

KILLIECRANKIE FINCASTLE & TUMMEL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF KFTCC MEETING MONDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7PM KYNACHAN HALL, TUMMEL BRIDGE

1.

PRESENT: Loretta McLaughlan (LM) Jennifer Macintyre (JM) Sandra Parkins (SP) Colin Stanfield (CS) Richard Moore (RM) Ronald Campbell (RC) Councillor John Duff (Cllr JD) and 15 Members of the Public (MOP).

LM welcomed attendees.

APOLOGIES: Anthony Cuthbert and Provost Xander McDade

2.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (21 JULY 2025): Proposed by CS and seconded by SP

3.

REVIEW OF SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

LM reported that JM, CS, RC and LM along with Dave Stubbs, Area Greenspace Coordinator, Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) and Frank Campbell, Visitor Management Team, PKC, joined a virtual meeting with 2 members of NatureScot on 12 September 2025 to discuss our concerns about the effectiveness of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC).

The CC started to engage with NatureScot about the Code a couple of months ago following a violent incident beside Loch Tummel in May 2025. At Friday's meeting we wanted to know if NatureScot recognises a contradiction in the Code regarding what it calls 'wild camping'. We also wanted to know if they accept a difference between car-camping/roadside camping and 'wild camping' and if NatureScot intended clarifying how access rights relate to these sorts of camping.

NatureScot does not recognise any inconsistency in the Code regarding camping but would welcome the CC's suggestions to reword the parts of the Code which we find confused and confusing.

We had a further discussion on how to enforce rules about responsible behaviour outdoors and will continue to liaise with the relevant members of PKC and NatureScot. There will be more to report in due course because we are committed to improving the situation along the south bank of Loch Tummel.

CS added that it was difficult to get NatureScot to see the problem from a local perspective but that NatureScot had promised to initiate a new campaign next spring which would stress the responsibilities of wild campers. The CC hopes to have some input into the campaign.

An MOP asked whether other areas were facing such problems and the answer was 'Yes' with another MOP mentioning the problems at Loch Rannoch. Cllr JD noted that the residents of Loch of Clunie were pushing their campaign for a review of the Code with publicity on the television that evening. He also mentioned that both PKC and the Outdoor Access Forum had requested a review of the Code at least twice. PKC had specifically written to NatureScot requesting a formal review as none had been carried out since the legislation had come into effect in 2003. LM said that on the conference call, NatureScot said the Code was continually "under review" but they had never carried out a "formal review".

CS said that in his opinion NatureScot and central government had decided that local communities would just have to put up with the damage and nuisance caused by roadside campers' anti-social behaviour because they were afraid of any push back on the 'right to roam'. A MOP pointed out the irony that 'NatureScot' did not appear to have much interest in protecting the natural environment.

A MOP stated that one of the problems was to do with the changing nature of the traffic managers and rangers whose primary task was now engaging and educating visitors rather than enforcing parking and camping rules.

A MOP noted that there was some disquiet within the fire service at the dangers posed by wild camping particularly given the very dry conditions earlier in the summer. He believes that the fire service has problems with the whole Code.

A MOP commented that the behaviour of some of the roadside campers who use the south bank of Loch Tummel would not be acceptable at campsites. The Tummel campers are, he thought, deliberately wanting to avoid campsites.

The CC to continue discussions with relevant individuals in PKC and NatureScot. Cllr JD to write to the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) about each submitting a Monitoring Form to NatureScot about their particular concerns while also requesting that the Outdoor Access Code be reviewed. The CC also to liaise with FLS and SFRS about the same action.

