

## **KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 DECEMBER 2023**

Members present	Michael Bowdidge, Heidi Bryce, Caroline Carrick, Andrew Donaldson, Elizabeth Jones (chair), Calum McLean, Lachlann Mackenzie, Fiona Rennie
Apologies	Doug Ashworth, Susie Henderson, Hilary McGregor, Police Scotland, Euan Shaw
In attendance	Graeme Fraser (KCFC), Jessie-Anne Malcolm (NHS Forth Valley) Ewan Macdonald (Macdonald & Cameron), Jim Ptolomey, John Turnbull (McTaggart Construction), 25 members of the public, Christine Bauwens (Minute Secretary)

How to contact us    Go to [www.killlearncc.org.uk](http://www.killlearncc.org.uk) and click on contact button.

### **CC1366 – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2023**

The minutes were voted as a true record of the meeting.

### **CC1367 – MATTERS ARISING**

- **CC1358 – Planning and Local Place Plan**

Following a problem with the QR code on the information leaflet for the Local Place Plan Survey, it was announced that the leaflet has been re-printed with the correct details.

### **CC1368 – POLICE MATTERS**

As Police Scotland was unable to attend the meeting, Fiona presented the following report:

- Theft from glamping pod within the area. Enquiries are still ongoing.
- Attempted fraud targeting an older resident via a telephone call, supposedly from BT, to check their computer for viruses. Access was given and a considerable amount of money tried to be withdrawn from the victim's bank account. The bank stopped the transaction and police enquiries are ongoing.
- Damage caused to a glass pane of house front door.
- Report received of fireworks being let off near the old church during bonfire night but no trace of persons when Police attended.
- Minor damage caused to vehicle after striking a deer.
- In another village, theft of quantity of elderly person's high value jewellery by bogus workman, purported to be an employee of Scottish Water. Local residents are asked to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to Police.

A local member of the public spoke of a potential scam involving roofing work, advising caution before agreeing to any work.

The full police report is available on KCC website [www.killlearncc.org.uk](http://www.killlearncc.org.uk)

### **CC1369 – KCFC UPDATE**

Graeme reported on the following:

- Well attended and much enjoyed film night and presentation with Jackie Savery and Nigel Pope of Maramedia held in the Village Hall on Sunday 19 November. It is hoped to run further such events more regularly in the future.
- Successful Christmas Country Market was well attended.
- The village Christmas tree was erected on 2 December at Killlearn Kirk. Grateful thanks were expressed to Eden Mill for providing same and to the volunteers from Colourful Killlearn for putting the tree up and fitting the lights.
- It was announced that grant funding has been awarded to KCFC for the Warm Space Initiative at the Village Hall. This will take place every Sunday from 7 January 2024.
- Thanks were given to Caroline for her involvement in organising the Christmas lights on Balfron Road.
- The Village Hall was very pleased to work again with Killlearn Primary School to provide an Advent Window. Thanks were expressed to all who supported the launch on a particularly wet evening.

### **CC1370 – YOUTH REPORT**

Lachlann reported on the Gold School of Sport Award received by Balfron Schools Cluster at a prestigious ceremony held on 5 December 2023. All eight schools within the area received the highest level given by Scotland's national agency for sport, SportScotland.

### **CC1371 – PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

#### **Planning Schedule**

Jim spoke to the meeting regarding the following planning applications:

23/00680/FUL Erection of dwelling house for the retirement succession of a viable farm holding at land 230m south west of Essangal Cottage, Killlearn.

It was agreed to draw this to the attention of Cala Homes, as it may affect their development.

A local member of the public requested that demolition of the sewage works and old asbestos buildings be a condition of the planning application being approved. It was agreed that Jim contact SC to clarify whether this is a brownfield site and the potential health hazards involved.

23/00719/FUL Erection of multi-storey dwelling house and double garage, landscaping and formation of new paved driveway at garden ground of 41 Station Road, Killlearn.

