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|  | **Kenmore and District Community Council Meeting**  **Acharn Comrades Hut**  **8 May 2025**  **Minutes** |
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1. **Present**

K&DCC Members - Peter Ely, Shirley Shearer, Olive Munro, Carol May, Lou Oppenheim Alex Low, Jon Iddon, Bill Howie

Mairi McAdam (Taymouth Castle Estate)

Dirk and Stacey (Taymouth Marina)

Frank and Jeanine (PKC Community Support and Enforcement Team)

Members of the local community – Bill Oppenheim, Heather Arnott, Stuart Arnott, Ian (Shepherd), Ann Hunter and Robert Cochran, Jenny Gane, Steven Brogan, Willie Lindsey, Susan Douglas

1. **Visitor Management & Litter**

This item was moved to earlier in the agenda to allow Jeanine (PKC Community Support and Enforcement Team) to leave the meeting earlier. Jeanine has already met with Jon and Shirley to discuss and start a litter pick group in Kenmore. One of Jeanine’s roles is a volunteer host for the litter picking group in Aberfeldy and holds some of the equipment. There is not enough equipment to support both groups, so TC is providing additional equipment for Kenmore.

The first litter pick event will be held on Sat 7 June between 10 and 12 meeting at the Breadalbane Reading Rooms. Advice will be given on what type of litter to pick up and which to leave. PKC will collect and remove the bags of litter that is collected.

The first litter pick will be held on a Saturday to allow the children from Kenmore Primary School to take part. The school has been involved in the project and the children are designing leaflets to promote keeping Kenmore clean. The timetable for future litter picks is still to be confirmed. They may be monthly, or people can choose to collect litter on an ad hoc basis.

Jeanine’s second and official role is as a Visitor Management Ranger. Jeanine has been involved in the project to manage road-side camping and has worked on the Drummond Hill overnight parking initiative which aims to move people away from unauthorised camping spots. The Drummond Hill site has been extremely popular and is the most used overnight parking facility in the eastern area that stretches from Tentsmuir to Huntley. A charge is now being made for the overnight parking.

Jeanine is also involved with patrols by Forestry Scotland to tackle fly tipping in the area.

Jeanine reports to Frank who has been involved with CC through the Community Resilience Group. Frank and Jon Iddon expressed their thanks for the mutual support provided for the Resilience project.

Frank explained that the groups within PKC are currently undergoing a major re-organisation. A new ‘Super Service’ team called the Community Support and Enforcement Team has been created and Frank is currently heading up this team. The Visitor Management group has been moved into this team along with Parking, Resilience and Anti-social behaviour. The visitor rangers were previously seasonal staff, but now that Visitor Management has been brought under the Community Support and Enforcement Team, the staff will be full time employees. 4 season rangers are being employed this year, but the plan is for these positions to become permanent. The information shared earlier this year that indicated that there would be no rangers was incorrect.

It is hoped that the new structure will bring a better level of support through the local rangers and more parking attendants will be on site in problem hot spots. There will also be joint patrols with Police Scotland who have joined in a key partnership with the new Community Support and Enforcement Team. The overall visibility of patrols should increase, and rangers will also be available to support clean-up operations.

Frank and Jeanine will provide a guide on who to contact in different scenarios e.g. Rangers/Police/Fire service. Call 101 to report disruptive late-night parties. The highest concern currently is the danger of wildfires due to extremely dry conditions. The Scottish Outdoor Code gives clear guidelines on fire restrictions.

Frank is very keen to hear from members of the community about specific causes of concern. Franks email contact will be shared by Peter Ely.

1. **Apologies**

Colin Morton

1. **Declarations of interest**

None

1. **Previous Minutes**

Previous minutes circulated to CC and wider email circulation. No comments received. Minutes approved.