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PLANNING

LM reported that the most recent planning news (now on the CC website) include:

- Plans for a new jetty at Schiehallion House Strathtummel (25/00890/FLL) Approved
- Plans for reinstatement of jetty at Tummel House (25/01208/FLL)
- Erection of boathouse at Dalcroy Farm (25/01011/FLL) Approved

JM noted that these developments raised fears that the loch will see an increase in the use of motorboats with the attendant increase in noise and pollution. JM wondered if there was a need for a new byelaw to protect the peace and tranquillity of the area which is, after all, a designated National Scenic Area (NSA). A MOP noted that historically there was a gentleman's agreement prohibiting speedboats west of Borenich (at the eastern end of the loch) and that is still the position of the Loch Tummel Riparian Association. However, there have recently been several cases of people bringing large motor craft and putting them into the water from unauthorised locations and this activity was more difficult to control. Like roadside camping, it is against the SOAC. However, illegal access to the Loch with motorboats is something that should unite all those with the legitimate right of access to the water.

A MOP stated that as there have been several new owners of lochside properties, the Riparian Association should make further efforts to stress the importance of maintaining the present arrangements and the benefits that brings to the area.

JD added that, in future, the use of motorboats could be specifically mentioned in any future planning decisions if that was deemed necessary.

The CC to contact SSE to find out their position on the use of motorboats on Loch Tummel; PKC to see if the Planning Department would wish to include consideration of motorboat use when arriving at decisions e.g. for jetties; the Riparian Association to see if they can reiterate their current stance on this matter and ensure that this stance is communicated as widely as possible.

ROADS

LM reported:

- i) New speed limit through Killiecrankie village

Signs have been erected in the village, showing the speed limit is now 20mph. This is part of PKC's ongoing efforts to control speed in built-up areas. There is a mix-up with signs on the approach to the village from the Quarry Road and also on the entrance to the village from the north.

Cllr JD has reported these to the Roads team.

- ii) Complaint about a rally over Tenandry on 27 July 2025

This was an open road event round a wide area of Highland Perthshire on 26 and 27 July 2025. The CC notified the organiser of the EV rally and the Police that a rally car nearly hit a resident out walking and another car nearly hit a dog on Tenandry hill. The organiser replied that all procedures were followed correctly before the event and it was given the go-ahead by appropriate authorities. The organiser supplied statistics about the speed of each car over Tenandry and said he had personally notified every residence on Tenandry ahead of the event. We have continued our correspondence with the Police about safety of residents and visitors on Tenandry because a) there was a Police decision taken in 2006 not to permit motorsport of this kind on Tenandry from then on; b) the speeds which were reported to us by the organiser show that one car hit 59mph and two others in excess of 50mph at particular points over Tenandry; and c) a number of households did not receive any warning, written or otherwise. We have yet to receive a reply from the Police but we hope that in future, the decision not to have this kind of event on Tenandry will be respected or if they are to go ahead that the CC will be advised in advance so that we can warn as many as possible what to expect.

- iii) Condition of the Foss Road

CS mentioned that some storm damage still needed rectifying while JM noted that there was some confusion between the responsibilities of PKC and FLS when it came to overhanging trees and branches. Cllr JD noted that PKC is responsible for the road and 1 metre into the verge while beyond that it is the responsibility of the landowner. CS also raised ongoing concerns regarding the state of the road vis-a-vis potholes / damage to vehicles and drainage at specific points.

CS to check with FLS and PKC about mending road and getting improvements before winter arrives

