



COMHAIRLE COIMHEARSNACHD CILL MHÁLAIDH  
KILMALLIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 20:00 on Monday 21 November 2011, at Caol Community Centre  
Present

**Kilmallie Community Council**

Jillian Clark (Chair)  
Calum Dennison  
Christine Hutchison  
Mandy Ketchin  
Russell Leaper (Secretary)  
Maggie Mackenzie (Treasurer)  
Jan MacLugash  
Kshama Wilmington

**Highland Councillors**

Bill Clark  
Eddie Hunter

**Members of the public**

Chris Pellow  
Ian Pellow

**Apologies**

Allan Henderson

**ACTION**

**1. Approval of previous minutes**

No comments were received on the minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October.

**2. Treasurer's report (see attached)**

**3. Results of KCC elections**

This was the first meeting of KCC following the elections. Councillor Bill Clark chaired the first session from 19:00 to elect a chair. Jillian Clark was elected chair having been proposed by JM and seconded by CH. JC commented that due to increasing work pressures she felt the need for a vice-chair. Calum Dennison was appointed as vice-chair. Russell Leaper was elected secretary following proposal by MK, seconded by CH. Maggie Mackenzie was elected treasurer following proposal by MK and seconded by CH

**4. Data protection act**

It had been agreed at the previous meeting to complete a notification to the Information Commissioner of all relevant personal data held by KCC members. MM had submitted a summary of the data that she held and it was agreed that as other members held similar data, this summary covered all the data held by members and would form the basis of the notification.

RL

**5. Issues arising since last meeting**

**5.1 Dumping of waste at Mount Alexander**

Following discussion at the last meeting, Bill Clark had contacted Environmental Health and Mark Phillips had visited the site with the resident who had initially raised the concerns. Much of the waste is inert and may not be an environmental health issue but waste did include empty tubes of sealant which are a potential source of water pollution. It was agreed that KCC should follow up with a letter to SEPA to update them and encourage them to investigate further.

**5.2 Broadband provision in more remote areas**

Chris Pellow (CP) described the problems with Broadband internet at Fassfern which is a long way from the telephone exchange and does not have acceptable connection speeds. Other residents in the Kilmallie area face similar problems and also residents south of Loch Eil. One solution is a wireless link from an area with good access to Broadband such as Fort William. This can be a relatively cheap system that can serve a number of residents receiving signals from a mast which needs to be within line of sight to a relay station with a good connection. KCC could support CP in finding out how many people would like such a system, how it could best be designed to serve the greatest number of people and assist with funding applications. CP will continue to work with KCC on this. KCC will highlight the issue on the website and in the newsletter.

KCC/CP

**5.3 Further consultations on development of Kilmallie Sawmill**

Andy Rogers from BSW had requested a meeting with KCC to provide an update on development of the sawmill. BSW will be holding a public consultation on 7<sup>th</sup> December (venue to be announced) and this will include a presentation to KCC and any others interested at 19:15, with an opportunity to ask questions.

**5.4 Ideas for photographic record of the Blar Mhor**

Development on the Blar Mhor is expected to begin in early 2012. This will result in the loss of a substantial area of European protected blanket bog habitat. KCC was not in existence at the time that planning permission was being considered but will endeavour to create a photographic record of the area, prior to and during development, including asking members of the community to contribute any photos. BC advised that a photo competition was not safe or practical due to the boggy nature of the ground.

MK/RL

#### **5.5 Banavie War Memorial**

CH wondered if KCC would like to be involved in a Remembrance Day service at Banavie War Memorial. It was agreed to discuss this closer to the event in late 2012.

#### **5.6 Banavie street lighting consultation**

Highland Council had been conducting an experiment in saving energy and costs by reducing street lighting along the B8004 in Banavie. Although many residents had welcomed this initiative, some concerns had been raised. In particular that lighting should remain at key locations such the entrance to the Rugby club and at the end of the pavement. KCC will write to Highland Council summarising the concerns and suggesting a strategic approach to which lights are selected to remain active.

RL

#### **5.7 Canal towpath repairs**

KCC had not partnered with the Waterway's Trust on a funding application for the Caol section of the towpath because this was outwith the KCC area. However, KCC had been assured that the substandard repairs using large stones along the Banavie sections towards Gairloch, which had made it difficult for pushchair and wheelchair users, would not be repeated elsewhere.

#### **5.8 Organising presentations from Ferguson Transport and Fassfern Estate**

KCC hopes to engage further with key local businesses and will try to arrange discussions with Ferguson Transport and Fassfern Estates in 2012.

#### **5.9 Ownership of Corpach noticeboards**

KCC had funded two noticeboards in Corpach some years ago. The freestanding board beside the Co-op which is in the best location was used by a range of interests while KCC was not in existence and there is now pressure for space. Posting notices to the board has been managed by the Post Office, but JC also has a key. It was agreed to discuss options with Post Office staff with a view to making sufficient space for KCC materials.

JM

### **6. Website update**

Hotscot had completed all their work on the website and it was agreed to go live on Wednesday 23 November. Richard Haddock (Oban Times) and Stuart Taylor (Lochaber News) took pictures for the web site launch. RL to draft a press release to provide the local papers with further information. CP offered to help with further web site development. Future plans include opportunities for interactive dialogue.

RL

### **7. KCC newsletter**

Issue 36 of the newsletter is expected to be 20 pages. The larger than expected size is due to the high quality of the contributions. It was agreed that with the launch of the web site there was a strong case for ensuring a full distribution of issue 36 to all households. Funds are still available to do this. Some concerns were raised that the company offering free photocopying would not have anticipated such a large number of copies. However, the agreement had been to keep this under review and for KCC to pay for additional copies at cost if the numbers became too large. It was agreed to make sufficient copies of the newsletter and post these to all households for this issue, but to keep future copying and distribution under review.

### **8. Date for next meeting**

The next meeting will be at 19:15 on 7<sup>th</sup> December (venue to be arranged). This is a special meeting to discuss the BSW sawmill and was not part of the meeting schedule. Thus other aspects of KCC business will not be formally discussed.

Meeting closed at 21:30

#### Distribution

By email to all KCC members, Cllr Bill Clark, Prov Allan Henderson, Cllr Eddie Hunter, Elizabeth Toal (HC), Lochaber Archive Centre, Maureen McColl (ALCC)

Paper copy to Corpach, Banavie notice boards

Chairman - Jillian Clark, Kilmalyn, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7JS  
Secretary - Russell Leaper, Canal House, Banavie, Fort William, PH33 7LY  
Treasurer - Margaret Mackenzie, 42 Hillview Drive, Corpach, Fort William, PH33 7LS  
www.kilmallie.org.uk