

KILLIECRANKIE FINCASTLE & TUMMEL

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF KFT CC MEETING MONDAY, 20 JULY 2026 AT 7PM KILLIECRANKIE VILLAGE HALL

1.

PRESENT: Loretta McLaughlan (LM), Sandra Parkins (SP), Jennifer Macintyre (JM), Colin Stanfield (CS), Ronald Campbell (RC), Councillor Xander McDade (XM)
2 Members of the Visitor Management Group: Jeannie Grant, Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS); James Black, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service (SFRS); 2 Rangers from National Trust for Scotland (NTS): Ruth Alexander and Louise Cameron plus 6 members of the public (MOP).

APOLOGIES: Councillor John Duff

LM welcomed all attendees.

2

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (18 MAY 2026)

The Minutes were proposed by CS and seconded by JM.

3

UPDATE ON SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

LM reported that PKC published a Briefing Note, dated 4 June 2026 on its website. It is now available to read on the CC website here:

<https://www.killiecrankievillagehall.co.uk/community-council/links.php> (See under Scottish Outdoor Access Code.) In it, PKC states :

- that it will work closely with, *inter alia*, Scottish Government, NatureScot and National Access Forum – management of ‘dirty campers’ and wild camping – new legislation to address the current issues.
- the partnership approach allows, *inter alia*, potential to have a national approach to visitor management.
- success will be evidenced by, *inter alia*, investment in redeployable CCTV to assist with monitoring short term hot spots.

PKC's comments together with John Swinney's in The Quair and Pitlochry Life and a note from Historic Environment Scotland about the threat to Scheduled Monuments from illegal camping, may suggest a shift in the political attitude to the problem.

At our last meeting, the CC agreed to convene a summit but before embarking on that, we would like to get a better understanding of a change (if any exists) in political will to address the problem.

We have spoken to Rannoch CC again and met Pitlochry Community Action Trust. We have still to engage with Pitlochry CC and have not yet had an opportunity to meet Loch Tummel Riparian Owners simply because everyone has been too busy.

The question of CCTV may also be relevant to monitoring the use of speedboats on Lochs Tummel and Rannoch. At our last meeting, there was a debate about how to enforce rules about speeding on the loch. We need to find out how redeployable CCTV would be operated, monitored and policed.

In addition, Robin Pettigrew who is resident in Wester Ross runs a Facebook page called *The Dirty Truth* about the problems created by an influx of tourists on the NC500. He has started a petition for a review of legislation in order to strengthen the SOAC. It demonstrates that the call for a review is coming from many quarters.
<https://petitions.parliament.scot/petitions/PE2224>

CS noted that despite John Swinney's comments and those from PKC, he had not seen any evidence of a change in political will. He would support the proposal to meet with John Swinney and agreed that the CC should make a request.

RC noted that social media was full of comments concerning anti-social behaviour and irresponsible behaviour from 'wild' campers in various parts of the country.

A MOP cautioned that the political response to the wildfires in Cairngorm National Park was to try and downplay the scope and nature of the incident – much to the frustration of those who lived nearby. This was not a good omen for those who were hoping for more action to tackle the problems caused by roadside camping and anti-social behaviour.

Re the use of CCTV, JM also warned that others had discovered that this approach is problematical due to the legislation concerning its use, installation and operation.

LM noted that a number of monitoring forms came in over the weekend from Tummel and Cluny and these had been forwarded to NatureScot.

Jeannie Grant (FLS) noted that she had extinguished 3 BBQ fires on the south side of Loch Tummel on Sunday after campers had left. This is despite signage on the C452 stating that because of the high fire risk, fires and BBQs should not be lit. She also noted that another party told her that their original plan had been to go to Loch Morlich but had switched to Tummel because the fires had closed their campsite.

