

Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council

Minute of Meeting, 7:30pm, Tuesday 24th September 2024

Community Councillors present:

Éamon Doorley, Inglis Lyon, Jayne MacMillan, Judith Rumbold, Lindsey Stout.

In attendance:

Councillor Emma Knox.

The meeting was held in person at Kirkhill Community Centre.

<p>1. Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from the Chairperson, Cameron Kemp, George Hogg (Aird Community Trust) and Highland Councillors David Fraser and Chris Ballance, who had other meetings to attend.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Last Meeting: Minutes of Meeting of 18th June and 20th August 2024</p> <p>The minutes of June's meeting were agreed; Inglis Lyon proposed and Judith Rumbold seconded their acceptance pending substantial changes to Item 4 and further review. The minutes of August's meeting were circulated online and also read at the meeting. Inglis Lyon proposed their acceptance following minor amendments to Item 4 and Item 5 and Jayne Macmillan seconded this.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising</p> <p>Minutes of Meeting of 20th August 2024:</p> <p>4. SEN/Community Interaction</p> <p>Following an approach from SSEN staff by email about restarting Community Liaison Group meetings, Councillor David Fraser has been contacted and will take a list of the demands of the combined Community Councils involved to SSEN.</p> <p>Bank Change of Signatories</p> <p>Inglis Lyon has phoned the bank several times and submitted ten forms with little result. He has now been in contact with the Bereavement Unit and is hoping for some positive results from the latest set of signed forms.</p> <p>Crannog Newsletter</p> <p>The first edition is due out at the Village Market on 29th September and will be available online shortly before that to those who have signed up, 93 people so far. There are several posters around the village and in the Aird with a QR code to sign up for the online newsletter. Paper copies will be small in number, intended as an introduction at village hubs and as an outreach for those who cannot</p>	

access it online. The cost for the first edition will eventually be covered by Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council, subject to advertisements and other funding being sought to cover the printing costs for future editions. The Crannog team (Tania Daschofsky, Mark Drain, George Hogg and Lindsey Stout) operate as the Newsletter Group under the auspices of Aird Community Trust and are all volunteering their services. Lindsey Stout said, thank you for supporting the Crannog.

Local Place Plan Consultation

Jayne Macmillan prepared a Facebook survey for 31st August, Gala Day but has received no online comments. The Gala Day stand received several comments, listed below:

ENVIRONMENT

- Allotments if possible. Newtonhill.
- Large open space in new builds for Orchard/Wildlife area.

HOUSING

- More incentive for much needed rental housing in this area.
- Old Crane Yard for sheltered housing/shop.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY (SUBSTATIONS, BATTERY STORAGE, PYLONS)

- Energy – we need green energy, but pylons need sensitivity in placing.
- There should be no storage of batteries in the Kirkhill area.

LOCAL AMENITIES

- Desperately need a shop.
- A local shop in Kirkhill.
- Another three requests for a shop.
- Shop/parcel collection point.
- Land set aside for a shop partly funded by developer contributions.
- A wee shop/self-service milk shop – vending machine thing
- Update Park equipment.
- Water park or splash pad.

SCHOOL AND EDUCATION

- School wraparound care.
- After school club.

TRANSPORT (BUS SERVICES, SPEED LIMITS, CYCLE ROUTE)

- Road – removal of signs and cones once work is finished – plastic in the environment. Highland Broadband/Highland Council.

- Better consideration of horse riders – gates on core paths etc. usable.
- Active travel – route to Inverness.
- Active travel – route Beauly to Inverness.
- Active travel routes – especially on back straight – needs segregated bike/walking route.
- Better bus service x 2
- Cycle into Inverness safely.
- There are now 11 kids at the Lentrane Station bus stop travelling to Charleston Academy. Need official stop and road markings for Charleston School Bus.
- Publicise the speed limit data for Kirkhill.
- Reduced speed limit at Inchmore.
- Lowering the speed limit on Dunballoch/Long Wood road.
- Community Taxi service.

CONNECTIVITY (WIFI)/OTHER

- None.

The two most common comments seemed to be to do with having a village shop and speeding in Kirkhill or Inchmore.

Jayne was also approached by parents from Lentrane Station and Inchberry about having a proper bus stop for teenagers waiting for the bus to Charleston Academy. This is too fast a road and children have to cross the road in poor conditions and at night, in limited visibility. There is no crossing for them and they are at the mercy of where the bus stops. It is not an official bus stop. Councillor Knox said that the bus company can stop anywhere but the specific location has to be safe. Eleven children get on the bus now. It's a D&E school contract. Councillor Knox is to look into this issue.

Cllr Knox

Jayne Macmillan also surveyed the views of children at Kirkhill Primary and the results are included below:

P1

- A Frankie and Lola's.
- A trampoline park.

P2

- New Park equipment.
- Arcade.
- Shop x 2
- Café.
- Escape room.
- Make the park better.
- Monkey bars.
- A place to look after your pets when you go on holiday.
- Shop.

