

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WELCOME TO UPDATE 149 – Sept. 2025



Please find below – an update on news from KCC. Pls. see link for minutes of meetings <https://killearncc.org.uk/meetings.html> Pls. note that the next KCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 Oct. at 8pm - pls. email contactus@Killearncc.org.uk with any queries.

POLICE MATTERS - the full police report from Aug. '25 is available on the KCC website www.killearncc.org.uk

Road Traffic

Police are looking to trace the driver of a high-performance vehicle after it overtook another vehicle and crossed onto the opposing carriageway and into a blind bend. Fortunately, no collision happened as a result.

Incidents

Police received information regarding what appeared to be an abandoned vehicle on Gartness Road in Killearn. The car was badly damaged and left with the door insecure. The car was taxed and had an MOT but no insurance and it had been sold on from the listed keeper. Efforts to trace the new owner were unsuccessful and arrangements were made for the vehicle to be uplifted by a local garage.

Police were requested to attend at Finnich Glen (the Devil's Pulpit) in response to a call from the fire service after reports of a person having fallen down the cliff into the glen. Police attended and closed the B801 and the A809 at the locus to clear the road for the Mountain Rescue and ambulance services. Thankfully, the individual was rescued unharmed.

PLANNING AND LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Please see the Stirling Council [website](http://www.stirling.gov.uk) for the latest planning report. Extracts of applications and activities within Killearn are noted below:

Our Killearn Community Local Place Plan - With huge thanks to all who have contributed and responded to our surveys and activities - our Killearn Community Local Place Plan is now online and we'd appreciate your comments / queries – prior to the final plan being submitted to Stirling Council at the end of Oct. The plan is available here https://www.killearncc.org.uk/docs/misc/Killearn_LPP_for_Consultation_V2.pdf and if you have comments or queries please submit them via email to contactus@killearncc.org.uk The deadline for comments is Tuesday 30th Sept. 2025.

Tree Protection Order (TPO) - The Tree Officer has advised that there is no TPO covering trees in Killearn Glen. It has been noted that the Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS) covers the Glen – and that this may cover tree protection.

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/local-designations/local-nature-conservation-sites> Killearn is the next local area in line for a full Tree review – and this would cover TPOs / LNCSS etc. and further information on this expected soon.

Planning applications submitted / processed

- **25/00270/FUL** - Change of use from public open space to garden ground at 7 Alder Crescent, Killearn, G63 9SH - It was queried whether sale of public land to private owner has to be by open sale and KCC to seek clarification.
- **25/00357/PPP** - Achnagowan 88 Main Street: Subdivision of plot to erect single dwelling and formation of new access. Some comments have already been posted online, objecting to the proposals

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- **25/00417/MSC** - Land Some 85 Metres To East Of Mullanhead Cottage: Application for approval of Matters Specified in Conditions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of planning permission 23/00167/PPP for erection of dwellinghouse
- **New Shed at Heron's Court** - A query has been raised regarding the shed that on land at Heron's Court – and whether a NAG had been processed to cover the building and location of the building. KCC to follow up.

Blackwood's Beech House

Local residents have asked for help from KCC and Stirling Council to help preserve the existence of a care facility at Beech House on Beech Drive. The current facility is operated by Blackwood – but the company is looking to close the facility / sell over the next few months.

The following points were discussed:

- Beech House had been taken over by Blackwood in 2022 – Blackwood was now looking to sell and has advised residents / their families that they will need to move.
- Blackwood de-registered with the Care Commission in 2024 and have advised that they have contacted local housing associations with regard to taking over the facility but with no success
- Blackwood is under special measures with the housing authority and is looking to rehouse residents, but the current residents are all local people who would not want to be moved out of the area
- Blackwood has notified residents / families that they will withdraw services within 3 months, residents can remain – but will have no in house support.
- There is a local care provider interested in taking over the property.

KCC and Stirling Council are being asked to help on the basis that

- The situation goes against the NHS policy around looking after people in the local community and the current model is a huge community asset that the community would want to preserve and help to develop if possible.
- The community was previously very involved in Abbeyfield / Beech House and would be willing to discuss options for support in the future
- The site has obvious commercial value – could KCC / the community help to ensure that a planning application (if forthcoming) for change of use be blocked - and could sale be blocked.

KCC and Stirling Council have asked for advice noting that the view of those at the meeting was very much in favour of preserving a care home facility on the site.

ROADS AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE

- **Blane Smiddy Bridge** – KCC had reported resident's concerns about the safety at the bridge of the one way system. Stirling Council completed a review and fed back to KCC as below
"Following a review of the traffic flow arrangements, officers do not recommend a change to the current priority system. The current traffic priority system requires vehicles on the south-west side of the bridge to give-way to oncoming vehicles. Vegetation on the north-east side of the bridge obstructs visibility of oncoming traffic. Switching the traffic priority system around does not improve visibility of oncoming eastbound vehicles as the same vegetation restricts the view. To make switching the traffic priority system work, the give-way line would require to be moved forward much

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closer to the bridge to take the vegetation out of the equation. The carriageway narrows on the western approach to the bridge. There is insufficient carriageway width on the north-east side of the bridge to bring the give-way line forward enough to a position where visibility of oncoming traffic is possible. It is recommended that the priority system remains as it is, and the vegetation is cut back. Officers do not support the installation of traffic signals.”

