

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2026

Members present Elizabeth Jones, Fiona Rennie, Hilary McGregor,
Michael Bowdidge, Calum Mclean

Apologies Andrew Donaldson, Tasha Houchin, Heidi Bryce

In attendance Graeme Fraser (KCFC), Jessie Malcom (NHS),
Frank Deas (SWSCan), 20 members of the public,

To contact us - pls. go to www.killearncc.org.uk and click on the contact button

CC1630 - MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 18 MARCH '26

- 18 March minutes approved by Michael Bowdidge and Emily Semple

CC1631 - MATTERS ARISING

- Blackwood

A meeting was held this month and confirmed that retaining Blackwood as a private nursing home is not feasible. Residents are to move out once individual needs assessments have been carried out. Gerry McGarvey reassured the community and those directly involved that the assessments are paramount to the HSCP professionals involved and minimising distress to those involved.

Stirling Council colleagues and HSCP are doing their utmost to find a satisfactory resolution to an unsatisfactory situation. This appears to be a pattern from Blackwood so the question was asked if there was anything can be learned from this so that it doesn't / can't happen again.

- EV Charger

It is still disconnected. KCC can't progress as KCC is not the SSE client and Council can't either but Council are being pushed to do so as it was their vehicles that caused the damage. KCC to chase this up again.

- 41 Station Road

Enforcement notice has been served. The biggest concern is the lack of tree protection on the remaining tree(s). Conditions have been put in place to protect the roots that were not adhered to and now partially comply with the notice. Gerry McGarvey requested that Peter Bowness write to him directly.

Natasha is looking into the wider TPO questions around the village, including the remaining Oak tree at 41 Station Road.

Other issues were raised, such as the angle and placing of the house; removal of sandstone walls and potential issues with the entry gates. Peter Bowness was advised to alert Planning and Building Control of these concerns directly

KCC Action: To ask Stirling Council for an update regarding the fine / notice.

CC1632 - POLICE MATTERS

The full police report is available on KCC website www.killlearncc.org.uk

Fiona gave the following Police Report on items relevant to Killlearn:

Vandalism

- Police have been alerted to the vandalism of a motor vehicle near the village, whereby the vehicle's locks were glued preventing the owner from entering. Enquiry has been exhausted and no suspect identified.

Fraud

- A local resident has become the victim of fraud whereby the victim contacted a telephone number from a google search they believed to be a telephone company.

A person purporting to be from that company took details in order to add a new sim card to an existing package. Afterwards the victim received notification that a new phone had been ordered. Then the victim questioned that they were contacted on WhatsApp by a person purporting to be from the telephone company giving clear instructions on how to return the phone.

After the phone was returned and contact ceased, the victim contacted the telephone company on a different number and found out they had been the victim of fraud. Enquiry ongoing to identify offender.

Traffic Incidents

- Police officers on mobile patrol stopped a motor car in Killlearn and found the driver to have no insurance, the vehicle being notified off road. The driver was further charged with Attempting to Pervert the Course of Justice as they provided false details to Police and failing to update their address on their driving licence.
- Police were alerted to a report from concerned members of the public in relation to a vehicle's manner of driving as it was driving erratically being on the wrong side of the road. Officers attended and traced the vehicle and the driver was subject to Road Traffic Procedures. The driver was found to be 1.5x the legal limit for alcohol on the breath. The driver was arrested and taken into Police custody where they were held until sober. They were released from custody to be summoned to court at a later date.
- Police attended a Road Traffic Collision on B818 (Fintry Rd.) whereby a vehicle had left the road and struck a BT pole. No injuries recorded and the collision occurred due to driver error.

Project Vector

- Police have launched Project Vector to tackle ongoing rural crime – quad bikes, drones, trailers, farm vehicles, fuel etc. are being targeted.

Any reports of this nature are to be reported and to quote "Project Vector" when notifying the police. A drop in meeting has been organised for May, and will be hosted in the Village Hall. Details to be confirmed.

CC1633 – KCFC UPDATE

Graeme gave the following report:

- Fundraising activities have started for Hall improvement plans. An encouraging start and more information will be shared in the public domain soon.

- The Annual Tea Party is being held on 17 May in the Village Hall and invitations are going out soon! There has been a good response from volunteers.
- As part of the 200th anniversary of the Village Hall building, The Heritage Group is in discussion with local schools - and looking at ways in which the pupils can help bring to life some stories linked to the Village over the past 200 years.
- Cycling Killearn collected 50 bikes through the Recyke-a-bike event on Easter Monday, bringing the total collected this year so far, to 181. The group is keen to get 200 in honour of the 200th anniversary of the Hall before the end of the year. 18 bikes were also serviced. Next event possibly October but to be confirmed.

