

Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council

Minute of Meeting, Tuesday 18th August 2026

Community Councillors present:

Cameron Kemp, Jayne Macmillan, Judith Rumbold and Lindsey Stout.

In attendance:

Councillor Emma Knox and Hugh Ashburner, Chair of Aird Community Trust.

The meeting was held in person at Kirkhill Community Centre.

1. Apologies	ACTIONS
Apologies were received from Community Councillors Inglis Lyon and Éamon Doorley and Councillor Fraser.	
2. Minutes of the Meeting of 9 th June 2026	
The minutes of the last meeting were circulated online. The minutes were proposed for acceptance by Jayne Macmillan and seconded by Judith Rumbold, pending corrections to the planning section.	
3. Matters Arising:	
Road Safety Hugh Ashburner (Chair of A.C.T.) said that the speed indicator sign at the West end of the village of Kirkhill is still not operating. Councillor Knox said that she had reported the fault and it works intermittently. Hugh Ashburner said that Highland Council staff will need to be pressed on the matter. There was some discussion about the power supply to the sign, which may affect the fault in that it is not lighting up when people drive through every time. Hugh asked why the power supply is solar and not electricity. Councillor Knox said that if the mobile unit is solar powered, it is easier to move to temporary locations where there may not be an available power supply from a lamp post. Lindsey Stout commented that solar power is low cost and more environmentally friendly. Councillor Knox to ask about an electrical supply for this speed indicator sign. Hugh Ashburner asked Councillor Knox what had happened regarding the results of the door-to-door survey taken of the residents of the West of Kirkhill, from Mansefield Park to Cononbank Farm and out to Wester Lovat. The results of the survey (some years ago) were submitted to Councillors Knox and Crawford. The results of the survey were that the Cononbank residents in general wanted the speed limit through their area reduced from 40mph to 30mph. The Wester Lovat and Dunballoch residents in general wanted the speed limit reduced from 60mph to 30mph. 85% of the respondents wanted a speed reduction. Cameron Kemp commented that we should have correspondence regarding this and he will look through the archives. Lindsey Stout said that she remembered this	Cllr Knox Cllr Knox Chair

survey being discussed at the time.	
Police/Rural Watch Cameron Kemp commended the Secretary, Lindsey Stout, on her excellent article in the Crannog about wildfire risk.	
4. S.S.E.N./Community Interaction Note to remove Item 4 from the agenda.	Secretary
5. Finance Grant Andrews, the Treasurer of ACT, has been contacted to be asked to independently scrutinise our accounts. Inglis Lyon to follow up.	Treasurer
6. Police/Rural Watch Report Lindsey Stout had emailed round a report summarising the relevant Rural Watch emails and had copied any relevant warning bulletins to our Facebook page. None were local to our area. Hugh Ashburner asked if we have a Community Police Officer. Cameron Kemp answered, no longer. Councillor Knox replied that John Joe Gibb copies the Councillors into relevant information. Hugh Ashburner commented that more relevant local information would be more useful.	
7. Kirkhill Community Shop Hugh Ashburner said that the next step will be a stall on Gala Day, when the Kirkhill Community Shop group are going to canvass residents' opinion with the help of a form.	
8. Road Safety Lindsey Stout commented that, compared to this time last year, the speed of tractors through Kirkhill has noticeably reduced. Councillor Knox asked if the parking restrictions in Kirkhill around the school day were effective. Jayne Macmillan said that safety issues created by commuting to school and parking to drop children off were not as bad as they were during the Summer term. There had also been issues with drives in Newton Park being blocked, so that residents could not leave their driveway. Jayne said that it would be good if the police made spot checks every so often. Hugh Ashburner said that a speed control unit should be involved. Councillor Knox said that she has asked repeatedly for a speed control unit to visit Kirkhill. She said that the police have been out several times in marked cars. Councillor Knox said that it would be effective if the children came out with pretend 'speed guns' and high vis tabards. Jayne Macmillan said that she would talk to the Head Teacher. Jayne Macmillan said that parking on the zig zag lines outside Kirkhill Primary School would require	J.M.