Following discussion from the floor, it was agreed KCC object on the following grounds:

- Proposed 9/10 apartment three storey house is out of character with local surroundings and is over development of plot. Request more information on use of house. KCC recommended smaller building more in keeping with surroundings.
- Facing brick not sympathetic with surrounding area.
- Loss of daylight and privacy for neighbouring properties.
- Road safety issues resulting from new access onto the very busy Station Road.
- Flooding and drainage issues.
- Felling of numerous trees and removal of shrubs resulting in loss of wildlife habitat.

It was voted Jim draft a letter to SC outlining KCC's objections. This will be circulated for approval by KCC members and then sent to SC by the deadline of 29 December 2023.

Jim explained to the meeting that anyone can object to a planning application, not just neighbours. If SC receives five objections, the application will be decided by the Planning Panel. It is, therefore, important that residents send in individual objections as well as KCC objecting.

It was also agreed Jim ask SC why no building warrant has been issued for the work done on the existing property at 41 Station Road, Killlearn.

In view of the concern expressed at the felling of two oak trees in the garden grounds of said property with no application being sought, it was agreed KCC request a tree survey be carried out in the village. *(Action EJ/FR)*

KCC also agreed to request an extension of the conservation area in Killlearn and ask SC why this currently stops at Endrick Road. *(Action EJ/FR)*

Please see KCC website [www.killlearncc.org.uk](http://www.killlearncc.org.uk) for the full planning schedule.

### **Other Planning Matters**

Ewan Macdonald of Macdonald & Cameron and John Turnbull of McTaggart Construction were welcomed to update the meeting on the Rural Stirling Housing Association development at Lampson Road. Funding has now been secured for the development of eleven new-build affordable homes. This comprises four one-bed cottage flats, four two-bed cottage flats, 2 three-bed semi houses and one four-bed bungalow with wheelchair access. It is anticipated work will start in the first quarter of the new year.

### **Local Place Plan**

The meeting was informed of the good response to the survey so far and encouraged residents to complete either a paper copy or online version by 31 January 2024. The survey is open to residents living in or near Killlearn aged 16 and above with a youth version available for young people. The survey can be accessed online at <https://www.ourplace.scot/tool/start/killlearn-adult-pop> Paper copies are also available by contacting KCC at [contactus@killlearncc.org.uk](mailto:contactus@killlearncc.org.uk)

## **CC1372 – ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Fiona reported on the ongoing request for a Grit Bin in the car park opposite the Co-op and the closure of Drumbeg Loan by Scottish Water. It is hoped Drumbeg Loan will open before Christmas.

A resident expressed safety concern about a local person who does not drive, walking up Station Road on a daily basis with a pram and small child. The current state of the narrow pathway makes part of it unusable and necessitates walking on the busy road. The resident felt that SC's decision to schedule repairs for February or March 2024 was totally unacceptable and that a temporary repair needs to be carried out urgently. It was agreed KCC write to SC explaining the situation and request action. *(Action FR)*

## **CC1373 – CORRESPONDENCE**

Fiona highlighted correspondence on rural representation regarding proposed council cuts in 2024/2025. A meeting will take place on 18 January 2024 to listen to concerns from rural communities. Feedback from same will be posted on KCC website.

## **CC1374 – QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public.

## **CC1375 – COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

As no councillor was in attendance, there was no Councillor's Report.

## **CC1376 – TREASURER'S REPORT**

Andrew reported on expenses of £62.00 during the past month for administration and hall hire costs. Income was received from Killearn Beer Festival of £300 as a donation towards the Christmas lights.

Current balance of funds stands at £1398.47

## **CC1377– ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

KCC meetings will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of the month in 2024. These will be blended meetings at The Garden Room in the Village Hall offering both in-person and online provision.

Lyndsay Kirk expressed grateful thanks for the 1447 Christmas cards delivered in the village, raising £781.11 for CHAS (Children's Hospices Across Scotland). The Advent Window Trail is open until early January and hopes to raise £1000 for Shelter. Thanks were given to the organising committee and all those involved in this venture.

## **CC1378 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next KCC meeting will be held at 8.00 pm on 17 January in the Garden Room at the Village Hall.

On behalf of KCC, Fiona wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm.