## **BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

## Meeting held on Wednesday<u>, 29th May 2019</u> in Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm

No.	Item	Action
1	Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council	
	Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), Robert Houstin (RH), Pearl McGibbon (PMcG),	
	Kenneth McLaren (KMcL) (Acting Chair), Andrew Sinclair (AS), Celia Strain (CS)	
	(Secretary & Minute Taker).	
	In Attendance: Councillor Alec Clark (AC) (SAC), Rod Ekern (RE) and 2 Members of	
	the public.	
2	Welcome & Apologies for Absence	
	KMcL welcomed all to the AGM. Apologies were received from Johnnie Thomson (JT)	
	and 1 Member of the public.	
3	Minutes of Previous AGM Meeting of 30th May 2018	
	These were approved: proposed by AC, seconded by PMcG.	
4	Report from the Chair	
	Report given by the Acting Chair, Kenneth McLaren (in post for only a month).	
	"I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for the work you have	
	accomplished over the past year, with a special thanks to Ann Robertson for taking on	
	the task of 'Chair' for most of that time.	
	It has been the season of more windfarm activity, with consultations and proposals,	
	which are all ongoing.	
	At last the roads have been repaired to an acceptable level, with funding from Timber	
	Transport, for which we are all very grateful. However, we must NOT become	
	complacent but continue to be vigilant so that they do NOT become SO BAD again!	
	The plans towards reducing the speed limit within the village have been discussed but	
	there is still a way to go before it is satisfactory to the residents of the village.	
	Another consultation, this time involving the bus through the village, a lifeline to some.	
	We are awaiting the next stage which we must engage with forcefully for the good of	
	everyone.	
	There is some welcome news! The Council has agreed to refurbish the waiting room at	
	the cemetery, which will complement the work already completed to the outside of the	
	building.	
	There is still much work to be done but to achieve it we must ALL WORK TOGETHER.	
	KMcL was thanked for his report.	
5	Secretary's Report	
	Report given by the Secretary, Celia Strain	
	"We have once again arrived at another AGM the 2018/2019 term has flown by. The	
	CC has had the usual matters to deal with, some of which seem never-ending and	
	appear year after year in this report.	
	At least there is, as you have already heard, a marked improvement in the A714.	
	Unfortunately, the same can't be said of the drainage system in the village, or the litter	

on grass verges, which appears to have worsened again recently. The CC is extremely disappointed in SAC's Waste Management team, who refuse to answer correspondence, no matter who contacts it. The promised litter signs are still awaited. The village is fortunate that several dedicated members of the public regularly carry out litter-picks and equipment is still available for volunteers to use. A car abandoned at the rail station on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018 caused problems until September, in spite of numerous emails/photos etc to the Police and Scotrail. It was a relief to travellers when the Police finally succeeded in having the car removed. It is fervently hoped the plans for a car park at the station finally come to fruition this year.

The matter of amending the CC Constitution continues to be a long drawn out affair and very time consuming - now perhaps unnecessary, due to current events.

Also time-consuming recently, have been the numerous emails regarding proposed windfarm extensions etc.

Thanks to the annual sum of £5,000 given by Carrick Futures for the Small Grants Scheme, more local groups have benefitted, including Barrhill Primary School, Barrhill Badminton Club, Barrhill Bowling Club, the Playgroup, Barrhill Craft Group, Barrhill Wee Whist Club, Arnsheen Gardening Society and the Community Council itself. This last year also saw grants awarded to individuals for projects undertaken by nonconstituted groups: Commemoration of World War 1 Centenary and Barrhill Flower Show.

Following the approval of the CC's grant application to Carrick Futures for funds to repair the Martyrs' Tomb monument, together with a contribution from the Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association, for which the CC was most grateful, the restoration work commenced in July 2018 and was completed in September. It is hoped that the renovation work, using a traditional lime mortar, will ensure protection against the elements for many years to come, in order to preserve the structure for future generations. It illustrates an important period in Scotland's history. It is also hoped that the Martyrs' Tomb Walk will soon be cleared, as a contractor has been given the go-ahead by SAC to clear the path of branches etc left behind after the felling of the wood.

A new footpath to Feoch Meadows has also been created by Tilhill Forestry, at Artnoch Woodland, following discussions with Andy Clegg on the CC's behalf. Signs to mark the path will be installed shortly so the community can commence using it.

Speakers during the year have included Peter Linton, who in August 2018 updated the CC on the QuayZone; in October Kevin Braidwood and a colleague drew an attendance of 36 members of the public to discuss the implementation of a 20mph limit; in January 2019 SPR informed of the proposed Arecleoch Extension; in March 2019 another new Community Engagement Officer, Sharron Connolly of the SCH & SCP visited to introduce herself and Coriolis Energy's Stewart Forsyth updated the CC on the approved Chirmorie Windfarm. Finally in April Katie Nairn attended for a consultation on the future of the 359 bus route.

