

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 18 JUNE 2014**

Members present M Burdon, A Donaldson, M Harrison (Chair), D Scott, H Wright
Apologies J Allan, E Cairns, J Duncan, D Morley, E Robertson
In attendance Cllr A Berrill, P Campbell (SC), 12 members of the public,
 C Bauwens (Minute Secretary)

AGM1 – MINUTES OF LAST AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 19 June 2013 were approved and accepted as a true record of the meeting.

AGM2 – CHAIR’S REPORT

The Chair outlined the substance of the Annual Report for the year 2013/2014. Acceptance of the report was moved by H Wright and seconded by M Burdon. The Annual Report is attached to the minute.

AGM3 – TREASURER’S REPORT

D Scott presented the Audited Accounts for the year 2013/2014. Acceptance of the accounts was moved by A Donaldson and seconded by M Burdon. The Audited Accounts are attached to the minute.

AGM4 – ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

The Officers of the Council were re-elected, proposed by B Pell and seconded by H McArthur.

AGM 5 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.17 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

Killlearn Community Council (KCC) was formally disbanded in October 2013. Several experienced members stood down after many years' service to the community – Brenda Pell, our very able Chairman, whose wise counsel guided many a difficult discussion; Peter Wilks, Vice Chair and Minutes Secretary, who had served on successive Community Councils for almost 30 years; Nigel Kelly, Roads Correspondent, whose professional knowledge proved invaluable in this role, and Peter Rea, who had a thorough knowledge of the planning process as Planning Correspondent. The loss of their expertise and their collective memory of the Community Council will be keenly felt. The Community Council was reconstituted in November 2013 for a four-year period, with Margaret Harrison as Chairman; Margery Burdon, Secretary; David Scott, Vice Chairman and Treasurer; Jim Allan, Roads Correspondent; Andrew Donaldson, Webmaster; Heather Wright, Health and Waste Management Correspondent; Janet Duncan; and from February 2014, David Morley. Christine Bauwens has been recruited as Minutes Secretary. In addition, we were fortunate to have Ellie Cairns and Eilidh Robertson as our Youth members. Their advice on matters of interest to the young people of Killlearn is very much welcomed.

Some important issues discussed during the year:

- Priority Based Budgeting (PBB). With an annual budget of £200m, Stirling Council (SC) requires to make savings of £29m over the next five years. Feedback was requested on a range of options, considered under 3 budget categories – Transformation options, Efficiency options and Stop/Reduce. Public meetings organised by SC were helpful but the short timescale and lack of guidance on the nature of the response were a difficulty. KCC, along with other Community Councils, objected to proposed reductions in respite care, educational opportunities, grants to voluntary bodies and waste management. The agreed SC budget for 2014-15 took account of community views, and similar budget discussions will take place in future years.
- Local development Plan (LDP). Stirling Council's Proposed LDP together with a summary of the unresolved issues and the full text of comments and objections from members of the public were considered by the Reporter to the Scottish Government during 2013-14. The Reporter's decision was announced in March 2014: the 50 houses proposed for the site on Station Road were deleted from the LDP, and the 30 houses originally suggested for the field below Blairessan House were restored to the LDP. KCC and the wider community in Killlearn will have the opportunity to comment when the development brief for this site is published.
- Killlearn Hospital site was approved in the LDP for mixed housing and business use. However the Reporter considered that development was unlikely in the near future because of the costs of clearing the site. This is unacceptable to the people of Killlearn. The hospital closed in 1973, the buildings are derelict and in a state of collapse and the site is an eyesore in a major tourist area on the approach to the Loch Lomond National Park. KCC made strong representations to SC that the hospital site requires to be cleared as soon as possible. At the time of writing some activity to remove collapsed buildings appears to be taking place.