<p>- A pet shop.</p> <p>P3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Go kart track. - Climbing frame. - Gymnastics Park. - Make Park better. - Another park. - Make the park near my house better. - A big open field to play hide and seek. Needs trees too. - Outside musical instruments. - Another park. - Monkey bars. - Tyre swing/rope swing. - Mud kitchen. - A park near my house, area beside my house cleared up. - Skate Park. - Bike Park. - Roller blade park. - A climbing frame. - A rope swing from the trees. - A tree house. - Shop x 3 - A place to have events. - Tube slide. - Zip line needs to be faster. - Little zip line for little ones. <p>P4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better road signs for danger. - More dog bins. - More bins. - More flower beds. <p>P5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rope swing. - Bigger slide. - Twisty slide. - More bins in the park. - More recycling facilities. - Shop. - Improve Park. - More and different shops. - More people moving into Kirkhill. - Park equipment fixed. - Another park. - Vet, dog kennels and rabbit care place. - Trampoline. 	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A big slide for the bigger kids. - Shop. - Tyre swing. <p>P6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bigger slide. - Better Park in general. - More swings. - Better slide. - More and better benches. - Swings. - Monkey bars. - Big slide. - Tunnel slide. - A slide everyone can go on. - We miss the ice cream truck. - Shop x 2. <p>P7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog bag dispensers. - More bins. - Improve community pitch. - More clubs like sports, etc. - More stuff in the park. - Ingrained trampoline. - Shop. - Speed bumps in Newton Park. - Proper road crossing at school. - Sign to say no 'U-turn'. - More shops with different things. - A Harry Gows. - Fuel Station. - Trampoline Park. - Shinty goals. - Shop x 10. - Little Spar or Scotmid or something. - Swimming pool. - Adults' shinty team. - Bigger Park equipment. - Improve community pitch. - Bigger slide. - Better zip line. - Ice cream shop. - Forest walks. - Petting zoo. 	
<p>4. SSEN/Community Interaction</p>	

On Monday 30th September at 2pm Councillor Crawford’s motion will be first on the agenda. The agenda item was not discussed on its original date of 19th September 2024. This was not deliberate or avoidant and was because two planning matters were recalled and brought to full Council because they were controversial. It was a fourteen hour day and Councillor Crawford’s motion was already at the end of the agenda. Highland Councillors had already had pre-meetings before the day started at 9.30 a.m. Council staff also had to be there all that time and eventually it was decided that it was time to end business. Councillor Knox put forward a motion to hear Councillor Crawford’s motion, but it was voted down.

Councillor Knox explained that there had been a Standing Orders Review at Highland Council. It was agreed that in future if a planning application is recalled, a Special Meeting will be required so that it does not interfere with business and cause delays. Under the Standing Orders review, anyone is allowed to come to Chamber and ask a question. It would literally be a spoken, written question. The answer is put on the papers so now is written, rather than verbal.

Inglis Lyon asked, what happens if a consultation process is poor? Councillor Knox said that influences our decision and we may refuse the planning application. Councillors know when there’s been a proper consultation or not.

Inglis Lyon also asked that cross-party support be united in the Highlands to support locals’ voice about the proposed SSEN planning applications and that what’s important is that community interests are put at the heart of policy, cross-party.

Inglis Lyon said that he had been looking at the Fanellan substation proposals with M.P. Jamie Stone. A lot of people there have built houses to enjoy the countryside and the value of their houses will be affected. There will be no compensation. One of the dangers when focussed on local detail is how to view the national picture. How do you implement a national infrastructure that is sympathetic to the environment? What changes need to be made at a Governmental level to make sure that companies have this front and centre rather than focussing on profit and only the net zero target?

6. Police Report

Two members of the public mentioned the speed of tractors through the village during Harvest to Lindsey Stout and she said that it was an issue if walking dogs on the farm track, especially in the dark.

The speed of cars around the school during drop off and collection was discussed. Jayne Macmillan said that road safety is an ongoing concern at the school, with people parking on the zigzag lines to drop off and collect children. Parking at the Community Centre has been available for several years and this has been an issue for more than twenty years. Inglis Lyon said that this was a real safety issue and that the school could ask the Road Safety Officer from the the Police to visit. Councillor Knox was asked if we could get parking restrictions implemented in this area. She said that buffer zones outside schools with double yellow lines are Highland-wide. Councillor Knox will find out about

**Cllr.
Knox**

<p>this option. Jayne Macmillan will ask the Head Teacher, Georgina Dunbar, to ask the Road Safety Officer to speak to the parents and children about road safety.</p> <p>Councillor Knox said that she was approached by a resident about speed data recorded in the village (Lindsey Stout had passed on details after speaking to the person during the Gala Day consultation).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us</p>	<p>Jayne Macmillan</p>
<p>7. Planning Issues</p> <p>Jayne Macmillan said that she had looked at the planning applications as they came in and that there was nothing that required K&BCC to submit a request to be considered a Statutory Consultee.</p>	
<p>8. Any Other Business</p>	
<p>Further 2024 meetings: Tuesdays at 7.30pm to 9pm, The Williamson Room:</p> <p>12th November 17th December</p> <p style="text-align: center;">If you would like to attend a meeting by telephone or Zoom if you cannot attend in person, please contact us on kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com</p>	