FLS has created a document on '*How and when to report roadside camping concerns and issues*'. It is now on our Useful Links page under Scottish Outdoor Access Code. <https://www.killiecrankievillagehall.co.uk/community-council/links.php>

CS wondered if there was any evidence of displacement because of the ban on fires first in the Loch Lomond National Park and then in Cairngorms National Park. Jeannie Grant said there are anecdotal reports, suggesting that campers prefer areas of the country not affected by a ban because they like a campfire.

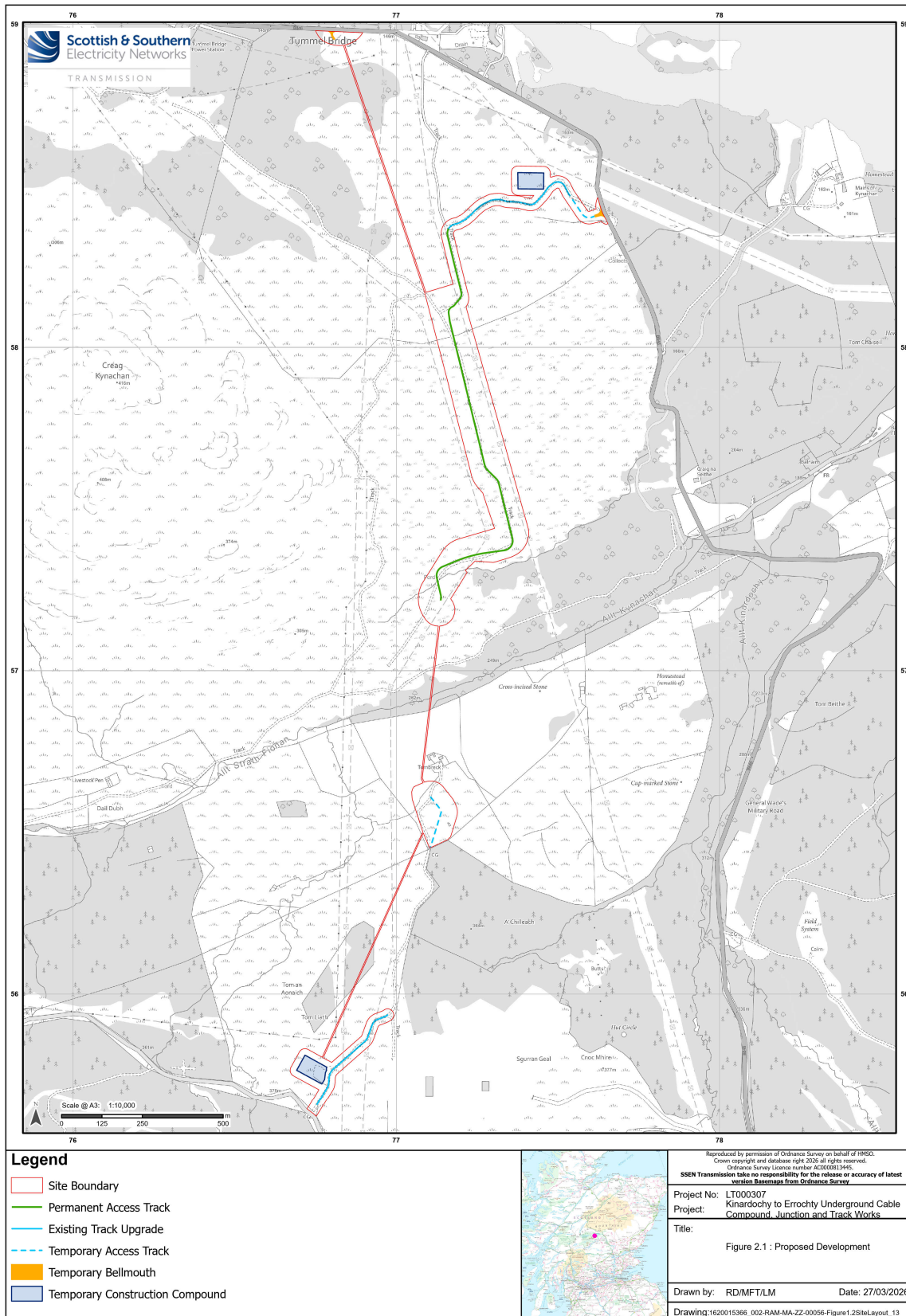
LM to write to PKC for clarification on the Briefing Note; to request a meeting of John Swinney with the CC; and to contact the petition organiser to provide support.

