

APPROVED

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 23rd January 2013
Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.30pm.

No.	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council Mark Bradshaw (MB), Andrew Clegg (AC), Debbie Miles (DM), Ann Robertson (AR), Dave Russell (DR) (Chair), Celia Strain (CS) (Minute Taker).</p> <p>In Attendance: Councillor Alec Clark (ACK) (SAC), Peter Linton (PL) (SAC), Michael Liebisch (ML) (SAYLSA) and eleven members of the public.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence Frances Donnelly (FD), Stuart Donnelly (SD), Douglas Niven (DN) DR welcomed Councillor Alec Clark to his first meeting of Barrhill CC.</p>	
2	<p>Police</p>	
	<p>There was no police presence and no communication had been received.</p>	
3	<p>Speaker : Michael Liebisch (SAYLSA) DR introduced the speaker Michael Liebisch, Membership Secretary of SAYLSA. ML thanked the CC for being given the opportunity to address the meeting and conveyed apologies on behalf of Richard Carr, who was unable to attend as programmed. ML explained the background to SAYLSA, which was established in September 2007 as a Community Rail Partnership (CRP). He explained that the Scottish Government intended to create Scottish CRPs. The Transport Minister, Keith Brown, had detailed his proposals in a letter and asked that interested parties provide the relevant information. He had agreed to establish a pilot in April 2012 in which the SCRPs would be set up by April 2014. Funding would be provided and there would be widespread community engagement. A first conference is to be held on 19th February 2013 and applications are invited to become an SCRPs. Interested parties include SPT, WESTRANS and Scotrail/Network Rail. Local groups will be the driving force behind the project. A meeting had been convened in Wigtown the previous Friday, with positive results. The application would be community led with different groups involved and a trust would be set up. A steering group is to be formed consisting of stakeholders, who will decide the direction to be undertaken. Trust meetings would be held monthly, plus an Annual General Meeting ML hoped that the CC would support the initiative and requested the CC send a letter of support. He then invited questions from the floor. A member of the public asked if a SCRPs would help keep the railway alive and lead to a better service. Another queried the use of the railway for timber transport. ML informed that Caledonian University is currently carrying out a study of freight transport to Stranraer. Another resident raised the issue of the transporting of ferry passengers by bus to Ayr from the new terminal at Cairnryan, which he felt was ridiculous and made a mockery of a so-called 'green avenue'. ML concluded by asking the CC to consider sending a letter of support to Richard Carr <i>ML was thanked by DR for his attendance and accepted the invitation to stay on for the rest of the meeting then left the meeting at 9.05pm.</i> The CC then unanimously agreed to send a letter in support of SAYLSA's application to become a SCRPs.</p>	CS
4	<p>Corwar Mains Windfarm: Survey Results DR referred to the survey letter sent out to all resident households in the community and, as previously communicated by email, informed the meeting of the results. There were two questions on the letter, namely: 1) <i>Do you wish the Community Council to object to the proposed windfarm at Corwar Mains?</i> 2) <i>Do you support the idea of a windfarm-free corridor between the A714 and B7027 roads from Barrhill to Bargrennan?</i> On the first question 40 voted 'Yes' and 18 'No'.</p>	

	<p>On the second question 42 voted 'Yes' and '16 'No'. There were 5 ballot papers discounted. The response was approximately 40%. A discussion followed on the rights of the CC to object to the planning application AR was of the opinion that it was not the CC's place to comment on planning applications. ACk and PL confirmed that the CC can make representations on behalf of the community. The statutory position enables the CC to vote on an issue. PL agreed that the CC had taken reasonable steps in a proportionate way to ascertain the feelings of the community. The result of the survey was unquestionable and on a proposal to object to the Corwar Windfarm planning application the vote was carried by four votes to two.</p> <p>A member of the public queried if advantages as well as disadvantages are made known to the public. Reference was made to recent press articles, some more biased against than others.</p> <p>DM reminded the meeting that the windfarm company had had a public exhibition in the hall at which details were given.</p> <p>CS to write a letter of objection to the proposed Corwar Windfarm, including details of the survey results on PL's advice.—to be circulated to all members for approval prior to submission to Planning.</p> <p>The suggested turbine-free corridor was discussed, with a resident informing that the area is supposedly protected in SAC's structural plan i.e. the local development plan. DR asked ACK what the position was regarding this, who informed that a briefing is to be held next week when he would obtain further information. A question was raised as to the closing date for objections. DR replied that he was informed that although 16th January is the date advertised, he had been informed by Planning that objections would be accepted into February.</p> <p><i>A majority of the members of the public left the meeting at this point.</i></p>	<p>CS</p> <p>ACK</p>
5	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting of 28th November 2012 The minutes were approved: proposed by MB, seconded AC.</p>	
6	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes</p> <p>Item 3: Kevin Braidwood, SAC's Roads Manager Further to the questions on roads, DR informed that he had received several complaints regarding the state of Gowlands Terrace (Station road). The surface had been removed before Christmas and no further work carried out leaving the road in an appalling state. DR had emailed Janice Kelly and then received a response from Kevin Braidwood, informing that a full road closure would need to be in place to allow the final surface course to be laid. He enquired about the use of the Community Bus to ferry rail passengers. Resurfacing is dependent on suitable weather.</p> <p>Section of road near East Lodge No news yet concerning this.</p> <p>DR also referred to a section of road near Glen Tachur which appeared to be defective. It had been resurfaced when the temperature was -7°C and didn't take, with a load of substandard tar leading to the road becoming holed. ACK confirmed that the work done by Finco had been defective. MB had also been aware of this.</p> <p>War Memorial Handrail PL informed that the grant application to the War Memorial Trust was ongoing. DR asked about Government funding in light of the press announcements that week. PL informed that this did not apply in this case. With reference to the complaint of ineffective cleaning of the war memorial for the Remembrance Day service, PL had been informed that an inadequate pressure washer was used instead of a steam cleaner. Next time the correct apparatus would be used. DR thanked PL for his input.</p> <p>Mark Hill Windfarm Pedestrian Access AR reported the new gate had now been installed, ensuring pedestrian access even when the main gates are locked.</p> <p>Treasurer's Report Ongoing---see Item 7.</p> <p>Activated Speed Sign CS informed that the BCIC are looking into this matter and considering funding this. In addition to the cost of £2,500 quoted by Councillor Oattes at the last meeting, further costs are required for a solar panel to power the sign. Questions were asked re –maintenance costs. ACK will enquire.</p> <p>Item 8: Small Grant Application: Barrhill Primary School CS reported that the amended application form had been received and had been emailed out to all members.</p>	<p>PL</p> <p>ACK</p>