There was a long discussion about the bridge at the KCC meeting and KCC were asked to query the position with the Council – reiterating the local concerns and asking for clarity on any specific criteria for installation of traffic signals ?

- **Blane Smiddy roundabout** – KCC has reported the poor conditions at the mini roundabout and access roads. The council has recognised the condition of the road here is poor and that it will be put forward for inclusion in next year’s programme of works
- **20 mph limits and works in Killlearn** – work will be carried out this financial year. The review of signing and lining associated with the 20-mph speed limit will include Main Street, Balfron Road and the section of Station Road subject to this reduced speed limit and will
 - Extend 20mph beyond tennis courts
 - Replace 30mph flashing sign with 20mph
 - More repeater signage
 - More 20 roundels on the road

Speed surveys have also been arranged for the main routes through all villages currently subject to a 20-mph speed limit, including Killlearn. These will be carried out over the next two months.

- **Road Closure - A875 – above Balfron – bridge repair** – now to be completed under traffic lights rather than a road closure.
A875 – Killlearn to Balfron. Closed from A81 (Glengoyne junction) to A811 (Balfron/Buchlyvie junction). The location of the works is at the top of Station Road towards Balfron for 500m. Notice has been given that access to the Health Centre and Pharmacy will be maintained but access to car park will be limited.
- **Double Yellow Lines at top of Station Road** – there is continued concern about the lack of double yellow lines down Station Rd. where the road narrows. This has been reviewed previously but KCC was asked to submit another query to help understand the Council position.
- **Double Yellow Lines along Balfron Rd. at the top of Station Rd.** - “When the traffic island was installed at the top of Station Road, a “No Waiting, No Loading” restriction was proposed to be introduced but subsequently agreed that as a trial the “No Waiting, No Loading” restriction would not be implemented. It was emphasised that should any issues arise with larger vehicles having difficulty turning right out of Station Road onto Main Street, that the restriction would be implemented. A review has been requested and this will be added to the team’s work plan to be progressed as staff resources permit.
- **Road Closure information** - KCC is to write to Stirling Council asking that road closure information is more detailed and provides more local context rather than the current very broad / often insufficient detail provided currently and provided on the [TellMeScotland](https://www.tellmesotland.org) website.
- **EV charging units in the Health Centre Car Park** - Unfortunately one of the council roads lorries involved in the roadworks - bumped into an EV charging unit – taking it out. The EV company have been out to site and the Council has isolated the power

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supply and left a part of new pavement without top coating to give access to the power supply ... The EV company will replace the missing unit, but this could be a while

- **Accessing Station Rd.** from Gartness Rd. – KCC has asked SC for help to place a mirror at the junction to help improve visibility – after a local resident raised concerns.

AOB

- **The Killearn Community Futures Company** <https://www.kcfc.co.uk/> (KCFC) AGM is on Tuesday 21st Oct. at 8pm in the Village Hall – information will be going out to members shortly and all local residents are encouraged to come along and support / find out more about KCFC.
- **The Annual Killearn Fireworks Display** is set for Sunday 2nd November
- **Glasgow Wrestling Club- New Club Promotion in Balfron** - Free come & try date Thursday October 2nd , Location- The Aizle, Balfron Station, Time- 6 -7pm, Age Range- 5 years to 12 years - Website- <https://glasgow-wrestling-club.classforkids.io> Email- rossum87@hotmail.co.uk Call- 07883031955
- **New glass bins** - Under the new system, 140-litre wheeled bins will be introduced to most households, with a collection frequency of every eight weeks. This will provide residents with 17% additional annual capacity for glass recycling. The new bins will have a purple colour lid and will be delivered to households as part of the roll out of the collection changes. The current glass boxes will be uplifted and recycled.
- **Drain leakage on Crosshead Rd.** - There had been much local concern about sewage leakage from the drain at the top of Crosshead Rd. – down the road into Graham Rd. and towards the School. The incident had been reported to Scottish Water who had responded quickly to send out resources. It is suspected that the ingress of tree roots from the mature tree next to the driveway of 4 The Square were causing the blockage. Now that the drain has been cleared – it is not expected to cause any problems in the near future.
- **City Park Stirling** – SC has announced that more than £750,000 will be invested at City Park Stirling to make it Scotland's leading sustainable outdoor events space with a 30,000 capacity. The funding will be used to improve the site – located in the shadow of Stirling Castle – to make it suitable for large-scale music events, concerts and festivals. The enhancements are based on feedback from industry experts and include new access points, water and electricity supply points, improved drainage, broadband infrastructure and new internal vehicle access routes. It is hoped to attract large-scale concerts, festivals or events over the next 15 years. It is expected the works will be completed by 31 March 2026 (subject to planning permission and other relevant statutory consents).
- **Broadband update** – Openreach are at work in Beech Drive. BT engineers have been installing a fibre 'spine' down Beech Drive and fibre branches down the other side roads eg Harper's Road, Alder Road, Birch Road, etc and then interconnecting these to make a full-fibre service available within the whole Trees estate. It is hoped that towards the end of the year using the postcode checker should show that full fibre (ie FTTP) is available to order for these premises. Full-fibre options range from about 40Mbps (down) and 10Mbps (up), to 1000Mbps in both directions, depending on the package you choose i.e. cost.

Please note that Local Councillors will be in attendance at KCC meetings as below

- Wed 15 Oct Councillor Fraser
- Wed 19 Nov Councillor Henke
- Wed 17 Dec Councillor McGarvey

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