



Minutes of meeting on the 21 April 2022 at 7.30pm via Zoom

KALECC members wished to begin the meeting by expressing their sadness following the death of one of our members, Isabell McLaughlan, and note our appreciation for all her hard work within the Community Council. Our condolences to Isabell's family

1. Present:

Tom Anderson **TA** (chair), Marion Macleod (Secretary) **MM**, Ron Ferguson **RF** CC, Rita Fenton (Treasurer) **RMF**, Allan McLeod **AM** CC, HCllr Derek Loudon, **DL**

Public in attendance

2. Apologies:

Sandra MacDonald **SM** (Vice Chair) & Angie Cox **AC** CC (Minutes Secretary)

3. Police report

Police unable to attend but sent a report prior to the meeting. Since our last meeting in February there have been 5 cases of vandalism reported, 1 drug offence, 4 disorder/assaults and 1 road traffic offence.

The Officer noted that in comparison with the previous report, it has been a much more disruptive period in terms of levels of crime. Several persons have been charged and reported in relation to multiple incidents including assaults, possession of weapons and vandalism, and that Milton (in particular Drovers Way and Old Mill Road) has been the epicentre of current issues.

Complaints to Police regarding untaxed and non-roadworthy vehicles blocking streets in Milton were the subject of Highland Council action and these have now been removed.

KALECC had been advised about a disturbance caused by 2 youths at the log cabins in Milton Woodland on 15 March, which impacted individuals from the University of the Highlands and Islands who were trying to film in the area. KALECC asked the Police for an update on this incident and our Liaison Officer noted that he spoke with the officers who attended, and they reported that they were at an incident in Helmsdale when the call was received and by the time they arrived in Milton, the youths had moved on and no crime was reported.

Several residents in Milton have raised concerns with KALECC regarding a rise in anti-social behaviour in Milton, with incidents of vandalism to gardens being reported, bins being tipped over and abuse being hurled by those responsible when confronted, Fly Tipping around the

village and woodland and the dangerous use of motor bikes and quad bikes around the woodland paths and foot paths around the properties. Some of these issues have already been reported to Police but **MM** to follow up.

KALECC members are concerned about the increasing number of incidents and would appreciate an increase in patrols (if not already being undertaken). **MM** to follow up.

Other issues raised with KALECC for the Police are concerns of speeding between Barbaraville and Balintraid and a Green Volvo on the road around the village in Barbaraville which has been there for more than six months and has a flat tire and no MOT. **MM** to follow up

4. Minutes of meeting 17.02.22

Minutes approved by 1st **AM**, 2nd **MM**

5. Matters arising from minutes.

Potholes – **RF** noted that THC had filled in several of the potholes up by Scotsburn that were reported but unfortunately the ‘fix’ was short lived, and the holes are re-emerging! **AM & MM** noted the same issue with the potholes that were filled in Milton earlier this year, with the potholes re-emerging already. **DL** advised that he has asked for an update on where the money for roads is to be spent within our Ward but has yet to get an update. **AM** noted that the size of buses being used around the villages will not be helping the issue.

6. Reports by Highland Councillors.

DL noted they are currently in Purdah so not many committees meeting but HCllrs are continuing to work on current issues. There is to be a meeting on Tuesday 26 April 2022 for the final approval of the Tain 3-18 Campus. All being well this should mean that ground will be broken on the site in May. The Budget has significantly increased because of covid related price increases and other complications, however, the Chief Executive, Donna Manson, and the Executive Chief Officer Resources and Finance, Liz Denovan, have made a commitment for a feasibility study to be undertaken regarding a swimming pool on the campus. Report is due back early next term. **DL** noted that the extra capital spends of including a swimming pool could be justified if the running costs could be reduced to a minimal amount. He also noted that Sport Scotland have some money for projects and not many other projects have come forward in Highland.

7. Annual accounts

£1470.85 in our account.

8. Community Council issues.

Play Parks Milton – **AM** advised that a survey had been distributed to establish people’s opinions on what they would like to see in the Play Park(s) etc. Once this information has been received, further discussions will be undertaken with The Highland Council and additional funding applications made.

Recycle Point Milton – **TA** had received an email from The Highland Council’s Waste Management Team asking for suggestions from KALECC members for suitable alternative locations for the recycle bins in Milton. The contractor had contacted them regarding the difficult access to the current location, which has led to the damage of a resident’s garden on several occasions. **TA** had replied and advised that we would be happy to discuss the situation at our meeting that week and try and come up with a suitable alternative. **CC**

members were disappointed to hear that the recycle bins were sealed off before an alternative site could be found. **AM** is to speak with the resident whose garden has been damaged to see if a solution can be found as CC members felt the current location is the most suitable in the village. CC Members felt that having the recycle point at the school/Mercat could be a safety concern if any glass was broken, and other potential sites around the village would possibly require a concrete base to be installed?

9. Planning and Licensing.

10. Mental Health and wellbeing

Nothing to report this month, no meetings.

11. Correspondence

Inner Moray Firth proposed Development Plan Consultation – Some members had looked at this document but noted it was not the easiest document to view. **DL** noted that there are representatives who are happy to attend CC meetings to discuss the plan, if required. CC members to have a further look at the plan and advise if they have any comments/concerns that they wish to make.

12. AOB

RF asked if there has been any further update regarding the Strathrory Windfarm. **MM** confirmed that KALECC had received no further updates.

13. Date of next meeting

16 June 2022. AGM will be at 7pm, followed by ordinary meeting at 7.30pm.

A decision as to whether this meeting will be held online via Zoom or in person will be made nearer the time.

14. Beinn Tharsuinn

St Duthac Book and Arts Festival Group: CC Members agreed to a smaller fund award than requested.

Members thanked Derek and the other Councillors for their support to our Community Council.