1. **Matter Arising**

**Planning**

* 1. House boats at the Marina – Dirk advised that Taymouth Marina has applied for a Certificate of Lawfulness to PKC. This certificate is used in cases where planning permission is not required.
  2. **24/01293/FLL** Erection of 5 holiday accommodation units, installation of 5 air source heat pumps and associated works at land 30 Metres Northeast of The Byre Bistro – pending decision. **Updated drawings have been submitted.**
  3. Unpermitted dock behind paper boat – with PKC enforcement team. CC objection withdrawn. Ownership confirmed and planning permission is for a temporary period of 3 years only.
  4. Taymouth Marina – sewage works have been approved by PKC with conditions. PKC awaiting documentation to confirm conditions have been complied with. **Dirk confirmed upgrading the sewerage system is a high priority issue for Taymouth Marina. Dirk agreed to confirm the status of the conditions. It was confirmed that tankers are still be used to manage the sewerage system in the meantime, however tankers are only necessary if the system is used beyond capacity. This is not a regular event, but Taymouth Marina understands the inconvenience caused when this is needed. Lou also reported that there is often a smell of sewerage when you drive past. The new sewerage system should hopefully address all these concerns.**
  5. PLANNING APPLICATION 24/01857/FLL -ERECTION OF A DWELLING HOUSE AND ASSOCIATED WORKS - LAND 40 METRES EAST OF ANEMONE, BALNASKEAG – **enforcement notice has not been complied with or appealed. Owner is currently in ‘negotiations’ with PKC. Peter has been in discussion with Mary Barr at PKC about this as CC is concerned that the enforcement is being ‘negotiated’. Update awaited.**
  6. 24/01948/FLL Siting of office/storage building, changing room, sauna and jacuzzi at land 30m NE of Portbane, Kenmore – K&DCC objection lodged on basis of road safety. **Dirk confirmed that some material has been delivered ahead of schedule and prior to approval being granted. PKC enforcement officer (Mary Barr) is aware and was on site 7 May.**

**Stuart and Heather raised concerns about several developments/projects that are currently taking place at the Marina with no apparent permission having been granted. It was acknowledged that this may be due to a lack of information being shared by the Marina. Examples given were the caravans next to Port Glas, mounds of earth being dumped on farmland, container being used as a working office. Dirk indicated that a number of these are covered under the ‘construction agreement’. It is felt that this kind of behaviour is disrespectful to the community. Dirk and Stacey agreed that they would try and be more transparent in keeping the community informed. It was appreciated that Dirk and Stacey were at the meeting to hear the community views.**

**Stuart sent a list of concerns with photos to PKC planning dept with K&DCC on copy 6 months ago. No response has been received to date. Peter asked Stuart to resend the details to Peter so they can be included in Peter’s correspondence with John Williamson. It appears that PKC is not following its own planning processes.**

**K&DCC objected to the development on the grounds of road safety. There are concerns around the amount of traffic and the condition of the south Loch Tay Road to Ardtalnaig and beyond. It is estimated that traffic has increased by 150% in recent times. This needs to be taken seriously by PKC.**

**It was agreed that official local councillor support is required. John Duff was unable to attend the meeting this evening due to a VE Day Celebration commitment. Peter will raise concerns again with John Duff and Mike Williamson.**

**First Aid Courses**

The first course took place on 7th April and was very successful. The second course is scheduled for 12 May. Peter thanked Lou for organising these.

**Taymouth Castle Estate**

Lower Gallops – work required to clear fallen trees on lower path. Lou confirmed paths have been cleared and work has been done to a high standard.

1. **Finance**

Jon Iddon gave the following update on Finance:

The accounts below were presented: The balance brought forward at the last Community Council meeting on 13th March 2025 was £20593.60

The following payments were made:

* 17/3/25 £12.95 Laminates
* 18/3/25 £300.00 Acharn notice board
* 28/3/25 £5636.00 BRR. Adjustment
* 15/4/25 £373.80 Ardtalnaig notice board.
* 25/4/25 £87.00 Stamps
* 26/4/25 £25 LTA
* 28/4/25 £500 Perthshire and Angus Mod

Balance as of 7/5/25 is £13,668.85 as per attachment



Business Reserve Account Balance as of 16/2/25 was £3002.26. Balance as of 31/3/25 is £3015.29. Increase in this amount is interest.