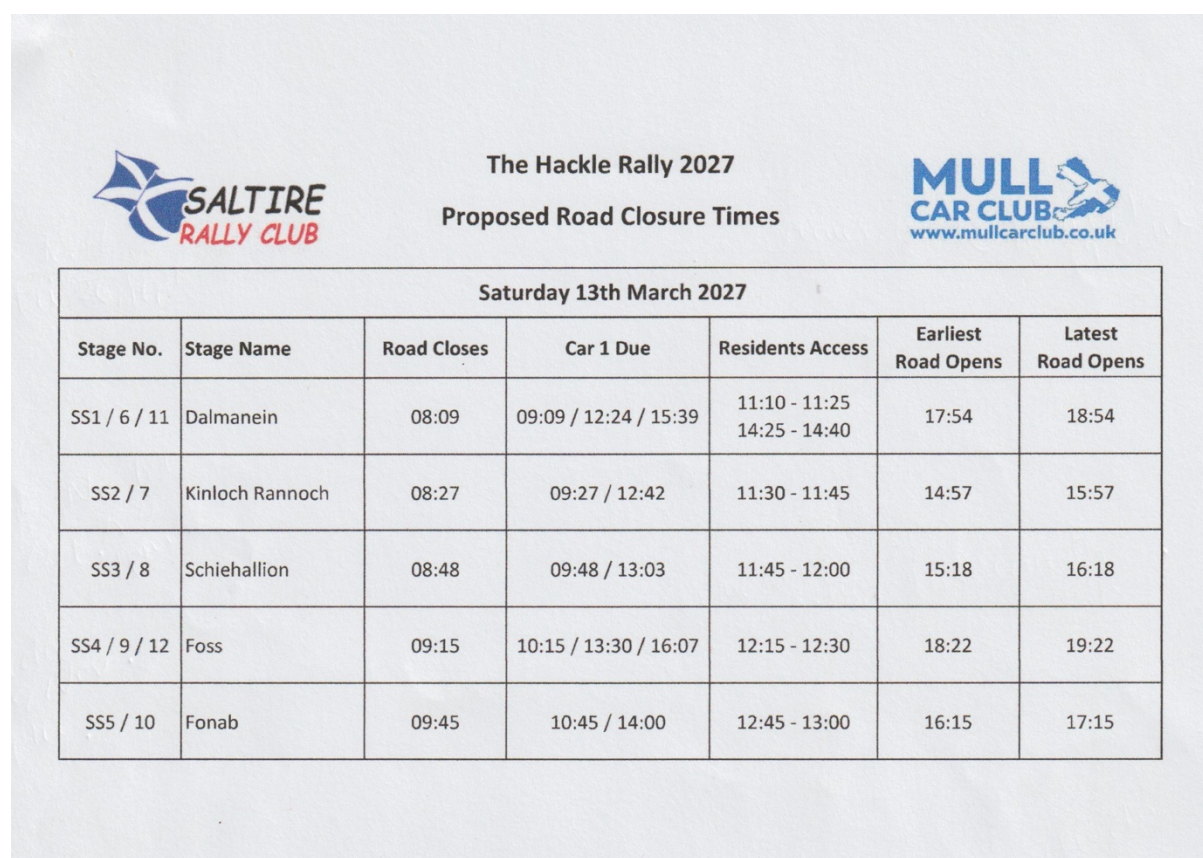
- iv) Transport Scotland is creating an A9 Dualling Community Forum to engage with stakeholders. LM to join.

6.

PROPOSED CLOSED ROAD RACE

LM invited Neil Campbell and Colin Wallace of the Saltire Rally Club to update the meeting on the plans and answer questions.

The proposal is for a closed road rally in Highland Perthshire on Saturday, 13 March 2027. In our CC area, the proposed route would necessitate the closure of the Foss Road from 9:15 to 18:22 - 19:22. There would be an interval in the early afternoon for residents to enter/exit. At all times there would provision for emergency access. Proposed times of road closures are shown here:



**The Hackle Rally 2027
Proposed Road Closure Times**

Saturday 13th March 2027

Stage No.	Stage Name	Road Closes	Car 1 Due	Residents Access	Earliest Road Opens	Latest Road Opens
SS1 / 6 / 11	Dalmanein	08:09	09:09 / 12:24 / 15:39	11:10 - 11:25 14:25 - 14:40	17:54	18:54
SS2 / 7	Kinloch Rannoch	08:27	09:27 / 12:42	11:30 - 11:45	14:57	15:57
SS3 / 8	Schiehallion	08:48	09:48 / 13:03	11:45 - 12:00	15:18	16:18
SS4 / 9 / 12	Foss	09:15	10:15 / 13:30 / 16:07	12:15 - 12:30	18:22	19:22
SS5 / 10	Fonab	09:45	10:45 / 14:00	12:45 - 13:00	16:15	17:15

The event could attract some 80 - 90 rally cars and 1,200 visitors to the area, probably staying 2 nights. There would be a very high level of safety measures including doctor/paramedic provision at each stage and a police presence. PKC would do an assessment of the road surface before the rally. The road would be swept before the event and any damage to the road or fences would be repaired afterwards. Part of the entrance fee could go into a 'community pot' for local causes. This has been a popular feature in other locations where rallies have been staged.