This last year the CC operated at less than full capacity, with only eight members until the co-option of Rod Ekern in January. Since April 1<sup>st</sup> membership stands at only seven as unfortunately our previous Chair, Ann Robertson, did not seek re-election for personal reasons, after a lengthy spell on the CC, and her support is sorely missed. Thankfully Kenneth stepped in as acting Chair. It is regretted that no-one else came forward at the March elections to serve on the CC. It is also regretted that the co-opted

	member could not become a full member as he is a foreign national.	
	CC representatives still attend the SCHSCP meetings where possible, not to mention the Board meetings of Carrick Futures and the new Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company.	
	Thanks are due to Kenneth McLaren for undertaking the defibrillator checks each month, The CC was grateful, as always, for the co-operation of Barrhill Primary School, for helping to plant out flowers last June.	
	The continued presence of the Police at meetings is much appreciated as is the attendance of our SAC Councillors, Ian Fitzsimmons for 2018 and currently Alec Clark. Their support is invaluable.	
	I will conclude by thanking all my fellow C Councillors for their help and support, in particular Andy C for his computer skills! Thanks also to Linda Wild, for attending the Stinchar Valley editorial meetings on behalf of Barrhill, and to David Bowling for continuing to deal with the skip provision. The assistance and support of all is much appreciated. KMcL thanked CS for her report.	
6	Treasurer's Report/Approval of Accounts	
0	Report was given by the Treasurer, Andy Clegg.	
	AR informed that the CC's accounts had been audited by SAC and these were unanimously approved. A copy of the balance sheet was circulated. The balance brought forward therefore, on 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019, was £665.12. The auditing fee of £30 for the financial year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2019 had since been paid out to SAC. The figure of £665.12 includes the £50 from the Bank of Scotland compensation money and £140.40 remaining from the War Memorial grant.	
	With regards to the Carrick Futures grant money, which is not audited by SAC, a total of £3749.20 had been paid out for twelve applications, with £4506.93 remaining. This leaves the sum of £5,172.05 in the CC account. <i>AC was thanked for his report.</i>	
7	Election of Office-Bearers	
	All Office-bearers then resigned and SAC Councillor Alec Clark took the chair. He thanked those retiring for their work over the previous year and then called for nominations for the election of Office-bearers for the forthcoming year. The following Office-bearers were then proposed and elected. These are as follows: <b>Chairperson:</b> Kenneth McLaren: Proposed by PMcG, seconded by CS. <b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	
	Johnnie Thomson: Proposed by KMcL, seconded by PMcG. (JT being absent, CS will contact him to confirm he agrees to the nomination.) Secretary: Celia Strain: Proposed by PMcG, seconded by KMcL.	CS
	<b>Treasurer:</b> R. Andrew Clegg: Proposed by PMcG, seconded by RH. AC then vacated the chair, which was taken by KMcL, the newly elected Chairperson. ( <i>CS to complete information form and submit to SAC.</i> )	CS
8	Community Council Representatives:	
	Carrick Futures Board/Carrick Futures' Members/Locality Planning Group etc.	
	Carrick Futures' Board Directors	
	AS and AC again agreed to continue to be the Barrhill representatives. <b>Barrhill Carrick Futures' Members:</b> Membership remains at 8 - still no urgency to fill the remaining 2 vacancies.	
	HSCP: It was agreed that CS would continue to attend the Locality Planning	

	<ul> <li>meetings. There were no other volunteers to attend although PMcG indicated she would do so if the meeting does not clash with the monthly BCIC meeting.</li> <li>Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company: Ann Robertson (AR) is now the second director on this Board, together with AS. Although she is no longer a Community Councillor this does not preclude her remaining as a director. Noted.</li> <li>Planning Representative Agreed that CS would continue with this.</li> <li>Licensing Representative Agreed that KMcL would hold this post, in AR's place. CS to inform SAC accordingly.</li> </ul>	CS
9	Appointment of Specialist Co-optee	
	As stated in the Secretary's report, it had not been possible under the present Community Council Scheme to co-opt Rod Ekern onto the CC, but in light of his expertise in Energy Development it was unanimously agreed to make him a Specialist Co-optee. The appointment will be advertised as required. It was noted that once the present <b>Community Council Review Consultation</b> has been completed all CCs will need a new constitution. Consequently, the CC agreed to format about amending the Barrhill Constitution until after the current review is finalized.	CS
10	forget about amending the Barrhill Constitution until after the current review is finalised. Any Other Business	
10	Incl. The year ahead.	
	<ul> <li>The Year Ahead: 2019/2020</li> <li>Station Car Park: It is hoped that the Community Rail Partnership will obtain all the required funding before too long and the community looks forward to the car park at Barrhill Station finally becoming a reality.</li> <li>Community Rail Partnership: RE enquired as to the role of the CRP, which AS then explained.</li> <li>Paths: Martyrs' Tomb Path: It is hoped that once the planned clearance of the path is completed by SAC, which is due to take place any day now, this popular walk can again be enjoyed by all in the year ahead.</li> <li>Feoch Meadows Footpath: This new footpath is now available for all to use, which is a welcome addition to paths in the area.</li> <li>Additional matters stated in the above reports.</li> <li>There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 7.30pm, to be followed by the normal May monthly meeting.</li> </ul>	