**Microgrants**

* We had previously received an application to fund a replacement notice board at Ardtalnaig as the current notice board is in a poor state of repair. Funding sought was £700 for this project. To date, £373.80 has been paid to cover purchase and delivery of the board. A further £200 will be for fitting, to be carried out by a member of the local estate team.
* Received 31st March 2025, an application to secure funding of £500 to support the Perthshire and Angus Provincial Mod, to be help at the Breadalbane Community Campus on Friday 13th June and Saturday 14th June. With the Community Council agreeing to support this event, £500 has been forwarded to the Mod committee.
* Received 8th May 2025, an application to secure funding for a pilot study for a Capercaillie Trail in Kenmore. The total cost of this project is £1000, supported by a micro grant of £700. This application has also been approved.

1. **Planning**

Peter Ely has circulated details of the latest planning applications to the 100+ recipients on the kick mailing list. No issues or concerns have been raised so far.

1. **Taymouth Estate Liaison Group**

Shirley updated from Colin’s notes on the last meeting. Please refer to the following link for full details. [Kenmore & District Community Council | Taymouth Castle Update](https://www.kenmore-and-district-cc.org.uk/taymouth-castle-update)

These minutes are also shared on the CC website.

Stuart raised concern over the lack of activity at the Kenmore Hotel as it calls into question whether DC is serious about renovating it and re-opening it. This combined with the disappointing delays to the Taymouth Trading re-opening as a local pub is causing people to question TC’s commitment.

Shirley confirmed that this is raised with TC at the regular liaison meetings. TC have indicated that both the hotel and Taymouth Trading are still firmly in the plan but are delayed currently due to competing priorities and greater than expected remedial work being required. These projects have not been cancelled. Mairi agreed to feedback the general community concern around the lack of activity. Mairi confirmed that plans have been drawn up for both developments and agreed that sharing positive updates will help to fill the PR void.

1. **Road Safety subgroup**

Jon Iddon provided the following update on those items that have progressed since the last meeting.

**U177 Drummond Hill Road**

Earlier this year members of the RSG conducted a site visit with a representative of PKC to examine the U177 east of the entrance to the borrow pit at Inchadney to Comrie Bridge, to identify site where passing places could be constructed or enhanced. The purpose of this visit was to improve road safety on the U177 in advance of the carriageway repairs on the A827 at Bolfracks later this year. It was agreed that work on the U177 would be undertaken before the Bolfracks work began, as it is envisaged an enormous strain will be put on an already busy back road, with many narrow stretches and poor site lines.

It was intimated a temporary speed restriction could be imposed on the back road while work is being undertaken but it is the Community Council’s view that any speed restrictions on this road be made permanent.

**PKC Roads Dept**

The member of the PKC team with whom we have worked closely has been moved, with a replacement to be in post very shortly and the RSG will seek an early meeting.

Full details of the closures are listed below:

* 7 weeks daytime closure [9:30am to 3pm] (lights outwith closure times) - Monday 25th August - Sunday 12th October 2025 [to install scour protection measures, temporary works and replace failed section of gabion retention wall]
* 1-week full road closure - Monday 13th - Sunday 19th October 2025 [to excavate and reconstruct carriageway]
* 1 week lane closure (with temporary traffic lights) - Monday 20th - Friday 24th October 2025 [to install VRS barriers and white lining]

At the last CC meeting, reference was made to a broken drain cover and the deteriorating surface of the lay-by by the Beach. These were reported and have been repaired.

Several potholes in the Square have also been reported and are scheduled for repair.

We appreciate all these issues to be addressed we will require the input of PKC.

Bill Oppenheim confirmed that this topic will be included on the agenda for the next LTA meeting scheduled for 19/5 which Jon Iddon will be invited to attend. It will be proposed that LTA works in conjunction with RSG and Taymouth Marina to raise priority with PKC to get some action on signage and road furniture.

