

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WELCOME TO UPDATE 139 – Nov. / Dec. 2024



Please find below – an update on news from KCC and some highlights from the meeting on Wednesday 20th Nov. '24.

Pls. see link for minutes of meetings <https://killlearncc.org.uk/meetings.html>

Pls. note that the next KCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th Dec. @ 8 pm - pls. email contactus@Killlearncc.org.uk for information.

POLICE MATTERS (The full police report is available on KCC website www.killlearncc.org.uk)

- PC Laura Newlands joins the Forth & Endrick ward Community Policing Team.
- A report was received of an attempted theft from a clothing donation bank between 18th – 23rd October, where attempts were made to force the lock securing the donation bank. Although no items were taken, there was damage reported to the lock. Following enquiries, no suspect was identified.
- A report was received of a theft of a mobile phone. The mobile phone had been left within a taxi and was subsequently taken. Following enquiries, no suspect was identified.
- While on patrol, officers dealt with a male in regard to driving without having a valid insurance policy in place for the vehicle. The vehicle was seized by Police and the male was reported to the Court.
- A report was received of livestock worrying whereby a dog, off the leash, chased and killed a sheep. The dog owner was traced, cautioned and charged and a report has been submitted to the Court.

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

PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

- **Working with Stirling Council** - KCC reps. met recently with Sharon Marklow and Richard Miller from Stirling Council's Planning & Building Standards team who confirmed that although any comments or objections submitted by KCC count as one, it is noted and taken into consideration that this is on behalf of the wider community. KCC is in now in more regular contact with the planning team to try and foster a more constructive and collaborative relationship.
- **Planning Schedule update** - 4 Applications were noted at the KCC meeting as having been approved recently
 1. 24/00414/LBC - Carbeth House Drumtian Road
 2. 24/00540/FUL - 6 Branziert Road
 3. 24/00548/FUL - Two Oaks 41 Station Road - KCC has queried with the planning team why the roads department safety concerns did not seem to have been taken into account.
 4. 24/00581/FUL - Land Northwest Of Oakwood Garden Centre
- **Application ref. 24/00655/FUL Drumore Woods** - the KCC meeting on 20 Nov. discussed at length the application from David Young for the formation of a new road access to land at Drumore Woods, on Gartness Road. As noted on the application form – this request is linked to a pre-application enquiry "... in respect of a proposed chalet development, including the formation of a new access..."

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The KCC meeting heard from David Young (applicant) who explained about the need for the road access on the basis below

- a recent increase in the length of the lorry trailers available to manage the woodland site and the current access would not currently accommodate these
- for the purposes of managing the woodland and this use would not increase the traffic from their site
- no trees would be felled to form the new access

he also explained that pre-application advice had been sought earlier in the year for a possible chalet development within the woods and that he was still considering his options in that regard.

Members of the community raised the following points in objection to the application:

- why a new entrance would be required when the existing track seems perfectly adequate?
- the proposed new road site is hollow, frequently flooded and very narrow (3m wide) making it dangerous causing concern over safety and lack of sight lines
- concern around fly tipping, lack of lighting and no suggestion of a gate across the new access road
- the road (Gartness Rd.) is a single track road and can't handle an increase in traffic, especially HGV's.

There was a general call at the meeting for more openness on the intention to build chalets in the woods and much of the discussion reflected a concern that this development would be the next step.

KCC has submitted a comment on the application based on above – trying to reflect both sides of the discussion and given the number of objections this application will now be going to a planning panel.

Residents can view further information and the objections / comments submitted on the Stirling Council planning portal here [24/00655/FUL](https://www.stirling.gov.uk/planning/24/00655/FUL)

- **TPO (Tree Preservation Order)**

There is a keenness amongst the community to increase the area TPO in the village. KCC have been in touch with the TPO officer and are awaiting confirmation on next steps.

- **Local Place Plan (LPP)**

The phase 2 survey is now underway – and residents are encouraged to complete the survey which covers 5 follow up questions requesting more specific information on:

- Green Spaces
- Play & Recreation
- Housing
- Facilities
- Character

If you are a resident of the Killlearn Community Council area, please follow this link which will take you to our Phase 2 questionnaire on SurveyMonkey: [KCC Phase 2 Questionnaire](#)

And thanks to those who have already completed it, your input is much appreciated.

ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE REPORT

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- **Blane Smiddy Bridge** – Stirling Council have updated on the temporary traffic lights on the bridge explaining that the lights were originally installed at this location as an emergency response to the structural condition of the South East retaining wall. The intent, now that works are complete, is to remove the temporary traffic lights. The bridge would then be returned to the original give way prioritisation system.

The council explained that whilst some residents and local users have expressed a desire for permanent traffic lights to be installed at Blane Water Bridge, there were also some residents and local users that expressed an opposing position and request for temporary lights to be removed and for the road to return to its previous arrangement.

- **Footpath on Station Road** - Work has now started on the footpath and there are traffic lights on Station Rd.
- **Road Closure - Gartness Road** - 2nd - 20th December to facilitate repairs to a verge slip. The Order will close C31 from its junction with the A811 to its junction with the C58.
- **Drumtian Road - Unofficial Speed Bump** - signs have now been erected to warn road users of the bump in the road.
- **Potholes** – residents are reminded that potholes can be reported to Stirling Council in 2 ways:
 - Stirling Council website “Report It” <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/report-it/>
 - “Fix My Street” <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>
- **Disabled Parking Bay at Killearn Pharmacy** - the parking bay will be repainted soon.

AOB

- **Oak Tree in the park** - The council is going to try and save the tree by limbing the dangerous branches. The Tree Officer has been on site and works are expected / hoped to be completed by Christmas.
- **Killearn Fireworks** - Thanks to all for the donations to the 2024 fireworks event. Funds raised were better than ever this year and will be distributed to local causes. In addition, a number of local youth groups including the girl guides, cubs and scouts helped with the fireworks brochure distribution and have been given a small donation.
- **Killearn Christmas Tree** - Thanks again to the team at Edenmill for donating a Christmas tree for Killearn Kirk.
- **Christmas lights** – thanks to Killearn Beer Festival, Killearn Trust and KCFC for their generous donations to cover the costs for the Christmas lights along Balfroon Rd. – the lights help to brighten up the village and the contributions are much appreciated
- **Cycling Killearn - Bike Event** - Recyke-a-bike <https://www.recyke-a-bike.co.uk/> from Stirling came to the village to host a bike maintenance workshop. Over 25 bikes were donated for recycling which brings the total to 65+ bikes over the last year.
- **Killearn Trust** - The gas governor at the corner of the old bank (West Homes) is to be replaced. Killearn Trust have been approached about green space nearby to reinstate

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it underground. The preferred location is at the top of the Glebe but no commitment has been made at this stage.

- **Advent Windows** runs every night to 24th December and huge thanks to all who have supported the Advent Windows team and Shelter – there are windows around the village opening each night at 6.30 pm. please contact Lindsay at killearn.advent.windows@gmail.com for any further information or pick up a leaflet around the village.
- **Christmas Post** - Post your local Christmas cards at the Co-op, Pharmacy or The Kirk - all donations go to CHAS - Children's Hospices Across Scotland. Final pickups as below:
 - Co-op & Pharmacy 5pm Saturday 14th December
 - Killearn Kirk 1pm Sunday 15th December
- **KCC & KCFC & Killearn Nurseries** – KCC and KCFC are pleased to be working with Killearn Nursery, Heron House Nursery, The Mulberry Bush and the Kids Hub to deliver postcards and chocolates to some of our older residents during the festive season – this project helps to bring smiles and goodwill and thanks to all involved.

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