



COMHAIRLE COIMHEARSNACHD CILL MHÀLAIDH  
**KILMALLIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of Meeting held at 19:15 on Monday 28 March, at Kilmallie Community Centre

**Present**

**Kilmallie Community Council**

- Christine Hutchison
- Mandy Ketchin (Chair)
- Russell Leaper
- Jan MacLugash
  
- Two members of the public

**Highland Councillors**

- Bill Clark
- Allan Henderson

**Apologies**

- Carol Anne Campbell
- Andy Bilton

**1. Approval of previous minutes**

The minutes of the meeting on 22 February 2016 were approved.

**2. Treasurer's report**

The total balance remains at £3973.71

**3. Road safety.**

**(a) Questionnaire responses related to pedestrian crossings of A830**

Questionnaire's regarding difficulties in crossing the A830 were distributed with the newsletter and via social media. This had prompted around 50 responses. These will be collated and summarised.

**(b) Update on flashing speed limit signs**

Despite an article in the Oban Times and assurances that the flashing 30mph signs installed in Corpach a year and a half ago would be connected, these are still not operational. KCC had contacted John Smith again at BEAR but did not receive a reply. In addition, the 20mph signs at Lochaber High School have not been working for some time. Transport Scotland and BEAR are aware of this but do not appear to consider it a priority. KCC expressed disappointment and frustration at the lack of action. It was agreed to contact the Transport Minister, Derek Mackay, to suggest establishing an emergency fund and high level responsibility for ensuring such speed related safety equipment is working. This would also fit with the current Scottish Government campaign 'When in town slow down' which highlights the seven fold increase in risk of death for pedestrians from vehicles travelling at 30mph compared to 20mph. It was also agreed to continue contact with BEAR and Transport Scotland including regular reporting that this equipment is not working.

(Action: RL to circulate draft letter to Derek Mackay; JM to contact Transport Scotland to report signs not working)

**4. KCC contribution and presence at Go Wild 2016 event on canal**

The Go Wild on the Canal event organised by the Scottish Waterways Trust and Scottish Canals has been very successful in the last two years. This year's event will be on Saturday 21 May from 17:00. KCC will have a tent again this year. It was agreed that KCC would make a contribution of £50 to help support the event. (Action: MK to arrange donation and request site for KCC tent)

**5. Suggestion from Ballachulish Community Council for an on-line platform with the intention of enabling Lochaber area Community Councils to communicate**

Community councils can help each other with specific projects and so coordination between councils can be important. However, it was agreed that regular meetings of community councils were unlikely to

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be practicable. KCC welcomes the initiative by Ballachulish Community Council but does not have currently anyone in a position to help with this.

**6. Representation at Lochaber District Partnership and Economic Development and Employability Forum meetings**

Representation at these meetings is open to community councils but it is often difficult to get a clear idea of what issues will be discussed. Deciding which meetings are most likely to be relevant to KCC can be challenging, but it was agreed that it was useful for KCC to be represented when possible. (**Action:** CH offered to represent KCC).

**7. Update on public slipway at Corpach**

It had been reported that the debris on the slipway had been cleared but concerns remain that loose material piled up beside the slip would likely get washed onto it again. The pile of material also appeared to contain considerable amounts of rubbish and so there are still concerns over pollution. Both of these issues were raised by KCC in an objection to retrospective planning consent, with the suggestion that they should be addressed by appropriate planning conditions.

**8. Update on indoor sports pitch proposal**

KCC had agreed to be the planning applicant for the Lochaber Sports Association proposal for an indoor sports facility close to the High School. Despite huge efforts by many people within the Fort William area, insufficient funds had been raised for this to go ahead. The shortfall was largely due to promised funding from Highland Council which did not materialise. KCC expressed disappointment at the lack of support from Highland Council and appreciation for all those who had put so much time and energy into trying to secure the facility.

**9. Community Proposal for Scenic Routes Viewpoint at Neptune's Staircase**

KCC conducted a consultation in September 2015 in response to proposals from Scottish Canals for a development at Neptune's Staircase as part of the Scottish Scenic Routes initiative. None of the three proposals were considered acceptable to the community. RL had been a member of the judging panel who also considered the proposals to be of poor quality. MK had designed an additional proposal as a potential community led alternative. Initial responses from local Scottish Canal's staff, Scottish Waterways Trust and the community had been favourable but further consultations are planned (**Action:** KCC to organise a consultation event).

**10. New community events group Creel**

MK informed KCC of a newly established community group aiming to bring gigs, events and entertainment to small venues in and around Kilmallie and nearby places. The first event is planned for June. KCC welcomed the initiative and hoped it would be successful.

**11. Update on Corpach Marina proposals**

An article in the newsletter indicated that proposals for Corpach Marina were close to submission of a planning application. However, the article also indicated that there would be wide consultation on the final proposal. KCC had provided comments at an earlier stage but had not received a response to the concerns that were raised. Residents in Corpach had also contacted KCC to express concerns mainly regarding the scale of the proposed development. (**Action:** RL to contact the marina group and ask what plans there are for further consultation and whether there will be a response to the comments submitted by KCC)

**12. Next meeting**

The next meeting of KCC will be at 19:15 on Monday 25 April 2016 at Kilmallie Community Centre.

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