

KILLIECRANKIE FINCASTLE & TUMMEL

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF KFT CC MEETING MONDAY, 16 MARCH 2026 AT 7PM KILLIECRANKIE VILLAGE HALL

1.

PRESENT: Loretta McLaughlan (LM), Sandra Parkins (SP), Jennifer Macintyre (JM), Colin Stanfield (CS), Ronald Campbell (RC), Councillor John Duff (Cllr JD),

7 Members of the Visitor Management Group:

Frank Campbell, Community Support & Enforcement Coordinator, PKC;

Jeannie Grant, Forestry and Land Scotland;

Robin Lofthouse, Forestry and Land Scotland;

James Black, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service;

Ian Beatt, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service;

Police Sergeant Rory Millar, Police Scotland;

Police Constable Ross Buchan, Police Scotland;

Neil Campbell and Colin Wallace (Hackle Rally); and 6 Members of the Public (MOP).

APOLOGIES: none

LM welcomed all attendees.

2

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (19 JANUARY 2026)

SP corrected the balance that was reported in the previous Minutes by 10p. The Minutes were then proposed by SP and seconded by CS.

3

UPDATE ON SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

- **KFT CC's monitoring form**

LM reported that the CC's mini Guide and Monitoring Form is now live on the CC website. There is also a poster with a QR Code that links to the Monitoring Form. It is hoped that the poster will be displayed widely so that as many incidences as

possible of irresponsible or antisocial behaviour that contravene the Scottish Outdoor Access Code will be reported and recorded. The CC will keep a database and will forward a copy of completed forms to Frank Campbell at PKC and to NatureScot.

It is hoped that this will be a springboard to creating an app for everyone to use – in all areas - to report and record such incidents. This is a longer-term plan that will need to be developed with input from every member of the Visitor Management Group. Ultimately, the CC would like these initiatives to help secure a review of the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and to have PKC create a byelaw to protect the entire area of the River Tay SAC.

The poster with QR code is attached to these Minutes.

CS pointed out that it was important to note that residents should not confront visitors even if they were indulging in illegal or anti-social behaviour and that taking photographs might be considered inflammatory. Instead, residents should contact the police and fill out the form. LM pointed out that a photograph of any damage or evidence of a fire could be taken after visitors had left as this would be useful data to provide to PKC and NatureScot. JM also noted the problem of fly-tipping and any incidences seen could also be reported through the monitoring form.

- **Budget for Visitor Management Group**

LM reported that the budget for the VMG this year had been set at £50,000. To keep 6 rangers, 8 portaloos, 3 vehicles and all associated equipment, it needs to be more like £182,000. The level of community protection will inevitably be a lot lower than we would like and below the level of last year.

Cllr JD explained that originally there had been no provision in the PKC budget for the financial year 2026-27 but that the figure of £50,000 had been agreed after a series of amendments. He was aware that this was below the previous year's level and would be a disappointment to those living in the CC area, blighted by irresponsible behaviour. Representations are being made to increase that budget and those concerned with the situation are encouraged to write to the Council with their concerns. LM asked who the CC should write to in support of an increase in budget. Cllr JD said that the leader of PKC.

Frank Campbell pointed out that there had been a £105,000 overspend on the budget last year. This year's budget would only allow 3 rangers, working 36 hours a week, patrolling Friday through Monday for 30 weeks in the year. There will be no portaloos this year as the operating cost is approximately £30,000 per year.

The Easter period will be the first real test of the reduced system and the results will be fed back to PKC to help shape provision for the busy summer season.

It is important to point out that the Visitor Management Group did a lot of work in the winter period to prepare – as far as possible - for the new season but the area covered is very extensive, covering the whole of the PKC area from Clunie Loch to Rannoch and south to Loch Leven.

James Black (Fire and Rescue) pointed out that his members are volunteers and cannot be expected to partner rangers every weekend.

The Police are not always available to deal with potential problems as they are required to prioritise incidents across a very wide area. A MOP asked about the use of Special Constables but they are also volunteers and may not be available to travel to remote areas.

