

## **KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 February 2026**

Members present	Elizabeth Jones, Fiona Rennie, Andrew Donaldson, Tasha Houchin, Calum Mclean, Heidi Bryce, Emily Semple
Apologies	Michael Bowdidge, Hilary McGregor, Graeme Fraser (KCFC), Matt McCammon (Police Scotland),
In attendance	Cllr Rosemary Fraser, Jessie Malcom (NHS), 23 members of the public,
How to contact us	Go to <a href="http://www.killearncc.org.uk">www.killearncc.org.uk</a> and click on the contact button.

### **CC1618 - MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 17 DECEMBER '25 & 21 JANUARY '26**

- 17 December minutes approved by Fiona Rennie & Andrew Donaldson
- 21 January minutes approved by Calum McLean & Tasha Houchin

### **CC1619 - MATTERS ARISING**

- Blackwood

The residents received an update saying that there is one party in discussion regarding taking over the facility and that the Board will consider that at their next meeting

- Killearn Nursery

Stirling Council have confirmed that they will meet with the private providers in the area to try and ensure that places are available locally for Killearn residents. It was also raised that other villages in the surrounding areas will have spaces available.

It was raised that unless you have a car this is not always a solution given the transport links to the villages in question.

- EV Charger

Stirling Council are still chasing SSE but have been told that any contact should come to them via the installer.

- Right of Way (across the field to Drumtian Road)

Previous correspondence has explained that there is no documented public right of way but given its regular use Stirling Council has reached out to the new land owner again to see if a gate could be installed to maintain access to the informal route leading to core path 9078Ki/10. The council is waiting for a response.

- Balfron High School - Sports Facility

Following the end of the PFI agreement Stirling Council is now taking on the contract for the running of the facility - it was raised at the January meeting as to whether there was an update as this directly affects a number of small local businesses who are not able at the moment to book the facility for the school year 2026/27.

No update has been shared but Cllr Rosemary Fraser outlined that arrangements are likely to stay as is but the formal handover to SC has not yet happened which is causing the delay.

### **CC1620 - POLICE MATTERS**

Fiona read out the following items from the police report:

#### Crime

- A person has been arrested and charged in connection with having sexualised communications with a person they perceived to be under the age of 16.
- A report was received in relation to a vehicle having collided with another vehicle and the driver of the offending vehicle leaving the scene without making efforts to trace the owner/driver and exchange insurance details. No suspect identified.

#### Incidents of Note

- Police received a report of a driver who was allegedly drunk. No registration plate was noted by the reporter, only a description of the vehicle. Area search of area last seen and vehicle not traced.

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

#### **CC1621 – KCFC UPDATE**

Graeme Fraser sent his apologies, no updates to share on behalf of KCFC.

#### **CC1622– PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

Liz, Fiona and Tasha met with Sharon Marklow [Service Manager - Planning & Building Standards @ Stirling Council] on Tuesday 17 February - the meeting helped to share plans and an understanding of some of the queries that had been raised with reference to specific planning applications.

- An official complaint has been submitted to Stirling Council by a local resident noting the failure to take the necessary enforcement action in relation to planning application 23/00719/FUL at 41 Station Rd. The complaint asked for a full investigation to be carried out, and appropriate enforcement notices be issued. Stirling Council has now issued a 7-day notice to have the protection fences erected by Friday 20th Feb. If this is not done, then a breach of conditions notice will be issued giving 28 day's notice and a £1000 fine. The Council is not pursuing any action with regard to the position of the boundary fence at no. 41 Station Rd.
- Drainage - queries with reference to drainage at the back of the property at 41 Station Rd. were raised during the planning phase and Sharon provided reassurance that plans had been signed off by relevant experts at that time.
- Sharon acknowledged that perhaps the original application for the property at no. 41 Station Rd. was not dealt with in the best way but that the planning department had learnt lessons from this, specifically around protection of trees, a woodland assessment and ecology surveys
- Sharon confirmed that any pre-emptive clearing of a site will be taken into consideration going forward - Tasha shared new policy statements from other local authorities which may provide an applicable reference.
- Tree and Woodland Strategy - this is being developed as a Council wide policy to help raise the profile and accountability for preservation of trees and woodland.
- Call for sites - this is now closed; details of sites will be made public mid-March and then there will be a period of further consultation. Reference to Local Place Plans will also be taken into consideration All plots in the call for sites are for 4+ houses and each plot will be individually assessed and reviewed for its deliverability across the 10-year plan period.
- It was discussed that Killlearn's Local Place Plan outlined the need for smaller starter / downsizing properties and Cllr Rosemary Fraser outlined that this is a Stirling wide necessity - highlighting a recent project in Balmaha for 20 social housing units to help accommodate seasonal staff.

- TPO - Killearn is next in line for the Tree Protection Officer, Ingrid's visit and review of trees. Tasha will distribute maps and open conversations around increasing the TPO area in the village.

#### Planning Applications

Tasha explained that there were no new applications but there had been 4 planning approvals in the last month.