This was the final meeting of 5 community groups and if all feedback is positive then the organisers would proceed to more formal planning process. They would like representatives of the local communities to join a working group overseeing the plans. One MOP voiced his objection to the noise and pollution resulting from a rally. However, as the rally is to be restricted to one day, the majority of those in attendance felt it was proper to allow the organisers to proceed to the next phase of planning and this was the position adopted by the members of the CC. CS agreed to be the representative on the proposed liaison committee.

7.

RANNOCH – PITLOCHRY NO 82 BUS SERVICE

The last time the CC spoke to Elizabeth Yule about this service, we were told that there were so few users that it had been reduced to a skeleton service. RC wonders if the timetable were adjusted, would it encourage more people to use it. He is trying to gauge interest in improving the service and connectivity.

At the moment the earliest bus from Rannoch arrives in Pitlochry is 10.50. The return bus leaves Pitlochry at 17.30. So, passengers who want to take public transport onwards for a day trip only have time to get as far as Perth. There is insufficient time to travel as far as Glasgow or Edinburgh on public transport. The arrival time in Pitlochry is also too late for the sole, direct train to London which leaves Pitlochry at 9.29.

A MOP noted that the time had been changed to later as some tourists had previously complained the bus was too early. Cllr JD also noted that the bus used is probably the one used for the morning school run so there may not be capacity for an earlier service on the Rannoch – Pitlochry route. Another MOP said that the bus is now stationed at Pitlochry whereas previously it was at Rannoch.

While there were few (if any) bus users at the meeting, it was agreed that better co-ordination of public transport options and better marketing of available options might lead to better ridership.

RC will attend PKC's Public Transport Consultation in Pitlochry on the 24 September 2025. (See upcoming events.) RC will also contact the Rannoch Newsletter and the Kinloch Rannoch Thursday Club to investigate passenger interest in adjusting the times of the early and late services.

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CONSULTATIONS

- i) PKC's consultation on a possible Visitor Levy closes on 30 September 2025 <http://bit.ly/3VEcEa4>
- ii) FLS is to submit a plan to Scottish Forestry for the construction of a new Timber Turning Point at Allean within North Tummel Forest. See map below.

The total size of the development is 0.2 hectares. The construction of this turning point will help to access standing timber and reduce the pressure of timber wagons travelling from further west. Long term, the surrounding restock species for this coupe will be birch and mixed broadleaves. It will lead to a 0.2 hectares area of the forest being deforested to allow for the construction of this Timber Turning Point.



The plan will be submitted in approximately a month's time to Scottish Forestry for consideration. Questions should be addressed to Rob Cooper, planning forester, rob.cooper@forestryandland.gov.scot.

LM to request FLS to block off the new turning point when not in use to discourage rogue parking.

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SHIERGLAS QUARRY

Shierglas Quarry in Killiecrankie is to seek a variation of the approved extraction plan for the site. The application will be submitted to PKC by the end of November 2025. It is being made under Section 42 of Town and Country Planning Act which means that no formal public consultation is required. However, if the local community wishes more information, Kris Bremner (Regional Land & Mineral

Resources Manager, Breedon Group) would be happy to attend our November meeting in Killiecrankie.

