

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Thursday, 26th January 2012
Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.30pm.

No.	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council W David Bowling (WDB), Andrew Clegg (AC), Louba Hodgkinson (LH), Ann Robertson (AR), Dave Russell (DR) (Chair), Celia Strain (CS) (Minute Taker).</p> <p>In Attendance: Councillor Alec Oattes (AO) (SAC), Peter Linton (PL) (SAC), PCs David Struthers (DS) & Bob Graham (BG) (Girvan & South Carrick Community Policing Team). Representing Scottish Power Renewables (SPR), Catherine Sibley (CSi), Principal Project Manager, Siobhan McLauchlin (SMcL), Assistant Project Manager, Steven Lindsay (SL), Community Liaison Officer, & Mitch Rankin (MR) Area Manager for Arecleoch & Mark Hill wind farms.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence None received.</p>	
2	<p>Police</p> <p>PC Struthers reported no actions from the November 2011 CC meeting but since then the local police have attended several incidents. These were one firearms incident near the railway station; two road traffic accidents; three incidents of trees blocking the road; one alarm activation and one quad bike theft from a local farm. DS and BG asked that the community remain vigilant in view of continuing rural thefts of quad bikes and also of red diesel and trailers. They also informed that there are currently extra police patrols in the area. DS was thanked for his report and he and BG left the meeting.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting of 24th November 2011 These were approved: proposed AC, seconded AR.</p>	
4	<p>Presentation: Scottish Power Renewables (SPR)</p> <p>DR invited the representatives from SPR to give their presentation. Catherine Sibley introduced herself and her colleagues. She thanked the CC for giving them the opportunity to address the CC. The reason for the request was to give an update on the amended Kilgallioch Wind Farm proposal (Arecleoch extension). An amended application was submitted last week to the Scottish Executive and to the affected Councils, Dumfries & Galloway and South Ayrshire.</p> <p>CSi touched on the original application, submitted in March 2010, for 132 turbines, each of 3MW capacity and up to 146.5m to tip height. She then outlined what the changes are and why they have been made. The wind farm design has been refined to take account of points raised following submission of the original application. The number of proposed turbines is reduced to 99, with a corresponding reduction in access tracks and site area.</p> <p>These changes have been made with regard to the landscape concerns and visual impact; the ecology of the area; the impact on the Southern Upland Way (SUP); and effect on the archaeology of the area.</p> <p>CSi then outlined the benefits of the project, as SPR viewed it. There would be local business opportunities and employment; improvements to the SUP; increased public access; significant contribution to Scotland's renewable target; and long term support for community initiatives and projects through a community benefit fund.</p> <p>Addendum Consultation Process. The consultation period ends on 2nd March. There will be a Public Information Day in the Memorial Hall, Barrhill on 22nd February from 3-7pm.</p> <p>Questions were then taken from the CC, with some personal views expressed. CS felt the area had reached saturation point with the high number of turbines now existing and proposed for the area. The planned construction start date for Kilgallioch is 2014 and she enquired if the leisure and recreation facilities proposed for Arecleoch would be held in abeyance but was assured that there would be no delay.</p> <p>DR enquired re-employment/training facilities for young people. SL was confident</p>	