### **CC1623 – ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Calum shared the following updates with reference to local road activities:

#### Road Closures:

- C56 Craigallian Road. Strathblane/Mugdock to Stockiemuir Road. Closed 09:00-12:00 and 13:00-16:00, 23rd Feb – 8th March

#### Street Lighting - Crosshead Road/Graham Road

- Stirling Council have confirmed the homeowner has been contacted and instructed to cut back the obstructing vegetation.

#### Blanewater Bridge Repair

- Stirling Council have updated as follows: "Work is ongoing to assess the extent and severity of the damage. We intend to include the repair as part of our lime work programme, which will run from April to September 2026." KCC have requested more detail on whether the works will involve closure of the bridge.

#### Pothole on Station Road

- This has now been patched with a temporary repair, with further repair work due to be assessed.

#### New White Lines on Balfron Road

- Stirling Council update: "Our road marking contractor will attend once weather conditions allow - we hope these works shall be undertaken by the end of March 2026"

Grit Bins – KCC has asked for consideration of grit bins in the car park opposite the CoOp and at the foot of Drumbeg Loan.

- Near Co-op - no update - Rosemary offered to ask for advice
- Foot of Drumbeg Loan - previous conversations have suggested that this area does not meet the criteria - Rosemary requested info to be shared and that she will check the criteria for gritting / grit bins

### **CC1624 – CORRESPONDENCE**

Fiona reported on the following correspondence:

- Co-op Opening

The grand reopening of the CoOp in Killearn is scheduled for Thursday 26 Feb.

- Balfron Household Waste Recycling Centre Redesign

Cllr Rosemary outlined that the design planned for the new centre would make access much easier and create space for more 'skips'. A budget of £1.6 million has been approved to complete the project, and it is likely to start this time next year taking up to 6 months during which time there will be no access to the site and local residents will be encouraged to visit Callander and / or Stirling sites

A query was raised about whether there could be some general rubbish skips provided during the closure to prevent fly tipping.

A local resident queried whether NHS equipment can be handed back via the Recycling Centre - e.g. walking aids - This is to be confirmed

The meeting noted that the booking portal for the recycling provides an insight into how many households use the centre and what the frequency of use / household usage might be which could help with comms prior to the closure

Rosemary will enquire about proposed new opening times and whether there might be an option for more day time slots.

- Flying Fox

Work is in progress to install the new flying fox and slide in the playpark.

### CC1625 – QUESTION TIME

- Street Signage Cleaning - a local resident noted that a lot of signs within the village are needing cleaning / repair - especially for tourists etc.

**Action:** KCC to put in a request

- Potholes and Road Conditions - noted that the tarmac along the Stockiemuir Rd. and on the main access roads in / out of the village is breaking up and causing dangerous driving as people are swerving to avoid holes. There was a general conversation about the efficacy of continuing to patch holes vs resurfacing of roads. Rosemary noted that the ambition in the budget is to provide more focus on roads.

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- Road Salting - noted that the salt pile on the A81 by Dumgoyne is no longer in use [this was apparently decontaminated and decommissioned a few years back] Rosemary noted that each gritter has a specific route so there may be a more efficient plan now. There is a gritter map online.

### CC1626 – COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Rosemary Fraser shared the following report:

- **Budget - 26th February.** Rosemary noted the council priorities around tidying up the area (road repairs, street signs, cleaning etc.) and her priorities for libraries, nursery hours, and music tuition to be preserved. A large chunk of the budget is set aside for statutory provision (social care, education etc) and hopefully the council has protected what people raised as being important. Rosemary noted the need to also make provision for the joint boards who are estimating overspends.
- Rosemary explained that the new Visitor Levy was approved in January so this will come into play in June 2027 - the funds raised will be used to cover levy ring fenced costs i.e. access to public toilets and contributions for comfort partners - i.e. organisations like pubs and hotels who allow visitors and residents to use their facilities.
- The position of the Chair of the Visitor Levy forum has been advertised, and applications are now being received.
- Plans for new Film Studios are close to being concluded. Building work is going well and nearly complete. The Council is looking for a partner who will lease and run the site. This is an exciting opportunity for the area - it is the biggest facility of its kind in Scotland, there is nothing else with the height, width and length of these new buildings.

- Rosemary noted that there will be a celebration of sporting success after the Commonwealth Games - so if we know of anyone local with a sporting prowess / legacy - then please let Rosemary know.

#### **CC1627 – TREASURER’S REPORT**

Andrew Donaldson presented the following report:

Income: £0

Outgoings: £22 (Hall Hire)

Current balance: £1,105.31

#### **CC1628 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Horti - The Horti group had queried the feasibility of planting wild flowers in the village in 2 areas, on the surface of the roundabout at the bottom of Station Road (Blanesmiddy) or in a small part of the land behind the school (between the school playground and Beech Drive). It was noted that the roundabout is out of bounds due to visibility issues but there are perhaps areas within the park area by the school that could be utilised.
- Thanks to OpenReach - Fibre installation across the village is ongoing and crews are now in Allan Road. There was discussion around the new connection boxes being fitted to an outside wall which can sometimes cause issues with the signal covering the wider house space. [noted that boosters are available]

#### **CC1629 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next KCC meeting will be on Wed. **18th March 2026 at 8.00 pm**

This meeting ended at 21:24