

APPROVED

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 30th March 2016
Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.30pm.

No	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council Andrew Clegg (AC), James Duffie (JD), Sarah Redman (SR), Andrew Sinclair (AS), Ann Robertson (AR) (Treasurer), Dave Russell (DR) (Chair), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary & Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT).</p> <p>In Attendance: SAC Councillor Alec Clark (ACK), PCs Harding (H) & Graham Barclay (GB) (Girvan & South Carrick Community Policing Team), Amy Donnell (Corri Wilson MP), Chris Little (CL) (Smithy House Associates Ltd).</p> <p>17 Members of the public.</p>	
1	Apologies for Absence	
	Mark Bradshaw (MB), Peter Linton (PL) (SAC Link Officer)	
2	Police	
	<p>DR welcomed PCs Barclay and Harding to the meeting. They informed that 18 incidents in the Barrhill area had been reported to Police since the last CC meeting on 24th February and 2 crimes were recorded. These were of vandalism and theft, relating to an ongoing neighbour dispute at Kildonan. Enquiries into these crimes are continuing.</p> <p>Questions were then invited. A member of the public reported that during the weekend closure of the A77, when traffic was diverted through Barrhill, the noise level through the nights was such that sleep was interrupted. She enquired if road signs could be placed to remind drivers to drive considerately. GB informed that this would be in ARA's remit. ACK will look into this matter.</p> <p>Another member of the public referred to a recent closure of the New Luce road due to a heavy goods vehicle coming off the road. There had been no warning signs at New Luce, Police informing that nothing could be done, resulting in a turnaround and a lengthy detour to return to Barrhill. The PCs will raise this matter.</p> <p>Another member of the public, who lives off the New Luce road, also referred to SPR's vehicles blocking her road, one of which had been there for three days. This was due to HGVs taking the wrong route. It was felt that signage and postcodes were at fault.</p> <p>DR will inform SPR's Daniel Ferrier (DF), and ACK will contact ARA to discuss the three incidents in three months and ask that it liaises with DF.</p> <p>DR thanked GB and H for their report. <i>They then left the meeting at approx. 7.45pm.</i></p>	ACK GB DR, ACK
3	Speaker: Chris Little	
	Proposed Altercannoch Windfarm	
	<p>Prior to introducing the speaker, DR declared an interest in this item, as did JT. This agenda item was adjourned at the previous meeting in order for ACK to seek clarification from SAC's legal section. A member of the public enquired as to the outcome and DR read out the response. This included the view that the decision whether or not to declare an interest is one that each person has to make for themselves and be held accountable for. It was very much left to an individual's conscience.</p> <p>DR then introduced Chris Little, of Smithy House Associates, the company acting for Brookfield Renewables UK. CL passed on apologies from James Druitt, Project Manager for Brookfield, who was unable to be present as anticipated. CL then outlined the background to the proposed windfarm and gave an update on the latest developments. The planning application for 8 turbines, 131 metres to tip height, situated 1 km south of the village boundary, is ongoing. The nearest turbine would be 2km from the village. So far three rounds of public exhibitions had been held, commencing in 2012, with the latest one in June 2015. The planning application went live in January this year with a huge amount of information being submitted to SAC, which is available to view on the website. Hard copies are stored on the stage in the Memorial Hall for the public to access.</p> <p>With regard to access to the site, initial hope was to use the forestry road but now the plan is to use the B7027, but a lot more clarification of the issue is required before it is finalised. This will be passed on. AS referred to the access route and enquired if the B7027 route was that</p>	

