



*A Happy Easter from all at Killearn
Community Council*

Please find below – an update on news from KCC. Pls. see link for more details and minutes of the meetings <https://killearncc.org.uk/meetings.html>

Pls. note that the next KCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th Apr. at 8pm - pls. email contactus@Killearncc.org.uk for details and we look forward to seeing you there.

POLICE MATTERS - the latest police report is available on the KCC website www.killearncc.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.

PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

There have been 5 new applications as below – none of which are felt to raise 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
- 25/00548/FUL Replacement dwellinghouse - Drumore Farm Cottage Gartness Road

Tweaks have been made to the Killearn Local Place Plan and it has now been returned to Stirling Council for validation and posting on the Stirling Council website. Plans are being discussed to provide a small leaflet summarising the plan to help residents understand more about the key points and messages put forward.

Stirling Council will shortly publish details from the Call for Sites <https://planning.stirling.gov.uk/pages/call-for-ideas-and-sites> – to show who has put in ideas for development of sites in / around the area.

ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Roads & paths:

- Damage to bollards at chicane on Station Rd. – this has been reported to Stirling Council for repair
- New white lines on Balfron Road – the road marking contractor will attend once weather conditions allow
- 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

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- There was discussion at the KCC meeting on the lack of 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 – KCC to seek an update / advice from the Police
- Repairs to Blane Bridge – still no update on plans for works – KCC to check on update and noted that the wall on the NW corner has been hit 3 times over the years and a crash barrier has been suggested.
- Road between Blane Smithy Roundabout and Blane Bridge – following a query from a local resident – the council has replied to acknowledge the ongoing issues with potholes and the general deterioration along this section and have confirmed that this entire stretch of carriageway is programmed for resurfacing in the forthcoming financial year.

AOB

- Balforn High School Sports Facility - following the end of the PFI agreement, Stirling Council is taking on the contract for the running of the facility - arrangements are likely to stay as is but the formal handover to SC has not yet happened. The council hire charges have been shared with parents and facility users – see link for charges information <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/media/5v4jnpmw/charges-2024-25-t-and-c.pdf>
- Blackwood House – still no update but still operating with minimal staff.
- EV Charger – KCC & Stirling Council are still chasing SSE
- 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.
- There continue to be issues with reliability of the local bus services provided by McGills – and the company is now being called to another public enquiry in March and could face further disciplinary action
- 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 – Balforn Station – Balforn – Fintry – Kippen.
- Garden Waste Bins - the link is now live for renewal of Garden Waste permits <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/garden-waste-permits/>
- Active Travel at Balforn High School 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 c/o Cycling Killearn cycling@kcfc.co.uk
- 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 Killearn have received 134 bike donations so far – thanks to all who have contributed
- The latest edition of the Killearn Courier has just been delivered – its such a community effort and much appreciated – thanks to all involved
- The CEO of Stirling Council, Brian Roberts will be joining the June meeting of KCC.

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- And we (KCC) are still looking for someone local to join us as our Minutes Secretary - someone to take minutes at the meetings and then to write up and share those minutes. There is a fee of £40 paid / meeting and we'd love to hear from anyone who might be interested ?

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