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PLANNING

- a) LM reported that SSEN will attend our next meeting in Kynachan Hall (7pm, 21 September 2026). Details of planning application 26/00501/FLM were sent out with the Agenda. The proposed project comprises 2 underground cable circuits between the substations at Kinardochy and Errochty. Each would run for approximately 4km. See the map of the location (below). SSEN would like to know if there are particular aspects we wish to discuss at the next meeting.

CS commented that it will be important to ensure that contractors vehicles do not use the Foss Road (C452) as it is unsuitable for increased traffic / heavy vehicles. Members of the community are asked to contact the CC with questions they would like to be raised.



b) LM reported that SSEN Transmission intends to apply to Scottish Forestry for a felling permission to harvest trees at Frenich Wood, on the southern side of Loch Tummel. Part of this process requires an initial consultation with any relevant stakeholders to see any issues that should be taken into consideration at the early planning stage.

The permission is being requested, as the trees here have been identified as a very high risk to the 132kv transmission lines that connect some of the hydro generation plants into the grid.

The site is mainly mature conifer species and sits within an area of ancient woodland. Working with FLS, this would be an opportunity, after felling to return this woodland to a more natural, native wooded area that would greatly improve the local biodiversity.

Additional info from tree surveyor at SSEN Transmission which has been recently supplied:

Traffic: The Foss Road will not need any closures or traffic management. After felling, timber lorries will need to extract felled logs. This would be extracted from Frenich to the Foss junction, then out through Aberfeldy. There are restrictions on The Foss Road that limit the loads allowed to be moved each day to minimise disruption. SSEN has asked PKC for guidance but believes it is restricted to three loads a day. They will update after PKC has confirmed.

CS and JM expressed concerns about heavy vehicles using the Foss Road for timber extraction. The road is narrow, already in poor condition and the bridge by the property known as Sronen is badly potholed, narrow and potentially weak.

Timings: All work is subject to being issued a felling permission by Scottish Forestry (SF). If SF give approval, SSEN plans to break the work down into 3 sections. They would hope to complete the first by the end of summer. The next two phases next summer. Again, this is not set in stone as it is completely dependent on the felling approval from SF, on the findings of Environmental Surveys prior to the works and when the Network Energy System Operator will allow SSEN to have line shutdowns. (Transmission shutdowns will not affect local electricity supply).

The CC has been asked to pass on any further questions so that SSEN can answer in good time.

CS noted that there had already been quite a bit of community engagement from SSEN with respect to the woodland management plans and there had already been evidence of work starting. Jeannie Grant noted that this was probably FLS work rather than SSEN's plans which are still subject to planning consent.

CS asked that SSEN and FLS liaise on these works as FLS has already started the development of long-term planning for the Frenich woodlands.

JM and CS asked that SSEN take in to account that the private water supply to 7 properties in Foss is derived from / through the Frenich woods and that there is therefore potentially a risk to this supply due to the works.

5

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND'S WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR KILLIECRANKIE AND LINN OF TUMMEL

Ruth Alexander and Louise Cameron were invited to present the 10-year plan for Killiecrankie and Linn of Tummel. The documents for the presentation and maps are now on our Useful Links page under National Trust for Scotland. See <https://www.killiecrankievillagehall.co.uk/community-council/links.php>

An MOP asked about the ownership of trees used by the zipwire as, years ago, a beech had been lopped and was then not used. RA answered that the trees did belong to the NTS but Highland Fling is responsible for their healthy maintenance. NTS inspects annually.

6.