JM mentioned that the Visitor management Group had discussed the provision of more permanent toilets along the lines of the 'green' facility at Allean Forest. FLS indicated that they might consider provision on their property. This would obviate the need for portaloos and would be a much better environmental and visual solution. Frank Campbell said that they certainly did not want a return to the situation at the end of the Covid period when the rangers encountered unacceptable areas of rubbish and human waste.

LM to write to PKC in support of an increase to VMG budget.

- **Liaising with Loch Rannoch Conservation Association**

LM reported that the problems that beset Tummel during the summer are common to other areas in Perthshire. We already have good communication with Loch of Clunie Preservation Group. Three of us have now met with Loch Rannoch Conservation Association and intend having closer links with them concerning the SOAC and stopping the use of speedboats and other such motorised craft on both lochs.

Frank Campbell clarified that whereas there was a perception that Clunie Loch was the area worst affected, this was partly as a result of its proximity to a more densely populated area and the small size of the area concerned. In terms of numbers of visitors, the Foss Road on Tummel attracted many more visitors and caused more disruption and work for the rangers. LM pointed out that only about half of the south bank of Loch Tummel was actually in the KFT CC area. The remainder is in the Pitlochry and Moulin CC. Frank Campbell offered to contact them.

- **Use of speedboats on Lochs Tummel and Rannoch**

CS reported on our discussions with the Rannoch Group, SSE(N) and the Loch Tummel Riparian Proprietors Association that all concerned are keen to maintain the status quo re the use of speedboats on the two lochs.

CS indicated that it would be sensible to approach the Riparian Proprietors Association to see if any further action can be taken to reinforce the message to visitors. This could be with erection of signs, messages on social media or printed material.

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PLANNING

- 26/00048/FLL The application for erection of a furniture workshop 20 metres west of School House, Killiecrankie has been withdrawn.
- 26/00255/FLL Change of use from agricultural land to form car park, formation of vehicular access, installation of gates and associated works 320 metres east of Balrobbie, Killiecrankie beside stables.

5

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

NTS's plans are at the scoping stage of the development of a plan. The plan will develop a long-term strategy for the woodland areas with detailed management proposals for the first ten years. The surveyor in charge wanted feedback by 13 March. The CC complied.

NTS Killiecrankie has suggested that a ranger come to a meeting to discuss the Woodland Management Plan once it is further developed.

The CC will arrange.

HACKLE RALLY 13 MARCH 2027

Neil Campbell and Colin Wallace addressed the meeting about the proposed rally.

CS asked a couple of questions on behalf of a resident who was unable to attend the meeting. Firstly, why was the existing rally in Mull being stopped? Colin Wallace replied that it may well continue in the future as it had always been successful. However, one resident had gone out of their way to cause extra expense for the local Council and this had been a source of frustration. The organisers were keen to bring the event to a new area and new audience, believing it can be useful in promoting the area and local businesses.

CS asked if farmers and landowners on the route would be or have been notified and if provision was made with regard to wildlife and farm animals that roam freely along the Foss Road. Colin Wallace replied all farmers and land managers would be informed and that a stockperson would be part of the "sweep" of the road prior to any stage to move such animals and that a vet would be on hand if needed. Also, that any damaged dykes or fences etc would be made safe within 6 hours of any damage and more permanent reparation asap afterwards.

CS then asked if emergency vehicles would be able to attend in case of emergency. Again, Colin Wallace replied that emergency access was always guaranteed and that the rally would be halted if necessary. He also pointed out that each station on the route had its own ambulance and paramedic provision. Those would be available to locals if it were deemed that it would be quicker or better for the injured party.

An MOP asked about illegal camping on the Foss Road during the rally. Neil Campbell answered that there would be no camping around the Loch during the event and that the area would be patrolled from the Thursday night onwards to ensure there was no parking on the route. This received general applause from the meeting.

Details of dates, stages, timing, maps and emergency arrangements are on the website at <https://www.killiecrankievillagehall.co.uk/community-council/links.php>

LM was grateful to the organisers for briefing the CC on their plans and notes that the next step is a formal application to Motorsport UK for the rally to proceed.

