



COMHAIRLE COIMHEARSNACHD CILL MHÀLAIDH KILMALLIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of meeting held at 7.15pm on Monday 26 January 2026 at Kilmallie Community Centre

Present		Apologies	
Gwyn Moses (Chair) Russell Leaper (secretary) Carol Anne Campbell (Treasurer) Lyn Kilpatrick	GM RL CAC LK	Cllr Liz Saggars	LS
Cllr Sammy Cameron 2 x members of the community	SC		

1. Apologies

None received

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared

3. Minute of meeting

The minute of the meeting held on 24 November 2025 were agreed for accuracy.

4. Matters Arising

Item 11.1: It was noted that Kilmallie Community Company are reluctant conscripts to the creation of a turning area for transportation of wind turbines at the cost of felling 4 mature oak trees. The community benefit costs offered in return are minimal.

5. Treasurer's Report

CAC updated that the balance on 26 January 2026 was £3,758.28. A total of £200 had been received since the last meeting in donations for the newsletter. During the month £582 had been paid out for hall hire and newsletter costs. Of the balance £2069.60 is restricted for the newsletter, £46.69 for the admin grant and £1641.99 for the Community Fund.

6. Health and Social Care update

It was reported that plans of the new hospital are available at Caol Library for public viewing, as well as in the main library in Fort William. NHS are hosting a public drop-in event at Caol Community Centre on 12 February.

The resurrection of Blàr Mòr Liaison Group is looking more positive but no formal notification as yet.

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www.kilmallie.org.uk

NHSH progress with the new hospital design process remains on schedule with approvals and governance relative to RIBA Stage 3 in progress following which the full planning application can be submitted.

The Highland Council have commissioned In Control Scotland to undertake community conversations about the future of adult health and social care including supporting the co-design of future Local Care Models. These are scheduled to commence from March 2026 and it is understood that community councils will be involved in this process.

Updates on the redesign of health and social care services can be obtained at the NHSH Engagement Hub [Lochaber Health & Social Care Redesign | NHS Highland Engagement Hub](#)

7. Access Forum

RL attended the meeting of 27 November 2025. The Highland Council updated on legal requirements for demonstrating a vehicular right of access including that any previous use was not just by consent of the landowner. The meeting had also reported on the work of the Rangers, notably that 250 fires had been attended by Rangers in 2025. It was also noted that campervan volume continues to increase though tourism volume more generally has stabilised if not slightly declined.

8. Visitor Levy Bill

All Lochaber community councils had been contacted by Cllr John Grafton for views on the proposed amendments to SG proposed legislation to provide for fixed charges instead of per centage charges for collection by accommodation providers. Following discussion it was agreed that there had been more support for a fixed charge approach which would be easier for many smaller operations to implement.

It was noted with concern that this Bill does not include charges for campervans and so any levy could encourage further increases in campervan use at the expense of fixed accommodation providers. However, campervans are one of the main perceived problems with tourism impacts. It was noted that introduction of number plate recognition could support visitor levy charging for campervans but would require additional changes to national legislation.

9. Short Terms Let Licensing

The Highland Council is progressing the introduction of planning controls on Short Term Lets for holiday accommodation. The proposed controls will apply to residential properties suitable for permanent housing in all areas of Highland. There will be a consultation in due course.

10. Climate Change

Kilmallie Community Fridge and Garden has been successful in a Lottery Awards For All application securing £20k to sustain the project over the next year. A community asset transfer of derelict land at the former Guiseach Play Park is being explored in terms of potential as a community garden. Scottish Land Fund has provided costs for a feasibility assessment and valuation.

It was reported that this land has a history of flooding which remedial drainage work has not resolved and flood risk remains high to surrounding properties. DD offered to be part of discussions which CAC welcomed.

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11. Any Other Business

1) Kilmallie Community Centre

A member of the community noted that the crest above the stage had not been reinstated following some improvement work to the hall. It was suggested that the Chair of Kilmallie Community Centre be contacted to discuss the plans for hall decorating.

2) Linnhe Alliance

The need to arrange a meeting for the Alliance was noted.

12. Date of next meeting

Monday 23 February 2026 7.15pm