- The Bungalows on the Turnip Field. This project, involving SC using its own workforce to build 6 semi-detached bungalows for the elderly or for people with varying needs, was begun in August 2012. The houses were due for completion in March 2013 but are still not completed at June 2014. SC states that the houses are completed internally but no water supply has yet been connected. KCC has made repeated complaints to SC about the lack of progress, and Stirling Observer newspaper published a feature on the project.
- Post Office provision. KCC supported the proposal to move Dumgoyne Post Office to new accommodation within the Oakwood Garden Centre. The new facility is open 7 days per week, and the Village Post Office will also be open 7 days per week from June 2014. KCC paid tribute to the excellent service provided by local postal workers, particularly our Postmistresses, Jay Houghton and Janet Duncan, who recently retired.
- Broadband. We were represented at a meeting organised by SC with Digital Scotland, the organisation appointed by the Scottish Government to ensure superfast broadband is delivered throughout Scotland. Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) infrastructure will be required for most areas to allow download rates of around 80 Mbps, compared to about 8 Mbps currently available in the village. Killearn is due to be upgraded in the second half of 2016.

Other business included responding to a Community Empowerment consultation, now published as the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill 2014. This will extend the community right to buy land and buildings, and involve communities to a greater extent in agreeing priorities for action by public bodies. KCC supported a Community Petition by the people of Boquhan and Killearn for improvements to the safety of the footpath between the two villages. We hosted speakers from SC Trading Standards Department on doorstep crime, which targets the elderly and vulnerable in particular, and from First Bus Group, Balfron Garage. We welcomed the inclusion of Killearn in the Commonwealth Baton Relay, which will take place on Station Road and Balfron Road on Sunday 6 July. Field in Trust status was confirmed by the erection of a cairn and commemorative plaque on the football field.

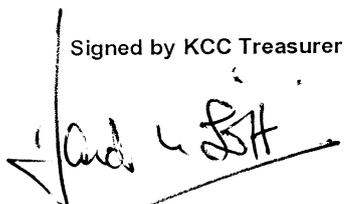
We have introduced a one page newsheet – KCC Update - which is posted on the Spar and Village Hall noticeboards. We expect to circulate this more widely, using email, in the near future.

Finally, I should like to thank all Community Councillors for their hard work during the year, especially Andrew Donaldson for redesigning our website, and Christine Bauwens for her excellent minutes. Thanks also to our local councillors, Alistair Berrill, Graham Lambie and Ian Muirhead for their support. Congratulations are due to our Community Police Officer, David McNally on his promotion to Sergeant. We are losing both of our Youth Members, Ellie and Eilidh, and we wish them well as they move on to new challenges. Emily Gardner will join us as a Youth Member; we require another Youth Member and have three vacancies for Community Councillors. We are particularly keen to recruit a Planning Correspondent, so if you have an interest in, or professional knowledge of this area we would be delighted to hear from you. The work is varied and interesting, so please consider joining KCC.

Margaret Harrison, June 2014

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
For the YEAR ended 31 MARCH**

	2014 £	2013 £
INCOME		
Stirling Council Grants:		
Administration	375.85	373.35
Community Pride	-	400.00
Jubilee Fund	-	1,500.00
Killearn Hoolie	185.00	-
Interest	0.02	-
	<u>560.87</u>	<u>2,273.35</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Administration		
Room Hire	-	50.00
Postage	-	30.50
Website & Telephone	-	72.39
Data Protection ICO	35.00	35.00
Photocopying	14.00	176.19
Mileage	-	77.20
Minute Secretary	81.00	-
Audit Fee	-	28.00
	<u>130.00</u>	<u>469.28</u>
KCC Expenditure		
Notice Board Repairs	-	105.50
Thursday Club	-	300.00
Abbeyfield	-	100.00
Killearn Hoolie	-	130.00
School Janitor	21.00	22.00
Rights of Way	20.00	-
Gates for Village Hall	-	1,370.00
	<u>41.00</u>	<u>2,027.50</u>
	<u>171.00</u>	<u>2,496.78</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	389.87	- 223.43
Funds brought Forward	723.44	946.87
Funds Carried Forward	<u><u>1,113.31</u></u>	<u><u>723.44</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Bank Balance at 31 March	1,113.31	2,121.44
less Accruals	-	1,398.00
	<u><u>1,113.31</u></u>	<u><u>723.44</u></u>

Signed by KCC Treasurer

 David Scott
 19 May 2014

Report by Independent Examiner

I confirm that I have inspected the above accounts and found them to be in accordance with the records maintained by the Treasurer and have received all necessary information and explanations.

Iain Somerville LLB.CA, Killearn
 19 May 2014