ROADS

The CC would like to thank Laurie Thomson of Highland Fling for clearing the culvert near the Garry Bridge in January. It is a recurring problem. It was noticeable that it didn't flood the road during the heavy rains experienced in January and February.

- **B8019 proposed closure**

Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) plans essential felling in Allean Forest on the north side of Loch Tummel. Given the extent of the felling, the topography and the proximity of pylons it will be necessary to close a section of the B8019 for the duration of the works. See map.

The tree felling will last 6 weeks, starting 1 September and finishing 16 October 2026. This is a major project to log between 13,000 and 14,000 cubic metres of timber. It will require nearly 1,000 lorry trips over about 6 months to transport all the timber out of the district.

The road will be closed Monday to Friday, from 09.30 until 14.30. The road will be closed to all traffic except for emergency access and the bus (No 82) which needs to pass about 10.30 and again at about 13.10. This will allow the public transport service to continue as normal.

At night, there will be traffic restrictions in place from 19.00 till 07.00, Monday to Friday, with traffic lights set to red at both ends. When traffic arrives, it will be allowed through when safe to do so. (The delay in getting past could be as much as 15 minutes.)

These times for closure and restricted traffic mean that the road will be fully open from 07.00 until 09.30 and again from 14.30 until 19.00.

At weekends, there is no work taking place. The road will be open in both directions all the time.

FLS and PKC are going to agree a letter drop to everyone, well in advance of the works.

A link to a map with the exact location of the road closure is included in the email delivering the Minutes. It will be about 0.85 miles (1.38 km) long, stretching from the entrance of Loch Tummel Caravan Park to Craig Mhor. Access to the Loch

Tummel Caravan Park and to the Queens View Visitor Centre will remain open from the east i.e. Garry Bridge approach.

Signage will be installed to discourage the use of the Foss Road (C452) as a viable detour by commercial vehicles.

A MOP asked why the traffic needed to be controlled for such a long time when the area of logging adjacent to power cables and the road was quite modest. The whole area was, he said, certainly no larger than an adjoining area to the west which was felled 10 years ago without any traffic management.

LM to seek further information.

- **B846 south of Loch Tummel Hotel**

BT require this to be closed to install new cable, ducting and overhead poles. The plan has not yet been finalised but it will necessitate a road closure of up to 6 weeks. Given the closure on the B8019 in September through to mid-October, this one is pencilled in for November to mid-December.

They say it is not possible to keep one lane open all the time but the Roads team at PKC is investigating having set times to allow traffic, including school transport, through at, say, 8am, 4pm and perhaps 5.30pm. There would be strict traffic control in place for short intervals at agreed times during the day. The road would have to be closed, entirely, throughout the night.

Pedestrian access would be permitted at all times. Emergency services would have to be given access too.

LM asked for feedback to send to the Roads dept. Comments included:

- BT requires an inordinately long time to install new cable, ducting and overhead poles in a relatively short stretch of road. Many thought that BT/Open Reach could be more accommodating to local residents by being more flexible.
- The detour is extremely long and many would have to re-plan routine trips to avoid wasting time and money on the diversion.
- Concern that this would affect people in the run-up to Christmas.
- Kynachan Hall, a community asset, has a regular programme of popular activities on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Thursdays and Fridays include evening activities. These activities will be out of bounds for many, including some vulnerable residents.

- No one understands why the road must be closed all night with plant and machinery left there. What would happen if emergency services had to get through when personnel are not there? Why can't traffic management be in place with one lane open?
- It is believed that SSEN is planning to install new cabling from Tummel Bridge to Kinardochoy. While this is to go cross-country, at some point it must cross the road, close to where the BT work is planned. Will this necessitate another closure? Can it be coordinated?
- A MOP farms both north and south of Loch Tummel. He complained that this would mean 12 weeks of disruption for no more than 2 miles of 'closures'.
- BT has a poor reputation in this area. Residents seem to encounter problems with them or suspect that they don't show up to work as scheduled. They would like a contact address or phone that they can use to report incidents/get updates.
- There is worry that diverted traffic will use the Foss Road rather than the 'official' diversion. It is not suitable for heavy vehicles.