police enforcement.	
9. Planning Issues/SSEN Re: Erection of 3 holiday let pods, maintenance building, and cycle store 26/02745/FUL The resident raised a concern. Statutory Consultee status was requested and agreed. This planning application is sited in Ladystone and the Community Council have heard and supported several objections to planning applications in this area over a period of years, due to access and weight limit restrictions on the Network Rail-owned bridge and issues regarding the quality of the roadway and the maintenance of the road. In this case the correspondent, a resident, sent an articulate and well-researched email. Cameron Kemp emailed round the resident's objection letter. Cameron Kemp proposed that we accept his letter of objection (unanimously supported) and support his objection in reply to Highland Council's Planning Department. Cameron Kemp to action. Planning Application 26/01556/FUL, Lentrane Erection of house, storage container, and residential cabin including short term let use. We requested to be a Statutory Consultee. No one has approached the Community Council to either support or object to this application, so no further action is necessary. Planning Reference 26/02223/FUL, siting of three storage containers and formation of outdoor activity area, Kirkhill Community Centre Jayne Macmillan said that the Scouts application (that we applied for on behalf of the Scout group) was progressing. There have been two objections to this application concerning a view being obstructed and possible antisocial behaviour at the site outwith Scout use. The Scout group is negotiations with the residents to see if they can find a solution to suit everybody. Community Hearing Session, 20th August at Bught Stadium, Beauly-Peterhead OHL The public inquiry is still ongoing. The Community Hearing Session is on Thursday 20th August. A number of members of Community Councils will use the opportunity to speak up for the community. Five have submitted statements. Highland Council has been supportive of residents' concerns in their submissions to the inquiry. The Reporters will visit houses on 20th August. Éamon Doorley and Cameron Kemp visited houses in the area on the line of the proposed pylons. There will be more inquiry sessions over the coming months. Reporters will submit their report to the Scottish Ministers at the end of the process. Cameron Kemp said that the second crowdfunder to pay for the expertise of a planning consultant has not attracted much support. Jayne Macmillan said that the image dominated and people had to click the link to view the content, so would be unclear on the reasoning behind the crowdfunder. She said that some text on the aims of the crowdfunder needs to be attached to the link so that it is clear and catches people's attention. Cameron Kemp to action. Lindsey Stout to pin to the top of the Facebook page.	Chair Chair Secretary

9. Any Other Business

Gala Day Community Council stall

Lindsey Stout was asked if we had a stall booked on Gala Day and she said that no one had replied when she emailed originally to confirm that a stall was necessary, so she had not booked one. Jayne Macmillan to ask about the possibility of having a stall to promote Community Council activities.

J.M.

Kirking the Council procession on Sunday 13th September, between 9.45 and 10:15

Route: Inverness Town House to Ness Bank Church

Lindsey Stout and Judith Rumbold said that they may attend.

Highland Local Development Plan

The Call for Ideas survey is now open and will run until 18 September 2026. As our community council area does not yet have a registered Local Place Plan (LPP), Highland Council encourage us to submit any local ideas or proposals for the use and development of land and buildings within our community through the Call for Ideas. These ideas will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the HLDP. This was shared with A.C.T. by email to consider working together on this.

Hugh Ashburner said that the ideas proposed at the Gala Stall/s could be used to work together on this. The main focus of A.C.T. at present is promoting active travel with the development and continuation of multi-use paths.

Lindsey Stout suggested highlighting the unused land in Inchmore included in our penny lease with the Highland Council in the HLDP. She is to forward the relevant history of the lease and the proposals for its use, including minutes and a copy of the lease, to the Chair of A.C.T.

Secretary

Invitation to take part in a SEPA consultation due by 24th August, which concerned the following documents included under SEPA guidance and have proposed changes: Who can hold an authorisation: In Control and Fit and Proper Person test; Public Participation; Types of Authorisations. The Community Council did not have a strong view and chose not to take part.

Highland Council has just launched its new on-line engagement portal, available at <https://engage.highland.gov.uk>. 'This will supplement but not replace other methods of engagement and allows a much more interactive experience with the facility for creation of ideas, using mapping to drop 'pins', voting etc. One of the most helpful features is that registered users can select the geographic and/or sectoral areas they are interested in and will then receive notifications when there is new activity under these themes or when there are updates. There is no requirement to register on the site, but more functions are available to those who choose to do so.' Lindsey Stout to action.

Secretary

The Community Council has been asked to share updated contact details with Highland Council. We chose to include our email addresses and home addresses with Highland Council but not our telephone numbers.

Secretary

Cameron Kemp gave his apologies for the meeting in September.

Future Meetings in 2026:

Tuesdays at 7.30pm to 9pm, The Williamson Room, Kirkhill Community Centre:

8th September

10th November

8th December

If you would like to attend a meeting,
please contact us on [**kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com**](mailto:kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council's Minutes, Data Protection Policy Statement
and Privacy Policy may be found here:

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