	<p>detailed in the planning application—it is. CL informed that all information is available to view. He admitted there would be an impact on some properties, including the effects of shadow flicker.</p> <p>With regard to community ownership, Brookfield will be putting proposals to the Community Council. The CC and the BCIC will be addressed on the subject, but far more information is still to be determined. The plans are out for consultation with the views of consultees still awaited. It is anticipated the planning application will be dealt with by the end of the year. DR enquired re-details of the community benefit. There would be £5K per installed MW, with the 27 MW expected, yielding more than £100K per annum. More information on benefits should become available over the next few weeks.</p> <p>CL then invited questions. He was asked why the impact on a property, Dochroyle, a mere 1.04km away from a turbine, was assessed only as a 'moderate risk'. It was also queried why statements in the documents indicated trees would conceal turbines. It was felt that trees were used as a scapegoat and that it is impossible for even mature trees to conceal turbines 131 metres high.</p> <p>Another member of the public informed that his property is the most severely affected by the visual impact and yet was not an elevation point.</p> <p>CS referred to the photomontage available in the Hall, which depicts turbines highly visible over the Knowe Road viewed from the top of Wallace Terrace looking across the playpark. It was noted that the advert for the availability of the documents only mentioned Burns House, Ayr and not the Memorial Hall, Barrhill.</p> <p>A member of the public queried why Brookfield had applied for turbines of a height twice that permitted by SAC. Apparently the height limits no longer fit with viability.</p> <p>AS referred to the fact that the documents submitted showed a different access route to that previously identified. CL replied that it was common for access routes to be changed.</p> <p>AC enquired as to attaching to the grid—this is not yet known.</p> <p>A member of the public felt that the possibility of Chirmorrie Windfarm going ahead had not been taken into consideration when peat extraction was documented. Various comments re-peat extraction had been made in the documents.</p> <p>CL was questioned as to whether Brookfield would contact those who had placed objections to SAC. One objector informed that the 180 degrees outlook from his house would be filled with turbines.</p> <p>ACk informed that if someone felt the information given in the Environmental Report was incorrect, the matter could be raised with SAC Planning.</p> <p><i>DR thanked CL for his update.</i></p> <p>DR then referred to the Altercannoch Windfarm Liaison Group and the recent problems. AS had that evening submitted his resignation from this and DR and CS also resigned, commenting that incorrect information had been given to the Group. AC was willing to continue and CL explained what the purpose of a CLG is and wished it to continue. DR asked JD if he was willing to commit to the Group but he declined. Ongoing</p> <p><i>CL then left the meeting at approx. 8.15pm.</i></p>	
4	Proposed Altercannoch Windfarm (Adjourned on 24th February)	
	<p>DR and JT had both previously declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion. Contrary to what is detailed in the SAC Handbook it was decided it was unnecessary for DR and JT to leave the meeting and DR continued in the Chair.</p> <p>A discussion then took place regarding what the CC's response to the planning application should be. CS commented that it would look strange if Barrhill CC did not put in a comment to planning on this application. Various options were discussed, ranging from a) a survey of all adults in the community: b) to neither support nor object to the windfarm: and c) to neither support nor object and also to note concern about the increasing number of turbines and growing public concern locally about the cumulative impact. On a vote, by the 6 members eligible to vote, the latter (c) was approved by 5 votes, with 1 abstention. CS will draft a response to Planning.</p> <p>ACk stressed that it was up to individual members of the public to record their support or objections to Planning either online or in writing and would urge them to do so. He also informed that anyone can request to attend a planning meeting.</p>	CS
5	Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24th February 2016	
	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved; proposed by JD, seconded AC.	