	<p>there would be good training opportunities, with apprenticeships being available. Various other points were discussed, including the provision of electricity supplies for the community, as has been done elsewhere. The fair distribution of wind farm benefit money was also raised, as once again, it would be the local area that would suffer most with increased heavy traffic and damaged roads. It was pointed out to SPR that the roads are still in an extremely poor condition and not yet recovered from previous construction work.</p> <p>There will be an opportunity to question SPR representatives again at the Public Information Day, but in the meantime, they were thanked for their presentation and then left the meeting.</p>	
5	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes</p> <p>Item 4 Matters Arising: Item 3: Speaker: Richard Carr (RC), SAYLSA CS had emailed Richard Carr regarding the new bus scheme 'My Bus' but to date had received no reply. Noted.</p> <p>LH had been in touch with him recently with regard to the Community Bus. A forthcoming trip to Girvan has been arranged. Posters will be displayed in the village.</p> <p>SAYLSA Membership fee: Not yet paid. (See item 5.)</p> <p>Item 7: Grant Applications: BMHCA CS confirmed that she had discussed this verbally with the BMHCA secretary and also emailed. The bank statement had now been received by LH and also a signed 'Terms & Conditions' form. To be discussed at Item 6.</p> <p>Item 8: War Memorial Handrail PL had raised this matter with the appropriate SAC section. The War Memorial is classed as a listed building therefore regulations apply. Clarification is being sought from the appropriate authorities.</p> <p>Item 12: Correspondence DR had replied to WilloWind with an offer to address the February CC meeting and had received an email from them. To be confirmed later. An application is being submitted for a met mast.</p> <p>Item 13: AOB AC had compiled a list of all roads complaints and DR had emailed this to the Roads section. An emailed reply was received stating that the branches obscuring the priority road sign had been cut back, though this was not noticeable, The hill (station) road was down for resurfacing, funds permitting. Re-the Mark Hill entrance 'slow' sign, a meeting was apparently held with SPR, though SL was not aware of it. With regard to moving the 30mph sign at the Girvan end of the village, there are issues with this. AO informed that the person to contact for roads complaints is Richard Storey on 01292 612302</p> <p>Dog dirt bags AO reported these are available at the Girvan office until they run out. He will endeavour to obtain a supply for distribution in the village shop, CS had spoken with Connie Lobban from SAC regarding the sandwich board signs but these would have to be removed each night. It was acknowledged that a sign would not deter an irresponsible dog owner, as the current spate of dog fouling has proved on the Martyrs' Tomb Walk.</p> <p>Litter Bin at Wallace Terrace bus shelter. The CC was grateful to hear from PL that this had just been replaced.</p> <p>Cemeteries PL informed that the cemeteries inspections were almost completed. CS had received correspondence from Lizzie Linton, previously circulated. 18 of 105 headstones in the new cemetery were deemed unsafe. DR had seen the notices placed on the affected graves and asked what criteria SAC had used. Apparently a piece of equipment can gauge what force a stone can withstand. It was discovered some stones had not been properly pinned. If the stonemason has been negligent SAC are contacting them and if the workmanship of SAC workers is at fault, this will be rectified by SAC.</p> <p>DR enquired about insurance cover for such an event. This was not known.</p>	<p>.</p> <p>LH</p> <p>PL</p> <p>AO</p>
6	<p>Treasurer's Report/Bank Signatories</p> <p>LH circulated the monthly statement and some payments remain pending as it is still not possible to issue any cheques due to the ongoing saga with HBOS regulations. She had catalogued (circulated) the current state of affairs concerning her dealings with HBOS and the many trials and tribulations endured.</p> <p>The mandate had again been returned requiring more information and again submitted. Numerous phone calls to Edinburgh went unanswered until today when</p>	