Clr JD reassured the meeting that PKC would not allow consecutive road closures in the same area and that it would always make that clear to contractors.

LM to convey feedback to the Roads team at PKC.

- **A9 resurfacing**

The programme is frequently revised. The latest is:

Scheme	Remaining Shifts	1st Shift Start (Night of)	Last Shift Start (Night of)	Traffic Management
A9 Clunes Lodge	3	17-Mar-26	19-Mar-26	2 Way Traffic Lights with Convoy
A9 Aldclune	8	22-Mar-26	31-Mar-26	2 Way Traffic Lights with Convoy + Day Time Manned Traffic Lights
A9 Blair Atholl Junction	1	01-Apr-26	/	3 Way Traffic Lights with Convoy
A9 River Garry to Shierglas	9	02-Apr-26	15-Apr-26	2 Way Traffic Lights with Convoy + Day Time Manned Traffic Lights

Cllr JD pointed out that as a result of work on the A9 northbound slip at Pitlochry (south) that it would be closed from 1 June to 31 December. Access to Pitlochry for northbound traffic would be at the Faskally exit only.

- **Atholl Road, Pitlochry**

The CC received notices about resurfacing in 2 or 3 sections that is likely to take 11 days in April and May. However, we were immediately asked to await further details before publicising and none were received before the meeting.

8

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The CC continues to investigate how to improve public transport between outlying villages and Pitlochry which is now a good transport hub with 3 long distance, express bus services and railway station.

However, the #82 bus service, Pitlochry to Rannoch, does not connect to Pitlochry at good enough times to allow a passenger to make a return journey by public transport to Perth (or any city) in a day. The morning bus arrives too late and the return bus departs too early.

We have looked at On Demand Responsive Service, otherwise known as dial-a-bus, but it can't operate where there is an established bus route. RC has spoken to Elizabeth Yule and to some of the community at Rannoch. At times there are very few bus passengers which makes us think that On Demand may be a viable option. However, during the summer, the service is popular with visitors to campsites and hotel workers.

One way to help potential passengers living near the Garry Bridge and Tenandry would be install a new request bus stop on the B8019 as near to the Garry Bridge as possible. That would allow those residents to use the more frequent #87 service Pitlochry to Calvine. The #87 arrives 2 hours earlier than the #82 arrival in the morning.

Meanwhile a Blair Atholl resident has been campaigning to have the fast inter city coach service, run by Ember, come through Killiecrankie, Blair Atholl (and thence Pitagowan and Calvine) before returning to the A9. LM was asked to write to Ember to see if they would consider this. They replied, "no". It was not surprising because the attraction of Ember, Flexibus and CityLink is to provide an express service with only very occasional villages on their routes.

Our other reason for disliking the idea is that Killiecrankie already has a high number of lorries trundling through it from Shierglas Quarry. As construction of the A9 gathers speed, the volume of lorries can only increase. These already cause noise and nuisance for residents. The addition of a huge bus also coming through the village, possibly only to reach Blair Atholl, would worsen the negative impact.

As a result, the CC is committed to finding ways to improve rural connections with Pitlochry, using an appropriate size of vehicle.

Post meeting, RC and LM had a constructive meeting with the Public Transport Project Lead at PKC. A review of Highland Perthshire public transport is being done this year and the CC is hopeful that improvements can eventually be achieved.

9.

CONSULTATIONS

- Flood Risk Management Phase 1 Consultation

This consultation is to allow you to have your say on the Flood Risk Management Plan for 2028 – 2034. This is a community-focussed consultation. It closes on 22 April 2026. See: <https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/frmp-phase-1-consultation/>

- PKC Housing Need and Demand Survey. It closes on 3 April 2026. See: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/hnds>

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TREASURER'S REPORT

SP reported that expenses since the last meeting include £35 for use of the Hall, £48.99 for secretarial services and £4.25 for bank charges – leaving a total of £669.11.