1. **Resilience Subgroup**

Peter confirmed that Jon Iddon has stepped back from the Resilience group and that he supported and understood the decision. Jon is involved in so many of the K&DCC and wider initiatives that the position/workload became untenable for Jon. Peter thanked Jon for all his hard work in getting the CRG to where it is now.

Lou confirmed that the creation of community questionnaires is completed. Distribution of questionnaires, to identify local members of the community that may need additional assistance in the case of a resilience event, is well underway. Lou and Heather have visited several properties already and the response has been positive. The 140 questionnaires have been divided out between members of the Resilience group and K&DCC members to spread the load.

It was generally thought that the work of the Resilience Group was now close to completion, and this was discussed at the recent meeting (Lou, Heather and Peter in person and Alex and Karon via email). However, Peter has some concerns that there are a few areas that were originally discussed/agreed as part of the CRG that still need to be clarified. At the recent meeting with Ross Campbell from the Fire Service, Ross had suggested that the BRR be used as a hub for resilience events (as has been the case in other CRGs) and that a generator would be useful to ensure that resilience centre has power. This had been viewed as a good suggestion, but it is understood that concerns had been raised previously about a generator (e.g. where it would be sited and where the fuel would be stored). It was agreed that this needs further discussion before a conclusion is reached.

The requirement for a storage container also needs to be re-visited. It was agreed at the recent CRG meeting with Lou, Peter and Heather (and by email by Alex and Karon) that it was felt that a container was not required as there is room at the reading rooms to store the necessary items. However, Peter was concerned that the planning application for the container was also placed in conjunction with Kenmore Sports and Social Club so this may impact the ability to withdraw the application. Stuart (on behalf of the Sports and Social Club) confirmed that withdrawing the application would not adversely impact them. The impact (if any) on changing the purpose of the agreed grant from PKC also needs to be clarified.

To get conclusion on these points it was agreed that Jon would draw up a list of outstanding items or items that need to be reconfirmed. This would be emailed to the group to review and concluded. If necessary, a further meeting of the CRG subgroup will be held.

1. **Kenmore Business Group**

Shirley was unable to give a full update as she had to leave the meeting due to a prior engagement. Peter shared the following brief update:

A logo for the Kenmore business group is in the process of being designed.

It is thought that grants should be available to support the business group. Funds are available to support tourism.

The subject of celebrations for VE day was discussed - Colin and Fiona were thanked for the very useful information on those who died listed on the plaque within the Kirk. Jon Iddon attended a Help the Heroes lunch in Fortingall that was very well supported. John Duff is at the event at the Black Watch memorial in Aberfeldy this evening.

1. **Community Action Plan**

The initial draft has been circulated and comments collated. The general response has been positive. Feedback will be given. Community Enterprise (commissioned by PKC to undertake the CAP) at the Zoom meeting scheduled for Friday 9th May.

John Duff has joined the K&DCC working group alongside Peter, Jon, and Alex.

Meeting on Friday will focus on what next steps are required to convert CAP into a Local Place Plan (LPP).

1. **Reading Room Update**

Jon Iddon gave the following update:

The last of our 11 **Warm Welcome** community lunches took place on the 26th of March. In all, 213 members of the community attended, in addition to 35 pupils, accompanied by teachers from KPS, came to the sessions over 5 separate occasions, to practice their reading skills and place chess. Feedback suggests the pupils very much enjoyed their visits to the Reading Room.

Moving the sessions to Wednesday helped our volunteers; starting at 12.00pm and finishing at 2.30pm, meant all got home during daylight. We are grateful for the continued support of Taymouth Castle, supplying hot drinks and cookies.

**Music nights** on Wednesday evening have grown in popularity; last night 45 folks attended - a record!

We cancelled our last 2 **quiz nights**, due to lack of support - perhaps competing with the lighter nights?

Further work is expected, with repairs and painting in the library room and above the veranda. Pointing around the windows and above the bay is to be carried out and restoration to internal doors and library cupboards expected, as is replacement of several stugged columns that support the veranda expected during the summer.