	<p>HBOS agreed to modify some of the mandate requirements. DB then posted everything to Edinburgh after getting verification of the documents from the Newton Stewart bank branch. The CC must now wait for ten days to see if Edinburgh gives the go ahead. LH proposed that, in the event of no communication from HBOS within this time, in order to finally pay out the outstanding cheques, Lily Niven is allowed to countersign one last cheque, as she is still officially a signatory in the eyes of HBOS, to transfer the balance to a new account and open a more appropriate one with RBS. In view of the peculiar circumstances prevailing, it was unanimously agreed to set a precedent and approve this action.</p> <p>Signatories It was proposed by DR, seconded by AR, that the following four be confirmed as bank signatories: David Russell, David Bowling, Louba Hodgkinson and Celia Strain. This was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>BMHCA Grant LH reported that the signed Terms & Conditions agreement received from BMHCA was dated after the event for which funds had been given and sought confirmation that the cheque could be paid out (when payments are resumed). It was unanimously agreed this was not a problem as the grant application had been approved before the event occurred.</p> <p>Mileage Allowance LH reported that SAC had increased this from 40p per mile to 45p and suggested the CC follow suit to bring it in line with SAC. Agreed unanimously.</p>	LH
7	<p>Updates</p> <p>a) BCIC DR informed, for those who did not already know, of the good news that the plans for the car park had been approved, subject to conditions. Match funding for the project is now being actively sought. Discussions have been opened with the owner of the land at the station with a view to purchasing it for a car park. He is favourably inclined to the proposals, subject to price agreement. The garden project is still ongoing and letters are being exchanged with Mark Wilson re-the proposed Lennie Wood footpath. BMHCA: It is hoped the hall development will soon progress. Arnsheen Park: Barr Ltd has been approached with a request to buy the ground or lease it for a minimum period of 10 years.</p> <p>b) Carrick Futures (CF) DR informed that he had unfortunately missed one meeting. The December meeting was a funding round, with two applications being approved from the Ayrshire Rivers' Trust and the Z1 Girls Group.</p> <p>c) CCCF CS reported that she and AR had attended the meeting on 10th January. The main points were as follows: The Carrick Way project is being taken forward by CCCF and not the Carrick Way CIC. AO said the project had lost considerable funding due to lack of progress. While the northern loop is finished the southern one has not yet been started.</p> <p>Ayrshire Rivers Trust: Grant application approved.</p> <p>Olympic Torch Relay: AO stressed the community opportunities arising from its relay through South Ayrshire with potential press coverage which will aid tourism. Plans are going ahead to involve the local schoolchildren and SAC have set aside £ 50,000 for the event. This was thought excessive by some in the present economic climate but AO again stressed the opportunities to be gained from coverage of the relay. The torch arrives in South Ayrshire on 8th June and will pass through Ballantrae at 8am. The CCCF felt that a representative from each CC should be appointed to a sub-committee and DR agreed to let his name go forward for this.</p> <p>Rural Skills Project: Stage 1 approved. There were 9 applicants for the post of Adviser with a short list of 3 to be interviewed.</p> <p>Ayr to Stranraer Line: More support needed from the communities it serves.</p> <p>Carrick Tourism Development Project: Tender process underway and should soon commence.</p> <p>Prospects for Carrick: The CCCF sought the views of CCs on this. CS reminded that she had forwarded the document and required a response. Due to the late hour agreed that the document would be studied post</p>	DR

	meeting and comments sent to CS.	ALL
8	Planning Applications These had previously been circulated. AR reported none applicable to Barrhill. It was noted, however, that yet another wind farm was being applied for at Tralorg..	
9	Correspondence In addition to items already emailed out: South Ayrshire Public Partnership Forum: Annual Report-October 2011 NHS Ayrshire & Arran: Discussion Group – Assuring care of older people in acute hospitals NHS Ayrshire & Arran: Pregnancy Consultation Draft Document Event at the Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons, Glasgow 9th February SAC: CC Election process SAC: Public Consultation-South Ayrshire Council Open Space Strategy	
10	AOB Council Members/Members of the Public AR expressed serious concern over SAC's gritting policy and the horrendous icy conditions experienced by her on 8 th December, travelling between Barrhill and Colmonell. On 19 th December, conditions on the hill road above the station resulted in a primary school pupil being stranded in the vehicle, the lack of gritting resulting in other vehicles being unable to move. She asked for contacts to inform when a road required urgent treatment. AO will provide details. AC reported that coping stones are loose on the road bridge near the Mark Hill wind farm entrance. He will contact the Roads Section LH reported an oil spill into the Cross Water/River Duisk . SEPA had duly been informed and the incident investigated. It was now resolved. LH also informed that the unused notice-board on the wall adjacent to the former Galloway Hotel was now in use for Community Bus information . DR reminded all that the funding for the Community Bus comes to an end at the end of March. Matter to be discussed at a later date. DB enquired re-the conditions on the use of the skip , in particular the requirement to lock the skip at night while it is in the village. PL informed of the details to the best of his knowledge. Stinchar Valley Voice CS informed that the next meeting of this group will be held at Colmonell on Friday 10 th February. AR expressed an interest in attending. DR referred to the correspondence from SAC regarding the CC Election Process . There are currently only three full members of the CC, with four co-optees. The latter cannot be co-opted again in the forthcoming year and if they are to continue must complete an application form to become full members. He sincerely hoped all would do so. He also hoped other members of the community would come forward in order to ensure the continuation of the CC. <i>The meeting closed at 9.50pm.</i>	AO AC DB AR
11	Dates of CC Meetings in 2012 Meetings take place on the fourth Thursday in the month, except for July & December when there are no meetings. 26th January 23rd February 22nd March 26th April 24th May 28th June 23rd August 27th September 25th October 22nd November All meetings commence at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.	
	Date & Time of Next Meeting Thursday 23rd February 2012 at 7.30pm.	