- Etape Caledonia Community Fund

Etape Caledonia is launching a community fund in 2026. There will be one fund available each year of £1,000. Applications open Monday, 16 March and close on Friday, 24 April 2026. Applications will be accepted from all not for profit or voluntary organisations. It is not open to commercial organisations. Applications should be sent to info@etapecaledonia.com

An MOP noted that although welcome this was quite a modest amount given the size of the event.

11

LITTER

- **Litter Pick on Sunday, 22 March 2026 at 1.30pm**

Roadside litter continues to be a scourge in Killiecrankie. We are grateful to everyone who collects litter in the course of their day but we need a concerted effort to clean up before the visitor season starts. As usual, we will have pre-planned routes and would like volunteers to fan out in teams and bring the bags of litter back to the hall. There will be tea, coffee and cake available all afternoon. We also need volunteers to stay in the hall, manning the refreshment tables. Please come along and bring family, friends and dogs with you. Scroll down for poster.

- **Rubbish bins near Urrard Estate's side entrance (U171)**

A MOP whose house is near the communal bins has obtained a list of all the properties that are permitted to use the bins. They are: Piper's Croft; Easter Orchilmore Farmhouse; Lettoch Farm Cottage; Croft Carnock; Craig Urrard; Lettoch Farmhouse; Mains of Orchill Farm; The Bothy, Mains of Orchill; Old Mill, Mains of Orchill; Ladeside, Mains of Orchill; The Barn, Mains of Orchil Farm; The Barn, Lettoch; The Bothy, Orchilmore; Fieldstone, Mains of Orchill; Craggan Cottage.

There are 2 general waste bins and PKC says there should be 3. The MOP has notified PKC.

A MOP noted problems with rubbish bins on Shiel Brae. They are now left at the bottom of the road whereas previously bins were kept at individual properties.

Cllr JD will ask the collection department if there is anything that can be done to rationalise the number and location of the bins.

12

UNIFIED STATEMENT

We have been asked to consider a statement made by community councils from Highland Region, Aberdeenshire and across the South of Scotland which calls for a moratorium on renewable energy schemes until there is a coherent national strategy for them. The statement opposes an unjust and unnecessary industrialisation of rural Scotland. The proposal asks for more inclusive consultations and a pause of all major applications given the impact upon rural communities. To illustrate the

problem, the rural landscape surrounding Perth has applications for 5 windfarms, 3 solar farms and 1 BESS (battery energy storage system). Should these applications go ahead, the Community Council Convention Working Group says they will have massive impacts on communities, businesses, tourism and our landscape.

It was decided the CC needs more time to consider the statement. Comments from the community are welcome.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Litter Pick, meet at Killiecrankie Hall, 1.30pm on Sunday, 22 March 2026. Equipment, tea, coffee, cake and encouragement provided.

14.

AOCB

None

The meeting ended at 8.40pm

The next CC meeting is to be held on Monday, 18 May 2026 at 7pm at Kynachan Hall, Tummel Bridge.

WANT TO GO WILD?



One of these really is wild. The other is illegal.

We are lucky to live in an area of outstanding beauty. Access to our wonderful outdoors is for everyone – provided it is done responsibly.

That means understanding and following the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. Camping is only permitted far from roads, buildings, farms or animals. Going wild means not using a car, putting what you need into your backpack and hiking into the hills. Roadside camping is not responsible and not welcome.

If you see anything which breaks the Code, tell NatureScot. They keep the Code under review and need to know if there are issues relating to its proper operation.

Download our guide and monitoring form using the QR code



KILLIECRANKIE FINCASTLE & TUMMEL
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Tea, coffee and cake for all

Killiecrankie Litter Pick

SUNDAY, 22 MARCH 2026
Meet at village hall at 1.30pm



**ROUTES ARE PRE-PLANNED. COME
ALONG TO COLLECT EQUIPMENT AND
FAN OUT IN TEAMS.**

**LET'S JOIN FORCES TO RESTORE OUR
BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT.**

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