	<p>Barrhill Playgroup Reference was made to the inaccurate comments posted on Facebook regarding the amount of grant awarded its Christmas outing. These had been refuted by AR who had posted the correct facts. Only one apology had been posted. The whole episode had been extremely disappointing.</p> <p>CS informed that she had not received a reply to her letter to the playgroup.</p> <p>Item 13 AOB: Grey Squirrel Control Officer CS had been informed that a grant application will soon be submitted to CF and she would delay sending a letter of support until it was required. Noted</p> <p>Roads covered with stones/debris: CS informed that she had reported this to Kevin Braidwood. He had confirmed it was the Roads' responsibility, but the location would have to be notified. They would clear the road and also speak to the landowner from whose land the stones etc had been washed.</p> <p><i>DR then welcomed DM to her first meeting since being co-opted, with apologies for omitting to do so earlier in the meeting.</i></p>	CS
7	<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	
	<p>AR reported that she had written out cheques for the grants to the Bowling Club and Playgroup, still using the BOS chequebook as the new RBS account is still not operational. RBS now required a copy of the CC constitution. This had not yet been traced, though CS had tried various sources and had now contacted SAC as a copy should be held in the County Buildings. PL then produced a copy of said constitution from his file! He will email a copy to AR and CS.</p> <p>AR informed there is £850 remaining in the CF small grants fund with one more funding round remaining at the next CC meeting. This will have to be returned to CF if not used. CS was aware of one application for £500, which will be on the agenda next month. It was suggested the CC could apply to this fund for the costs of the notice board and this was agreed. CS to complete an application form.</p>	AR PL CS
8	<p>Updates</p> <p>a) BCIC CS reported on the January meeting.</p> <p>Christmas Panto tickets: On the day fourteen persons went on the trip to Ayr Gaiety Theatre. The take-up of tickets had not gone as well as anticipated but all who went had thoroughly enjoyed the outing.</p> <p>New director: The new director, Bob Mortimer, attended his first meeting. There are still three vacancies for BCIC directors to be filled.</p> <p>The Car Park is ongoing, as before, with work still expected to commence in the spring. The project is now going out to tender.</p> <p>A new logo is being designed, which will be specific to the company.</p> <p>b) Carrick Futures (CF)</p> <p>AC reported on the latest CF meeting. The letter from the CC requesting continuation of the 30% fund had been inexplicably omitted from the minutes of the previous meeting. To be corrected?</p> <p>The three year review of the operations of CF is to be undertaken by Community Enterprise Scotland. All CF directors will be interviewed.</p> <p>AC also informed that, as part of the review, details of all grants awarded by CCs under the small grants scheme had to be submitted. CCs will be contacted.</p> <p>DR referred to the business plan proposed for BCIC and queried if there was any news on this. CS to contact Julia Whitaker of Ailsa Horizons, the BCIC Secretariat.</p> <p>c) CCCF CS and AR had attended the January meeting but not in December. The main points from the latter were as follows: <i>A presentation by Les Anderson from South Ayrshire Seniors' Forum; Broadband issues; Bruce Activities; Carrick Town Halls; Carrick Way; and a Housing Study to take place in six villages in Carrick.</i></p> <p>January Meeting Main Points: <i>The Progress on the Bruce Trail, including the 'Conceived in Carrick' event.</i> <i>Update on Carrick Tourism Activity: Report from the steering group</i> <i>Problems with Broadband</i> <i>Condition of the roads: It was agreed that the CCCF should write to SAC's Roads Section to outline the many problems faced by all communities</i></p>	CS