CC1634 – PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Fiona presented the planning report:

- 25/00548/FUL Drumore Cottage, Gartness Road
Replacement of dwelling house
- 25/00413/FUL 4 The Square
Alterations to and extension of dwelling, erection of outbuilding, landscaping works, installation of Air Source Heat Pump and erection of gate and fence at access to existing dwellinghouse
- 26/00114/FUL Spittal Farm
Extension, alteration and conversion of existing outbuilding (including infill of existing pond) to form annex, reslating of roof on existing dwellinghouse and existing outbuilding, replacement of existing concrete roof ridge with zinc on the main dwellinghouse, formation of new access, driveway and parking area for 4 cars, and erection of detached storage building
- 26/00121/FUL Mill Cottage, Drumbeg Loan
Erection of small wooden shed to house livestock feed, agricultural and garden equipment
- 26/00080/FUL 4 Oak Place
New pitched roof over garage to replace existing flat roof
- 26/00082/FUL Darroch 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
- EN/26/019/BOC - Lampson Rd (new development)
A member of the public requested help to challenge the landscaping conditions as far fewer trees have been planted than as per plans.
KCC Action: To follow this up and hoping to get feedback from the developer.
- Mount Farm forestry application - The owners of Mount Farm wish to fell some mature stands of Conifer that are showing signs of windblow in the Southern Hills 2 miles south east of Balfron. The site itself has no recorded protected habitats or historical features. The Stirling Council team has reviewed the application and had no further comments.
- Duntreath Estate Land tree felling works

The application can be viewed on the Register of Felling Permissions and Forestry Grant Scheme (FGS) woodland creation applications at Have your say on forestry plans and proposals

Stirling Council team has reviewed the application and other than reminder to put in place appropriate traffic management measures and to clear debris off the main A875 road - had no further comments.

CC1635 – ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT

Calum shared the following report:

- Road Closures
 - A875 Moor Rd - 13th to 19th April between 9am and 6pm
 - C23 Balfron to Fintry Rd past Honeyholm from 6th to 14th May between 8am and 5pm
- Missing bollard from Station Rd chicane - 60 working days for this to be replaced.
- Road surface at Blane Smiddy between main roundabout and bridge to be replaced during this financial year.
- Lines at top of Station Rd to be replaced.
- One way system at The Square - It was raised that this was due to be put in place but hasn't yet.
KCC Action: To look into this.
- Road safety concerns were raised due to speeding on Beech Drive - with Blackwood, elderly folk, primary school, 2 nursery schools and no School warning signs.
KCC Action: To re-investigate a school zone outside the Beech Drive entrance.

CC1636 – CORRESPONDENCE

Fiona reported on the following correspondence:

- Flying Fox and Park – Calum met with Stirling Council and the contractor who installed the Flying Fox. CS Landscapes sponsor the football team, so they were asked to quote and the Council accepted their offer. The football pitch and some of the surrounding areas are being turfed, and seeding is happening around the flying fox when the weather is drier.
- Stirling Council's new Chief Exec – Brian Roberts, is coming in person to KCC in June, with Gerry also attending. Brian is trying to attend all local Community Council meetings.
- Elections – Voter registration deadline is Mon 20th April. 5 candidates standing in Stirling constituency.
- Parking meter scams – Ringo is the main Council provided but false QR codes being used in various places so be vigilant.
- Bus shelters – very green so these are getting cleaned. The 2 perspex shelters on Station Rd will be removed as no buses use the top one and the bottom one only used for schools with no pupils getting on. Shelter at Blane Smiddy will be replaced.

- Council clean up – end of May. KCFC and KCC may be asking for volunteers.

CC1637 – QUESTION TIME

- Resilience – Council Community Development team taking this on board and rural communities will be included in the wider Stirling plan.
- Light at path at Crosshill Rd covered by conifers. Calum reported to Stirling Council in November, and a letter went to the owner for it to be fixed. Not fixed yet so being chased by Council.
- Council taking over Balfron High School facilities – fees the same till April 2027 then new pricing structure from there. If concerns about hall charges or fees are causing concern then this should be reported.
- Wood across from Lampson Rd has been replanted with hardwood which will grow over 100 years.

CC1638 – COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Nothing further than what was contributed during the meeting.

CC1639 – TREASURER'S REPORT

In Andrew Donaldson's absence, Fiona Rennie presented the following report:

Income: £0

Expenditure: £22.00 village hall hire

Current balance: £1,060.81

CC1640 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- KCC membership update
Emily Semple and Tasha Houchin have now attended more than three KCC meetings so are now recognised as full members of KCC. Many thanks to them both for joining.

CC1641 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next KCC meeting will be on Wed. **20th May at 8.00 pm**

This meeting ended at 21:30