

**Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council**

**Minute of Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Community Councillors present:**

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

**In attendance:**

George Hogg of Aird Community Trust , Councillor Emma Knox.

The meeting was held in person at Kirkhill Community Centre.

<b>1. Apologies</b>	<b>ACTIONS</b>
<p>Apologies were received from Community Councillor Cameron Kemp and Highland Councillors David Fraser and Chris Ballance.</p>	
<p><b>2. Matters Arising, Minutes of Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025/previous minutes:</b></p>	
<p>The minutes of the last meeting were circulated online. There were two corrections to Item 4 made by Councillor Knox. The minutes were proposed for acceptance by Inglis Lyon and seconded by Judith Rumbold.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>• Dog Waste bin, Kirkhill Playpark</b></p> <p>Councillor Knox said that she had emailed the Highland Council to suggest a new standing dog waste bin attached to the lamppost near the gate, close to the vandalised bin and the green litter bin within the park, following discussions around the need for a separate dog waste bin to the litter bin children and their families use within the park and also easily available to dog walkers, who would not then need to take their dogs into the park gate to access the bin. Councillor Knox is to email again to ask about removing the vandalised stand and to enquire about the potential new location. Lindsey Stout, Secretary, to contact the Highland Council to support the enquiry.</p> </li> </ul>	<p><b>CLr Knox</b> <b>Secretary</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>• Community Noticeboard</b></p> <p>We received an email from Erik Lundberg with specifications for a noticeboard and ideas for alternative locations. To be put forward to our meeting in June.</p> </li> </ul>	<p><b>T.B.A.</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>• Community Shop</b></p> <p>We have seen a lot of discussion on social media and Lindsey Stout has contacted two members of the public to ask them to attend our meeting in June to discuss the shop. Councillor Knox said that she would ask if someone in the Council could come out to the meeting to discuss how to go forward with using the land put aside for a shop in the Tullochs site in Newton Park.</p> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Secretary</b> <b>CLr Knox</b></p>

### 3. Annual General Meeting

Councillor Emma Knox kindly chaired the meeting whilst the Office Bearers' roles were in suspension.

- Cameron Kemp was proposed as Chairperson by Inglis Lyon and this was seconded by Éamon Doorley. Lindsey Stout confirmed that Cameron Kemp was happy to be re-elected.
- There were no proposals or volunteers for the position of Vice Chairperson.
- Inglis Lyon was proposed as Treasurer by Jayne Macmillan, seconded by Éamon Doorley.
- Lindsey Stout was proposed as Secretary by Inglis Lyon, seconded by Jayne Macmillan.

Inglis Lyon thanked Councillor Knox for chairing the meeting and the meeting continued to be chaired informally by the Treasurer and the Secretary in the Chairperson's absence.

#### Chairperson's Report

#### **Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council Chairman's Report**

Since our last A.G.M. in 2024 we have had regular meetings to discuss a range of topics and consultations as we endeavour to represent our community.

Planning matters continue to feature a lot in our discussions and we have been contacted where matters of concern have arisen in relation to applications. The Community Council has managed to represent these views in communications to the Highland Council.

As always, it has been helpful to have the Highland Councillors at our meetings to take up matters on our behalf. The two-way exchange of information has been very helpful. The Community Council is always available to be contacted at any time. We also work with other community organisations to promote and assist in projects which benefit all, particularly Aird Community Trust.

We continue to face a rush of major energy infrastructure proposals to erect massive pylons, substations and battery storage facilities in the surrounding area. Whilst we support green energy initiatives, there is massive opposition in the community to the devastation that this infrastructure would cause and there is an overwhelming desire for alternatives, e.g. underground and subsea cable options to be implemented. There is great frustration about SSEN's failure to consult meaningfully. The Community Council has and will continue to represent the community on these matters and we have joined forces with Kiltarlity, Kilmorack and Strathglass Community Councils in order to fight this and get more acceptable outcomes. We also joined with 63 other Community Councils across Highland to support Cllr Crawford's motion for online mapping and better representation from Highland Council to Scottish Government to reflect concerns of affected communities in September last year. It has taken until now to deliver the online mapping and some of the other aspects of the motion have yet to be implemented by the Council.

