Double yellow lines - Stirling Council have issued a notice to say they are proposing to extend the double yellow lines at the top of Station Road, on the Village Hall side of the road. This follows complaints from drivers on access up / down Station Rd.

- A875/Balfron Road

Speed limits – the 20mph limit is to be extended beyond the last house on Balfron Road, heading towards Balfron and a 40mph buffer zone is to be implemented on Balfron Road towards Balfron, and on the A875 beyond Branziert Road as far as Westerton Farm

Action: Fiona to chase again with the Council as they had said 20 mph support plan would happen within the 25-26 budget year – i.e. prior to end March '26

Discussion around the lack of a 20mph limit being observed by most people driving through the village. A local resident queried whether community monitoring with equipment from the police might be available. This had been looked at previously and there was significant cost implication and training requirements. There were also concerns about how participants could be targeted / harassed by individuals they might try to question

Action: Fiona to discuss with police to see if this is worth pursuing. Heidi explained that the local school children had been involved in doing this previously and received such abuse it's not something the school would get involved in again.

- Repairs to Blane Bridge

Still no update on plans for work.

Action: Calum to check. Note that the wall on the NW corner has been hit 3 times over the years and a crash barrier was suggested.

- Note the difference that the path up Station Rd. has made

It makes a much safer route to the village for those out walking in that area. Gulleys on Station Rd full with debris on the path side. This has been reported to the Council.

Action: Fiona to chase

CC1624 – CORRESPONDENCE

Fiona reported on the following correspondence:

- CEO of Stirling Council, Brian Roberts is hoping to come to the June meeting of KCC.
- Kings Highway – Sarah Deas explained that Stirling Council had employed a consultant to look at path routes to link Stirling Castle with Dumbarton Castle – a route known as the King’s Highway. Transport Scotland and Regional Transport Authority manage this budget and had given the Council funding for an initial concept piece of work Face to face and online events have been held and an online survey is now open till 31st March – see link <https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/king-s-highway-active-travel-project>.

Sarah noted that the Killlearn-Balfron element had 3 options with the route entirely off-road proposed as the preferred option. Ongoing maintenance, affordability and purpose of route to be looked into further – and one of the main priorities is to have a National Cycle Network along the whole route. Next steps are findings being drawn together and residents are encouraged to complete the survey and support the preferred route. The timeline for the project is to complete the Stirling to Gargunnoch portion within the next 5 years, thereafter no further details. It was queried at the meeting whether the Tourist Levy could be used for this?

Action: residents to view / complete the survey to help support the need for a local path from Killlearn to Balfron

<https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/king-s-highway-active-travel-project>

- Stirling Council is launching a two-year pilot of two new bus services to improve connections between rural communities in the western part of the council area. The new in-house services will be called the C61 and the C62 and will start operating on Monday 30 March. They will operate on the following routes:
 - C61: Callander -Thornhill - Port of Menteith - Aberfoyle (bookable/on demand journeys between Aberfoyle and Kinlochard).
 - C62: Croftamie – Drymen – Balfron Station – Balfron – Fintry – Kippen.

Both services will use all recognised bus stops along these routes and will link to existing public transport provision following feedback from recent public consultations in this area Stirling Council has approved their 26-27 budget – including a 8.75% increase in council tax. Council Tax notification have been posted out / delivered

- Garden Waste permits - the link is now live for renewal of Garden Waste permits <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/garden-waste-permits/>

Action: Fiona to query how people with no access to a computer apply

- The old glass bin box can still be returned or taken to the local recycling centre.
- Recyke-a-bike are offering free bike servicing in the village on Monday 6th April from 10am -3pm. Residents can also donate any old bikes on the same day. Noted that Cycling Killlearn have received 134 bike donations so far.
- Active Travel at Balfron High have received a grant to fund 10 places on a bike maintenance 2-day course. If anyone wants to take up the offer, pls. get in touch with Sarah Deas.
- It is the newly formed South West Stirling Climate Action Network, (SWSCan) AGM –on Sat 28th March, all welcome. Anyone coming should register on Eventbrite. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-west-stirling-climate-action-network-swscan-networking-event-agm-tickets-1982789198869> Energy, Biodiversity, and local sustainable businesses will be topics. Resilience around emergency situations will also be discussed.

CC1625 – QUESTION TIME

- No questions

CC1626 – COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

- Paul Henke had given his apologies and there was no councillor report

CC1627 – TREASURER’S REPORT

Andrew Donaldson presented the following report:

Income: £0

Outgoings: £22.50 (Hall hire)

Current Balance: £1082.81

CC1628 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Note to all that there will be Lomond Mountain Rescue training in Killlearn Glen on Thursday 19th March

CC1629 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next KCC meeting will be on Wed. **15th April 2026 at 8.00 pm**

This meeting ended at 21:32