	<p>regarding the appalling condition of the roads. <i>Carrick Tourism Newsletter:</i> The latest edition will be out shortly <i>Update on the Carrick Way:</i> Ailsa Horizons, the CCCF and the Adventure Centre for Education (ACE) are taking this forward and drawing up a constitution. Funding will then be applied for to move the project on. :</p>	
9	<p>Planning Applications AR reported a recent one relevant to Barrhill, namely, Queensland Holiday Park DR informed this was his own application for some engineering works required and he had in fact now been given approval. The Corwar Windfarm application had previously been noted. AR also informed that in the list of applications approved was an earlier one for Laigh Altercannoch. Although not in the Barrhill area, AR referred to yet another windfarm application, for eight turbines at Millenderdale.</p>	
10	<p>Carrick Characters This item had been postponed from the previous meeting. CS informed that David Bett had been in contact as he had not received confirmation of Barrhill's plans. He offered to return to the CC and to help in any way he could. Agreed to invite David Bett to the next CC meeting to learn the details of the project. AR thought the obvious choice was the Covenanting Martyrs and this was unanimously agreed. It was agreed also that the previous subject initially discussed, outdoor activities, was not suitable as there was no word of the proposed leisure pursuits plans for Arecleoch. CS to contact Steven Lindsay to enquire about the progress of this. <i>ML (SAYLSA) left the meeting at 9.05pm, as did PL.</i></p>	<p>CS CS</p>
11	<p>Correspondence In addition to correspondence already emailed out Various communications from NHS Ayrshire & Arran Dumfries & Galloway Council: Notifications of the planning application and then refusal of planning permission for a windfarm at Land at Garchew, Bargrennan. Scottish Government: Coping with Emergencies WillowWind Energy Email (forwarded) and letter received by DR and CS concerning a public exhibition at Straiton on 17th January of a proposed windfarm at Linfairn. Concern expressed that only two days notification was received. (The letter from the Holyrood Partnership, on behalf of WillowWind, on the day itself.) Wicksteed Playscapes Pinwherry CC Its Secretary requested that two representatives from BCC join a group to co-ordinate complaints to SAC re-the appalling condition of the A714. Agreed this was a good idea and DR, AR and MB agreed that two of them would attend meetings. CS to inform Pinwherry CC and also send the list of roads questions and answers. Corwar Windfarm Survey: Letter from a resident complaining of perceived problems with the survey. The points raised were discussed and addressed by DR. A letter to be sent to the complainant.</p>	<p>CS CS</p>
12	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public DR informed that he had reported the defective 20mph speed sign at the primary school to Janice Kelly at SAC Roads. Some members thought this sign was now repaired. CS raised the subject of the Primary School refurbishment and the transfer of the school into the hall. DR gave details of this, the start date having been deferred until August at the earliest, due to costs being spread over two financial years. The lodging of plans is imminent and the project has now gone out to tender, to be awarded on 17th June, for work to last a period of 36 weeks,. CS reminded that the first community bus trip of 2013 would take place on Wednesday 30th January to Stranraer, with the following month to Castle Douglas on Thursday 28th February. Posters giving details of the first five trips had been placed locally. Dates for the 2013 CC meetings had been determined and would be detailed at the end of the minutes. Noted AC raised on behalf of DN, the question of the rights of access to the Mark Hill</p>	<p>ALL ALL</p>

<p>Windfarm. DN had experienced an unpleasant encounter with an employee of Ballochmorrie Estate while walking near the windfarm. He had been told that he should not walk on the tracks and it was also suggested to him that the gates would be locked so his vehicle could not get back.</p> <p>AR offered to speak to John Morris of SPR regarding this, rather than the CC contacting Steven Lindsay.</p> <p>DM suggested that items such as the recent communication regarding the Consultation on Leisure facilities, forwarded to all members by CS, be put on the CC website. Agreed.</p> <p>AR suggested that in light of the recent unpleasant episode with Facebook, that the CC joined the site. This way the correct facts would be publicised. This was unanimously agreed and DM will assist in setting up the site. DR suggested Jo Russell could also help. This was agreed.</p> <p>AR informed that a resident who travels each day from Chirmorrie had sent a long letter, complete with photos of potholes, to SAC's Roads Section as she despaired of the appalling state of the hill road. It was agreed the letter was excellent and SAC's reaction is awaited with interest.</p> <p>AR once again raised the subject of SAC's gritting policy. When the snow fell recently she considered the road too dangerous for the school taxi to drive on and informed SAC Roads accordingly. Noted</p> <p>ACK informed that over the next year he intended to participate fully in the CC's meetings and to represent the CC to the best of his ability. DR expressed thanks on behalf of the CC.</p> <p><i>The meeting closed at 9.45pm</i></p>	<p>AR</p> <p>AC</p> <p>AR, DM DR</p>
<p>Date & Time of Next Meeting <u>Wednesday 27th February 2013 at 7.30pm</u></p> <p><u>Dates for remainder of 2013</u> 27th March 24th April (AGM) 22ND May 26th June 28th August 25th September 23^d October 27th November</p> <p><u>Please note there are no meetings in July and December</u> <u>All meetings commence at 7.30pm</u></p>	