6	Matters Arising from the Minutes	
	<p>Item 6: Matters Arising from the Minutes Northern Activated Speed Sign: This is still not operational but the report is in and ACK had received word that it is being investigated. Ongoing Defective Pavements/Drainage: 9b Main Street ongoing. Eldrick – see A714 item below. Item 8d) Updates: War Memorial: AC informed that he had submitted quotes for professional advisor fees to the Scottish War Memorials Trust and received positive feedback. A decision is expected on 18th April. If successful it will provide 75% funding. DR hopes the remainder could be provided by a CC application for CF funding under the Small Grants Scheme. Item 9: Small Grant Application: Barrhill Angling Club: Emailed thanks received from the Club for the cheque. Noted Item 11: Correspondence: Girvan Traditional Folk Festival/Rural Transport: DR had contacted the organiser and suggested that a minibus would be the best option. Ideas for pick-up points required—DR suggested the two village bus stops and Queensland Holiday Park. All to consider ideas. Item 12: AOB: A714: Several members noted that while potholes had recently been repaired, the quality of repairs was poor, with road surfaces now raised in bumps. ACK was under the impression that the ‘hot box’ had been used for all holes, but this was disputed by those members who had seen the repairs. ACK will query ARA as to their programme. Kevin Braidwood had contacted ACK re-commitments up to 31st March and a line had now been issued to deal with the drainage issue at Eldrick. Dredging of Cross Water Burn: ACK had not yet received any information on this. JD had received a report that a tree had fallen in the Martyrs’ Tomb Wood, which it was believed could cause a blockage if swept into the burn. CS will investigate. Martyrs’ Tomb Walk: CS is aware of a recent fallen tree blocking the path itself. Information still to be sought re-the Tomb itself. Road Sweeper: ACK informed that the road sweeper’s arrival is imminent. Kilgallioch Windfarm Sign: DR had raised this matter with Farrans and informed that the firm would soon put a sign up. With regard to heavy traffic using the Knowe Road, it appeared there was broad unauthorised use of this road. AS informed that some personnel also denied there was a litter problem. <i>(All other items on the agenda)</i></p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS</p>
7	Treasurer’s Report	
	<p>AR circulated her report and informed that there was £377.35 left in the CC administration funds. Members had now submitted expenses and AC informed that the CC web fee is due to be paid. Of the CF grant money, £1,441.50 remains. DR then thanked AR for her report.</p>	
8	Updates	
	<p>a) BCIC JT and DR reported on the last monthly BCIC meeting. Dolphin House, Culzean: Money had been given for a children’s trip to Culzean and a grant also given to the Playgroup towards the cost of a new storage shed. Car Park/School Wall: DR informed that the work continues on the new wall. During construction of this, damage had been done to the Car Park wall. The contractor will be repairing this and SAC are aware of the situation. A disabled access will be incorporated. Car Park Lighting: The electricity supply had finally been installed, and the solar panels operational until a switch broke and then a converter broke. These await repair. Newsletter: This was now out, with the hope that delivery can be improved. Barrhill Action Plan: The BCIC queried as to when this would be completed.</p> <p>b) Carrick Futures (CF) AS informed that the latest CF meeting had been a funding round, with a number of organisations receiving awards. Amongst these were Girvan Folk Festival, £15,750 for 3 years funding, conditional on providing transportation from/to outlying villages to Girvan events; Ballantrae Food Festival £10K; and the Girvan Youth Trust £9,894. It was also decided to set up a legacy fund. Former Davidson Hospital: CF members also discussed this, in the aftermath of Ailsa Horizon’s liquidation. CF funds loaned to AH are now in the hands of the official receiver.</p> <p>c) CCCF AR had attended the meeting scheduled on 22nd March, which was not quorate, only 3 CCs being represented. A general discussion was held instead of what would have been the Forum’s 100th meeting. It transpired that the former Davidson Hospital was back</p>	