ROADS

A)

C452, Foss Road 7 July – 9 August 2026

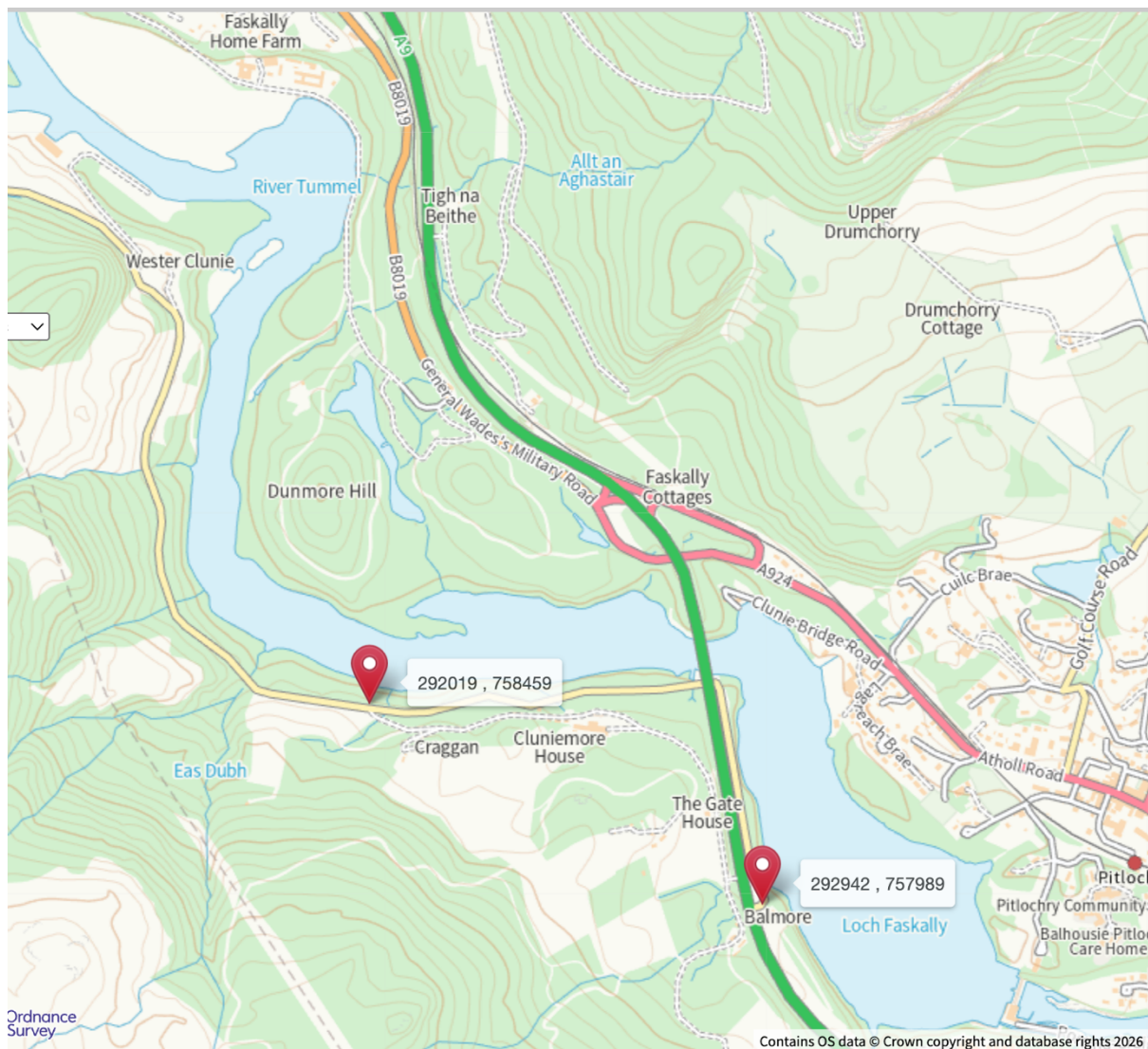
The surprise traffic lights for BT ducting appeared on 7 July and will remain until 9 August. The Roads Dept is not legally required to warn the CC of traffic lights. However, we have complained to the Roads department because the contractors do not comply with the conditions that have been set. They are allowed to stop traffic for up to 15 mins but, in fact, carry on working and delay traffic for longer.