We have **book club** meeting regularly and have heard two excellent talks on the history of the Reading Room. Kenmore Post Office and the Old Village of Lawers, given by author and local historian, Mark Bridgeman.

On Saturday 24th May, members of Lodge Tay and Lyon will be holding an exhibition at the Reading Room of various books and records before their transfer to the Headquarters of the Freemasons in Edinburgh.

We received the donation of a first edition of the first English/Gaelic dictionary, published by R.A. Armstrong of Kenmore. Taymouth Castle are making a stand for this book, with a plaque to commemorate the 200th anniversary of its publication. The cradle will be covered with Armstrong tartan and will be displayed at the forthcoming Perthshire and Angus Mod at the Academy next month. We are grateful to Mark Bridgeman for the donation of this dictionary.

1. **AOCB**

**Kenmore Kirk** – Lorimer Grey from Church of Scotland has confirmed that the Kirk will be sold and because K&DCC has shown an interest we will be given 6 months to show the sessions how it will be used as a community asset. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity to buy a property right in the heart of the village and give it a new life. It could be seen as a replacement for the much-missed Holder Hall. The estimated cost of purchase is expected to be between £40k and £50k. Grants should be available to cover this cost and the cost of converting to a hall. Cost of on-going maintenance was discussed. Olive is the treasurer for the Kirk, but the accounts cover 3 different churches. Olive will work out the figures specifically for Kenmore and will make these available.

Peter asked for volunteers from K&DCC and/or the wider community to take the discussion forward. Peter is happy to join and indicated that Colin Morton is also very interested. It is hopeful that Colin would agree to join and lead the subgroup. Olive also offered her services to the group. It was agreed that there should be no conflict of interest given Olive’s involvement with the church. Rather it was agreed that her insight and understanding would be very beneficial. Agreed Colin, Peter and Olive would be the initial members of the group.

Lou raised the possibility of including affordable housing (an apartment for example) in the development. A similar approach has been taken with the Town Hall in Aberfeldy where accommodation in the building has been renovated/reinstated.

**AOCB Continued**

The following topics were due to be covered on the agenda/AOCB, but the meeting unfortunately overran. Notes that would have been shared are included here for the purpose of sharing the information.

**Easter Fun Day in Kenmore.**

This year saw the second of our Easter Family Fun Days; held this year in conjunction with the Scottish Crannog Centre. The event saw a themed Treasure Hunt take place in the village, with the option of further clues at the Crannog. Crafting events took place at the Sports Pavilion and the Crannog Centre, with free books handed out to children at the Reading Room, where cakes, tea and coffee were served.

Our thanks to Taymouth Castle for supporting the event and to Kenmore Bakery for the Easter cakes and shortbread and to other members of the community who provided tray bakes.

This was a very well attended event, with feedback from the Crannog Centre being very positive.

**Capercaillie Trail**

Several pupils from KPS have visited the Workshop in Aberfeldy to see what sort of capercaillies they can produce. With the Parent Council they will also visit the Keltneyburn Smithy, enabling pupils to choose what is best. The Parent Council plan to apply for a micro grant to cover the cost of an initial 10 to pilot the trail, with some information linked on the Community Council website.

**My Place Award**

Jon was sorry to report, due to a few strong entries, our nomination of the Breadalbane Reading Room for a My Place Award will not proceed to the next stage.

**Kenmore and District in Bloom.**

Following our first meeting with a representative of PKC’s ‘in Bloom’ team in March of this year, we are looking for volunteers to take this project forward. We will need to form a separate management group, with its own constitution and bank account, though in the short term, the CC account could be used.

As a small village, we would receive an allowance of £200 ex VAT, paid annually.

As we will be covering the whole of our community, the group will be called Kenmore and District in Bloom. We will look at historical documents to see if the previous Kenmore in Bloom account is still active. We have a draft constitution and once signed, £5m public liability insurance can be set up. PKC will supply us with litter picking equipment and Hi-Vis vests.

1. **Date of next meeting**

The next K&DCC meeting will be held on 10th July 7pm at Breadalbane Reading Room Kenmore.