This year we said farewell to Community Councillor Dr Eleanor Kennedy and welcomed Community Councillor Éamon Doorley, who has been co-opted to help us with matters relating to renewable energy infrastructure. Thanks to our fellow Community Councillors for their hard work and contribution to meetings and for their efforts in keeping the organisation running for the benefit of community.

Cameron Kemp 10 May 2025.

<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>Inglis Lyon presented the annual accounts (appended) which will be signed by the Chairperson, Cameron Kemp, on his return. Sarah Conroy, Treasurer for Aird Community Trust, had examined the accounts for us.</p>	
<p><b>4. S.S.E.N./Community Interaction</b></p> <p>Éamon Doorley reported that there was an ongoing effort to restart the Community Liaison Group with SSEN. There have been investigative works using contractors and a lot of disruption. SSEN have a Community Liaison Officer for the area.</p> <p>SSEN agreed to a provisional date in June. We have the right to bring a consultant of our own choosing and an independent chair and the minutes will be agreed and taken by an independent minute taker.</p> <p>Lindsey Stout mentioned separate Facebook posts about investigative work at Loch nam Bonnach near Beauly and vehicles driving over a Pictish Hill Fort during investigative works. Councillor Knox clarified that there is no requirement for archaeologists during investigative works. Damage to archaeological sites is of national importance. Anyone concerned about damage to archaeological sites should contact/email their local Councillors immediately.</p>	
<p><b>5. Finance</b></p> <p>Treasurer Inglis Lyon reported that the Highland Council grant has already been released.</p>	
<p><b>6. Police/Rural Watch Report</b></p> <p>No new local information or police report has been received.</p>	
<p><b>7. Road Safety</b></p> <p>Jayne Macmillan said that the Road Safety Officers have been in touch with the school. They have not been able to offer anything other than the school has had in previous years. New banners have been ordered that the children have designed. Inglis Lyon asked if we could get a statement from the Road Safety Officers. Jayne Macmillan to action.</p> <p>Inglis Lyon and Jayne Macmillan mentioned obvious and regular speeding in Kirkhill and Inchmore from 6am to 8am. Éamon Doorley and Inglis Lyon asked Councillor Knox if white lining and rumble strips could be installed in Inchmore. Councillor Knox said that she has been told that Inchmore is on the list for speed limit extensions. Councillor Knox will raise the request for white lining and rumble strips. Councillor Knox said that the flashing Speed Indication Device could be moved down to Inchmore from Kirkhill. The Community Councillors were in agreement that the S.I.D. should stay in Kirkhill. Jayne Macmillan said that we should request an extra one in Inchmore, to be installed before people come around the corner at Lentrán into Inchmore.</p>	<p>J.M.</p> <p>Cllr Knox</p>
<p><b>8. Planning Issues</b></p> <p>Jayne Macmillan reported issues with requesting to be a Statutory Consultee using the Community</p>	

<p>Council's email address. Jayne is to flag up planning issues in future and Cameron to write the email. The Chair and Secretary both have access to the email address so, if the Chair is off, the Secretary could do it.</p> <p><b>Planning Application 25/01164/FUL - Siting of 4no pods for short term letting, erection of bike store, erection of managers house, formation of access road and associated works.</b></p> <p>The Community Council are in support for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development would attract tourists to our area and make high quality provision for them.</li> <li>• The development would provide local employment in servicing and managing the units.</li> <li>• A pre-application consultation with Highland Council planners in 2021 indicated that it would be possible to support the development in land use and planning terms.</li> <li>• The Community Council would wish the development to be in keeping with the environment and that it is sympathetic to it and the surrounding area.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9. Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Lindsey Stout mentioned the need for another Crannog article. George Hogg said that the deadline for submissions for the next edition is 4<sup>th</sup> June. Lindsey Stout to rewrite and make relevant our previous piece advertising for two new Community Councillors.</p>	L.S.
<p><b>Future 2025 meetings</b> <b>Tuesdays at 7.30pm to 9pm, The Williamson Room, Kirkhill Community Centre:</b></p> <p>10<sup>th</sup> June 19th August 16th September 11th November 9th December</p> <p>If you would like to attend a meeting by telephone if you cannot attend in person, please contact us on <a href="mailto:kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com"><b><u>kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com</u></b></a></p>	