	<p>on the market and there had already been two expression of interest. All CCCF paperwork had now been retrieved from the AH offices, along with Carrick tourism leaflets. Grants are available from April and information is on the website. Rural communities have been hit hard with the withdrawal of Gala Day funding. The meeting is re-scheduled for 12th April.</p> <p>d) War Memorial: Matter already dealt with – see above at Item 6, Matters Arising.</p>	
9	Small Grant Applications	
	<p>Barrhill Playgroup: The application for the sum of £432 for insurance costs and a new storage shed was unanimously approved. CS will inform and deliver the cheque. BMHCA: A late application from BMHCA, and not on the agenda, for £500 towards costs of running a new Barrhill Flower Show was also unanimously approved. AR will deliver the cheque...</p>	<p>CS AR</p>
10	Barrhill Memorial Hall	
	<p>The matter of the proposed asset transfer of the Memorial Hall by SAC was discussed at length. ACk informed that he had been kept in the dark about the termination of the lease by SAC and the transfer of the hall to the Trustees. It transpired that the Head of Communities recommended in a report that a community asset transfer be progressed as part of a wider savings exercise. The report did not however make any mention or recommend that the Council carry out any repairs to the property prior to transfer. The report was approved by the Council's Leadership Panel on the 16th February, 2016, and went largely unnoticed. ACk had not been updated by Tom Burns and the meeting at which the original decision was made was not known about. This had been queried by ACk. There had been a distinct lack of communication between the Communities section and Property & Assets. ACk made enquiries today and was updated by Tom Burns, whose e-letter was read out. ACk had submitted a 'Briefing note on community associations meeting utility bills' to all SAC Councillors and Council officials in which he expressed his support for the rural communities in their opposition to SAC levying charges on Gala Days and Hall utilities. DR read this out to the meeting and CS will email out to all. DR informed that the BCIC had sought legal advice from their Secretariat in Edinburgh. It was clear that SAC had breached the contract by not carrying out necessary repairs and maintenance. He had asked Tom Burns for a copy of the recent survey. He also referred to the lack of communication within SAC departments. ACk will go back to SAC and discuss the aspects of the legal advice. He informed that Councillors not members of the ruling party of SAC only received the budget plans one hour before the full Council meeting at which the budget was approved.</p>	<p>CS ACk</p>
11	Community Council Elections	
	<p>The total number of nominations received did not exceed the number of places available on the Community Council so a poll was not necessary. Two new members, Kenneth McLaren and Alistair Scott, will take up their appointments on 1st April. SAC informed that this year it will be satisfactory to delay appointing Office-Bearers until the May AGM. Noted.</p>	
12	Planning Applications	
	<p>AR informed of applications for Barrhill. Week ending 4th March, Kevin Reid for the erection of a porch at 1 Gowlands Terrace; w/e 11th March, Colin Lamond for replacement windows at Black Claunchie House; 18th March, Mr Green at Barjarg Farm for certificate of lawfulness for internal alterations and extension at Barjarg. On the February decisions list the applications from Scottish Power to renew the electricity line from Girvan to Pinwherry, renew line south of Chirmorrie and erect a new overhead line to connect Glen App Wind Farm to Arecleoch Sub Station have all been permitted. AR was then thanked for her report.</p>	
13	Correspondence	
	<p>Incl. Whithorn Way Steering Group Meeting in Barrhill</p> <p>Whithorn Way Steering Group CS read out correspondence from the Chair of the Whithorn Way Steering Group, who has arranged to hold their committee meeting in Barrhill on 6th April at 11am. The group are keen to meet with local business people, accommodation providers, keen walkers etc. All are invited to attend. CS and DR hope to attend. CS has informed local SAC Councillors, neighbouring communities etc of the meeting. Community Rail Partnership: Networking Workshop Glasgow Riverside Museum 15th</p>	<p>CS,DR</p>

	<p>April 11.45am-5pm. South Ayrshire Community Transport Organisation Launch on Wednesday, 27th April at the John Pollock Centre, Ayr at 9.30am. HM Queen Elizabeth II Birthday Commemorative Medal Sample received of a medal for schools and Councils. Suggested to pass on the information to Barrhill Primary School. NHS Bowel Screening Event Crosshouse Hospital 27th April 1-4pm. Listed Buildings & Conservation Email just received from the new SAC contact—will be forwarded. <i>Other items previously circulated.</i></p>	CS
14	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public</p>	
	<p>Barrhill PAD A response had at long last been received from the Scottish Ambulance Service. Unfortunately, it is not yet in a position to map AEDs in the community and Ambulance Control room staff are not able to take note of the access code and share the information. They are, however, hoping to develop this in the next year or so and will get back to CS once this is in place. Barrhill Toilets CS expressed her surprise on hearing the news that the Hallkeeper had not been reappointed to the job of maintaining the toilets, in view of the praise she had received over the years and felt the Community Council should convey its thanks for the good work carried out over the last few years. Agreed—CS will convey the community’s appreciation. Insurance Documents received from Highland Council re-CC insurance cover. CS will complete and return these as requested. Community Bus A member of the public raised the question of the Community Bus and suggested funding a paid driver. It is known that Adventure Centre for Education (ACE) pay for the use of a bus. DR explained that unfortunately due to the current problems within SAYLSA the Barrhill Community bus is still off the road. BCIC are currently investigating the possibility of taking over the bus. A driver would be required for this, whether paid or a volunteer. <i>The meeting closed at 9.40pm.</i></p>	CS CS
	<p>Date & Time of next meeting <u>Wednesday 27th April 2016 at 7.30pm</u> Other meetings in 2016 25th May (also AGM) 29th June 31st August 26th October 30th November <i>Please note there are no meetings in July, September & December,</i></p>	