

Kiltearn Community Council



Minutes –

Held in Ante Room, Diamond Jubilee Hall

Held on Tuesday 12th November 2024

PRESENT

Elected Members

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

Councillors

Clr Sinclair Coghill

Public

Preston White
John Ross
Maureen Cusick
Gary Payne
Anne Macdonald
Lorna Shirran
Janice Robertson

Item Discussion

1 **Apologies/Welcome**

Apologies noted from Mike Finlayson (MF).

2 **Finance**

Balances are £106,776 & £83,451

The bank has been in touch with SD about a different type of account so SD & JM will meet with the manager.

SD, JM

3 **Previous Minutes/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting of 10th October 2024, were agreed as proposed by MM and seconded by SM.

- 3.1 • **Village Officer** proposals and research being undertaken by SD, MM and MF. MM will raise this with ECT to act as possible host for this.

**SD, MF
MM**

- 3.2
- **New Jubilee Hall junction**
Trevor Black is still in communication with Highland Council. Cllr Coghill agreed to try to push this forward before the KCC takes the matter to a public meeting.
- 3.3
- **Public toilet** JM advised that the Highland Council would undertake a process of asset transfer of the land involved. JM will seek further advice from Helen Ross . MM will raise with the ECT taking this on or as a lease. **MM,JM**
- 3.4
- **Xmas lights** – These are now ready to be put up. Brackets have been ordered to adjust the positioning of some of the lights, depending on width of pavement to allow lorries to pass without knocking them (if they arrive on time). The school designs will be left until next year due to delays. The poppy light has been a great success and much appreciated by all. The village entrance sign light is broken so JM will organise its repair. **JM**
- 3.5
- **Defibrillators** – a new defib is now in place on the Sharing Shed. JM to check with MF if Cornerstone are still intending on having an additional training session. **JM,MF**
- 3.6
- **Multiple major energy planning applications & consultations** – JM met with the Secretary of Ardross Community Council and a larger meeting will be organised to try and combine forces with other Community Councils. New legislation has come in requiring that companies do ‘meaningful consultation with communities’ in regard to proposals which should then also take into account other proposals in the surrounding areas. **JM**
- 3.7
- **Highland Council and HIE survey** – have now been submitted.
- 3.8
- **Flowers** – JM, with help from John Ross and Preston White, will now take the baskets down. **JM**
- 5 Correspondence**
- 5.1
- Moira Mckenna, the Deputy Lieutenant to Joanie Whiteford, Lord-Lieutenant for Ross and Cromarty, will be attending the January 2025 KCC meeting to further explain the role and function of the Lieutenancy and how it may be of help to the Community Council and our community.
- 5.2
- An email was received from a resident of Sgitheach Place who was upset that the hawthorn trees on the Village Green, backing onto her property, had been chopped down. This has now been passed to the ECT. **MM**
- 6 Other Business**
- 6.1 **Police Report**
None received.
- 6.2 **Councillors updates**
- Cllr Sinclair Coghill advised that with reference to the Highland Council Motion regarding how Community Councils can respond collectively to the

multiple energy & infrastructure proposals there are plans to recruit a Geographical Information Systems officer so that there can be live planning mapping of all the proposals that are put forward and all applications will have to take into consideration other proposals for the area.

- The Swordale battery installation proposal will be reported for committee in December. KCC will email Cllr Maxine Smith and Cllr Tamala Collier with a copy of the KCC's objections to the proposal for their reference.
- Cllr Sinclair Coghill will report about the hole/gully outside Cornerstone
- Cllr Sinclair Coghill has reported about the decreasing width of the footpath leading up the hill out of the village towards the cemetery turn off but nothing done so far.

AG

No update received from the other councillors.

6.3 While discussing road issues it was raised that the back road to Dingwall is not fit for purpose. It was suggested that a senior Highland Council roads representative is invited to a meeting to discuss various large issues.

JM

6.4 GB mentioned that the Katewell signpost has been knocked down and nothing done, although reported. If not put back up KCC will look at doing it.

JM

6.5 SD again mentioned that the large pothole in the carpark has still not been filled.

7 Housing

SD raised that there are queries about the points system for the new housing scheme. Some local folk feel they are not being prioritised. It was suggested that Fiona Shand is invited to attend a KCC meeting to explain the system for allocation of housing. JM emphasised that it is really important that families get their names down on the list for possible allocation into the new houses.

JM

8 Grants

8.1 ECT

Regarding organising a Christmas party for all primary age children in Kiltearn, approx. 140 children.

Applied for £450

APPROVED

SD

8.2 Kiltearn Primary School

Regarding for costs toward swim buses.

Total cost £5400, applied for £2400.

APPROVED

SD

9 Village Minibus

Suggested that having a village minibus should be revisited for use by all. SM & MM to research.

SM,MM

10 Groups

10.1 Evanton Social & Events -

- The group has been recognised by Age Scotland for their work with senior citizens and a certificate for this is in pride of place in the Cornerstone window.
- Friday 13th December, Carol concert in the parish church and then afterwards at Cornerstone as a fundraiser for the Hospice.
- 3rd or 4th December the senior citizens Christmas outing, 18th December the lunch club.
- There will be a senior citizens dinner in the New Year.
- Anne MacDonald asked why Highland Council were not at the Memorial Day service to lay a wreath. Cllr Coghill advised that it was planned that Cllr Tamala Collier would do it but she was unable to get there.
- The memorial steps are still on a waiting list to be redone.

10.2 Evanton Community Trust –

- 7th December, Christmas market. It is fully booked with stall holders.
- 19th December, primary age children's Christmas party.
- 30th December, family Ceilidh.
- Unfortunately the application for the hall refurbishment of the lighting and heating from CARES was unsuccessful. They are still waiting to hear back from SSEN.
- It was agreed that SM & AG would share being a part of the Hall Management Group, along with JM, as KCC representatives.

SM,AG

11 Sports Hall

In reference to issue regarding usage restrictions. To explore the possibility of setting up an umbrella group called the Evanton Sports Club with its own constitution and committee. KCC would subsidise the Public Liability Insurance. At least three people, or users of the hall, are needed to be a part of this. MM to research. AG to put a post on Facebook.

MM,AG

12 Place Plan

Maureen Cusick advised that the bulk of the Plan has now been written. There will be a presentation with public consultation on 22nd November as a feedback session.

13 AOCB

- 13.1
- **Grant application form** – SM & MM to continue to look at updating the form. To be reviewed at next meeting.

SM,MM

- 13.2
- **Evanton.online** – Gary Payne advised that many issues and requests can be pushed through on the Evanton.online page. He is glad of all news and updates. He would appreciate any help with the task of creating the newsletter.

- 13.3
- **Winter relief fund** – MM has researched options and spoken to AliEnergy who are funded by Re-dress Scotland who the KCC could use as a third party. MM, SM and GB will look at proposals in more detail on both the physical and financial help that could be involved. **MM,SM, GB**
- 13.4
- **Event/notice signage** – Anne Macdonald requested that any temporary notices/signage advertising events coming up that folk put up around the streets are then taken down immediately after the event as it can become unsightly and is left to others to dispose of the notices. AG to put a post on Facebook. **AG**
- 14** **Next meeting:** Tuesday 10th December 2024

The Chair thanked those present for their attendance.