JM commented that these delays do not just affect residents who commute regularly along the Foss Road but other unsuspecting users such as rafting companies, visiting medical staff and tourists arriving at booked accommodation. More seriously, it would be difficult for the fire service or an ambulance to pass the works on particularly narrow parts of the road.

B)

C452, Foss Road 10 August – 24 August 2026 Please note that the CC was informed that these works were cancelled on 24 July 2026

A complete closure of the **Foss Road** is planned further along (in the Pitlochry CC area) for 2 weeks starting 10 August. See map below for section to be closed. That will have an even more significant impact on the Tummel community.



Pedestrian & emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

The alternative route for vehicles is via –

C452 - B846 - B8019 - A924 - A9(T) - C452

JM asked how emergency access is to be maintained in a narrow road with a wide ditch and if the road needs to be closed at all, given that it is a continuation of the road which will have had traffic lights for nearly 5 weeks. JM also expressed concerns that such a closure would prohibit a rapid response by emergency services, specifically the SFRS, at a time of high fire risk.

LM to continue discussions with the Roads department.

Post meeting: these works have been cancelled.

C)

Details of the **B8019 closure from 1 September until 9 October 2026** are unchanged from our last meeting. Here is a reminder:

The proposed daytime closure times are:

o Monday to Friday: 09:30 – 14:30

The local Number 82 bus service will be permitted through the closure at the following times:

o 10:30

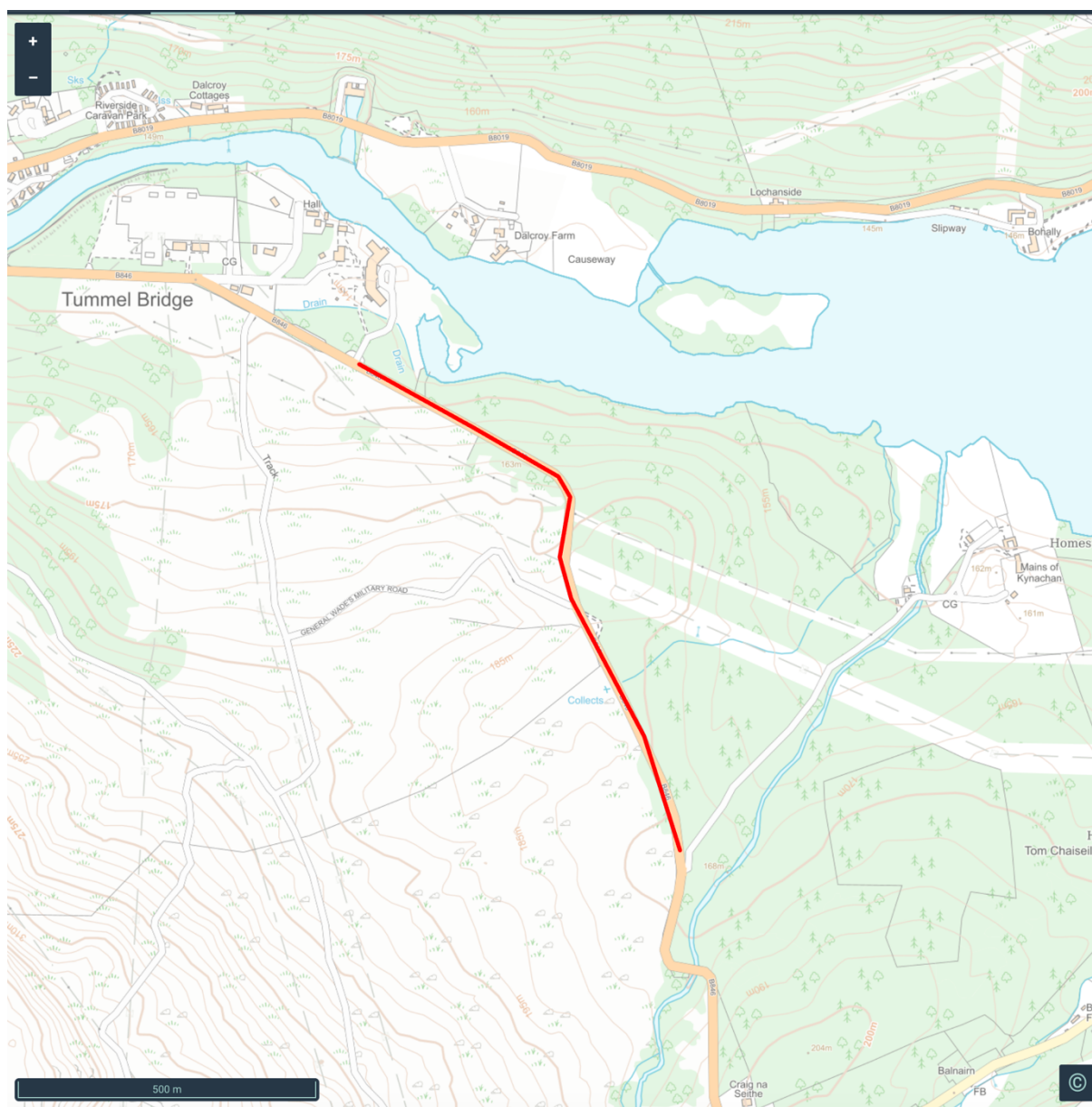
o 13:10

There is no traffic management proposed at the weekends.

Works will also take place during the night-time period. While the road will remain open overnight, drivers may experience delays at these times.

D)

B846 closure from 26 October until 7 December 2026. See map below for the section to be closed.



At the last meeting, LM was asked to find out contractors' working schedule and enquire how residents can access Kynachan Hall throughout the closure.

The answer is that Kynachan Hall will only be accessible from Tummel Bridge side. People attending classes in the hall will have to access it that way, using the diversion if necessary. Residents who stay in the vicinity of the hall will need to use the diversion arrangements when these are in place.

The details of the road closure are as per the last Minutes:

Road closure will be timed from 08.30 until 16.00 each day, allowing free movement for the community and public/school transport, scheduled for 08.00 and 16.20 daily. It is understood that the contractor will be working 7 days a week.

Overnight there will be traffic lights in place to protect the excavations. Further communications will be sent out ahead of the works. Signage is planned.

James Black, SFRS, commented that this closure will be difficult for the Fire Service.

E)

LM reported that Transport Scotland has offered to attend a Community Council meeting between August and November 2026 to provide a short presentation and take questions from members of the community on the A9 dualling Programme.

As the September meeting of the CC is to be held in Kynachan Hall when SSEN will be presenting and the next meeting in Killiecrankie will be in November and will include the AGM, it was decided that the CC should invite Transport Scotland to a separate meeting in Killiecrankie in November. We will invite Rannoch CC to attend because many of that community access the A9 via Trinafour .

The CC would ask community members who have questions to send them to us so that we can forward to Transport Scotland ahead of the meeting. LM suggested that those who have businesses or are involved in tourism would want to know how Transport Scotland plans to manage A9 traffic over the next 10 years while continuous construction is underway.

LM to write to Transport Scotland to arrange meeting.

F)

Pass of Birnam to Tay Crossing A9 section (Dunkeld) is to have a Public Local Inquiry (PLI).

7

LITTER

A)

Garry Bridge communal bins. As frequently happens, there was waste strewn all around the communal bins and the Garry Bridge car park last month and we wish to thank the local residents who cleaned it up.

Now PKC Waste Dept has provided a new, larger bin for general waste, upgraded from 1100 litre to 1280 litre capacity. This is for residents use only and must be kept locked. PKC has agreed to get some work done on fencing around the bins. The situation with the cardboard bin is to be monitored. If overfilled, it won't close and then can't be locked, creating a problem. This is a polite reminder for residents to lock bins after use to help us keep the area clean.