Breedon could not reach agreement with NatureScot about extending the quarry at the top into an area currently designated as a SSSI. Breedon has now identified an area within the red line boundary of the quarry that is not consented for extraction. The new zone does not have any protected area designation nor is it a greenfield area. The proposed development will require the movement of overburden. That is the top layer of rock or soil that must be removed to access quarry material. Previously it was tipped at the quarry. The plan would be to move an element of the overburden into the quarry void to allow an improved restoration.

The targeted area lies on the East side of the quarry which means that looking from the North, the bowl will look larger. The negative visual impact will, therefore, require mitigation. Landscaping plans for that will be included with the application along with environmental impact assessments.

Extraction from the new area should produce at least 1.5m tonnes over about 10 years. Shierglas output is currently about 120,000 – 130,000 tonnes pa. Breedon is hoping to supply the primary contractor for sections of the A9 which are to be dualled within 30 miles of Shierglas. (In July 2025, procurement started on the Pitlochry to Killiecrankie section and Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd has been named as the preferred bidder for the Tay Crossing to Ballinluig section.)

For transporting material for A9 works, Shierglas is permitted to have direct access on to the A9. At various times between 26 January 2025 and 25 September 2025, for instance, lane restrictions controlled by 2-way temporary traffic signals have been in place overnight at Shierglas's direct access to the A9 to avoid heavy vehicles trundling through Killiecrankie village during the night.

Dualling plans for the Killiecrankie to Glen Garry section include permanent, direct access from Shierglas to the A9.

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FUNDING

- i) Green Living Fund now open. Applications close 3 October 2025. See: <http://bit.ly/4glRdEn>

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UPCOMING COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Unfortunately for the CC, both Anthony Cuthbert and Richard Moore are moving out the CC area and are therefore unable to stand for re-election. Both will be missed very much and we thank them for their contributions. Anyone interested in serving as a Community Councillor should contact LM for details.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Expenditure was £4.25 for quarterly bank charges and £35 for rent of Killiecrankie Village Hall for the last meeting. The balance at the period-end was £107.30. Cllr JD stated that the top-up amount for CCs will be increased to £1,000 in the next financial period.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Public Transport Consultation drop-in event at Fishers Hotel, Pitlochry on Wednesday, 24 September 2025, 10am – 2pm
- CPR and Defib training on Thursday, 25 September 2025 at Kinloch Rannoch Fire Station at 7pm
- Quiz Night at Kynachan Hall on Friday, 26 September 2025 at 7pm.
- Quiz Night at Killiecrankie Village Hall, 7.30pm Saturday, 27 September 2025.
- Annual Litter Pick at Tummel Bridge, Sunday, 5 October 2025, assemble at Kynachan Hall at 1.30pm to collect kit and be assigned a pre-planned route. Refreshments for pickers and non-pickers in the hall. Members of Kinloch Rannoch Community Fire Station will man an information stand during the afternoon. There will also be a representative from Home Energy Scotland in the hall, offering energy saving advice.
- Quiz Night at Kynachan Hall on Friday, 31 October 2025 at 7pm.
- Ceilidh at Kynachan Hall on Saturday, 29 November 2025 at 7.30pm.

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AOCB

- i) Overhanging hedges and branches are narrowing already narrow sections of the Strathtummel road. Two residents say that it causes vehicles to drive in the middle of the road and then they have to pull over into the overhanging branches to avoid oncoming traffic. The two worst sections are between Woodend Cottage to beyond the entrance to Glen Fincastle and at Allean House, between the entrance and Keepers Cottage.

Cllr JD to liaise with Road Superintendent who will advise if PKC to correct or if need to enforce.

- ii) JM noted that The Inn at Loch Tummel is for sale.
- III) SP wished to thank Cllr JD for arranging speedy repairs of a gabion basket on the B8079 in the Pass of Killiecrankie and of a collapsed drain outside Braes Cottage, Killiecrankie.

The meeting closed at 20.43

<p>The next CC meeting is to be held on Monday, 17 November 2025 at Killiecrankie Village Hall. It will be preceded by the AGM which will start at 7pm.</p>
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