A MOP noted that the situation in the Tummel Bridge car park had improved with the extra capacity installed. However, there is still a problem with visitors using the facility. When challenged, a non-resident dumping litter complained that the Pitlochry recycling centre was closed so he was using the residents' bins instead. The non-resident said that as the signage was small and did not look official, he disregarded it.

post meeting: XM has requested new signs from PKC to make it clear that the bins are 'official' and for residents only.

LM to ask for progress report on fencing around the bins to make more discreet.

B)

Plastic road barriers were dumped in the R Garry last month. They appeared to be the barriers that contractors use when there are temporary traffic lights or roadworks in progress. It was impossible to find a department at PKC to help retrieve them from the river. In the end, we have to thank Ruth Alexander at the NTS who asked kayakers at Nae Limits to fish them out the water. The barriers are now in the custody of NTS.

C)

Keep Scotland Beautiful's 2026 report is now on our website:

<https://www.killiecrankievillagehall.co.uk/uploads/spring-clean-report-2026-final-150626.pdf>

8

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

RC reported on his discussions with Nicola Mitchell, Development Manager at the Community Transport Association (CTA) Scotland about strengthening the rural bus services to and from Pitlochry. The advice from the CTA was to find out the views and needs of local people on the current services, to be ready for the regular review that is coming up in 2028. Examples of surveys made elsewhere were given. The fact that we still have a local bus company providing the local services rather than a national one is also, in the CTA's view, a distinct advantage. In the discussion, it was

noted that non-users needed to be surveyed as well as users and that local businesses such as the Tummel Caravan Park should be included in any survey.

It was decided that RC would compile a survey to be circulated around the wider district.

9.

HACKLE RALLY

The date has been confirmed for 14 March 2027.

10.

REPORT OF WORKSHOP WITH DALNACARDOCH ESTATE

CS reported that he had attended a community benefit workshop at the end of June in Blair Atholl with representatives from the Dalncardoch Estate which was purchased last year by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. The meeting was well attended with the focus on how to generate community benefit, employment and training. Plans are at an early stage but the team is keen to maintain strong community engagement to identify shared benefits from nature restoration and land management.

11.

CONSULTATION

- Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) is consulting on the amended Core Paths Plan. Closes 21 August 2026.
<https://cairngorms.co.uk/taking-part/consultations/core-paths-plan>

12.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SP reported expenses since the last meeting include £40 for use of Kynachan Hall and £12.75 for bank charges – leaving a total of £415.86

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Battle of Killiecrankie anniversary weekend 25 and 26 July 2026 at NTS Visitor Centre
- Quiz Night, Kynachan Hall, Friday, 14 August 2026
- Quiz Night, Kynachan Hall, Friday, 11 September 2026
- Quiz Night, Killiecrankie Village Hall 12 September 2026 7.30pm
- Tummel Litter Pick 27 September 2026, meet at Kynachan Hall at 1.30pm
- Quiz Night, Kynachan Hall, Friday, 9 October 2026
- Quiz Night, Kynachan Hall, Friday, 13 November 2026

14.

AOCB

- The CC wishes to thank to everyone involved in organising a terrific BBQ in Killiecrankie on Saturday (18 July) complete with children's play area and karaoke. Thanks also to Fair Foods, Pitlochry who donated the sausages and to those who cleared up afterwards for the CC's meeting, held 2 days later. The BBQ was a huge success.
- SSEN offered the community sandbags that are now surplus to SSEN's requirements. The CC has taken delivery of a few which are now stacked behind Killiecrankie hall. We will need a tarpaulin to cover them. If anyone would like sandbags, please let the CC know asap.

LM to let SSEN know that Tummel Bridge fire station would like some sandbags to replenish stocks.

Meeting ended at 8.45pm

The next CC meeting is to be held on Monday, 21 September 2026 at 7pm at Kynachan Hall, Tummel Bridge.
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