

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th August 2024, in
Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm.

No	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council: Jamie Burgess (JB) (Vice-Chair), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), John Heath (JH), Robert Houstin (RH), Pearl McGibbon (PMcG), Kenneth McLaren (KMcl), Martin Rennie (MR), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary & Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p>In Attendance: Katy Busby (KB) (SAC Link Officer), 1 Member of the Public.</p> <p><i>KB had notified that she would be unavoidably delayed, and arrived at approx. 7.10pm.</i></p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Alan Lamont (AL) (SAC Councillor).</p>	
2	<p>Police Report</p> <p>No police were present but as yet no information had been received.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting of Wednesday, 26th June 2024</p> <p>These were approved: proposed by PMcG, seconded by KMcl, following an amendment at Item 12: AOB. CS informed the matter of Royal Mail had accidentally been omitted. To be added - "JT raised the matter of the present inadequate postal delivery service. All agreed that this was currently unacceptable, with all noting the absence of mail deliveries for days at a time, followed by a large amount of mail on one day. This is particularly worrying when residents are waiting for urgent hospital appointments."</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes</p> <p>Item 5: Matters Arising: While AL was unable to attend, he had updated on matters with ARA. Blocked drains: Despite pursuing this, no news yet on the water/drain survey of Main Street. Other ongoing items: New Luce Hill Road and Road Sweeper.</p> <p>South Carrick Community Bus Service: JB reported on the latest developments. The service is to commence on 17th September 2024 and will be well publicised. All households will soon receive an information pack. CS informed of a letter received regarding a Transport Summit meeting East Ayrshire is holding on 5th September concerning community transport.</p> <p>Locked Gates at Kildonan: Nothing further had been heard from Rachel Shipley re-this matter (or about the Cross Water Bridge). AL had not yet visited the locus but still hoped to do so shortly with JT. CS to contact AL.</p> <p><i>PCs Thorne and McKinlay entered the meeting.</i></p>	<p>AL</p> <p>AL/JT CS</p>
3	<p>Police Report</p> <p>JT welcomed PCs Thorne and McKinlay's appearance in person. The police report for July and August was as follows: July: Abandoned vehicle -1; Abandoned 999 call – 1.</p> <p>August: Concern for a person - 1; Abandoned 999 call - 1; Animals call – Cattle on road - 1; RTC – 1, Lorry into verge. No crime reports were raised. Questions were then invited.</p> <p>The forthcoming consultation on the proposed Galloway National Park was referred to, with several opinions voiced. A member of the public commented on the increase in lorries going off the road recently. It was acknowledged by all that due to the very wet weather, the verges were so soft any lorry veering onto them was bound to sink.</p> <p>KMcL raised the question of low staffing at the Girvan police office. Comparisons with former staffing rates were made and today's low numbers were regretted by all.</p> <p>JT thanked AT and PMcK for attending, and they then left the meeting.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes (continued)</p> <p>Item 9: Small Grant Applications: Defibrillator Pads: AC informed that these had now been received and were ready to install.</p> <p>Barrhill Art Group: It was noted that a report had been received from the group with examples of the work done, which was gladly received.</p> <p>Item 10: Place Planning: See below at Item 9.</p> <p>Item 11: Correspondence: Sustainable Development Goals: Faith Hillier had called on CS and sought information about Barrhill. She later sent through, for the CC's information, her presentation on SDGs, which was circulated. Noted</p>	

	<p>Item 12: AOB: Dornal/Barjarg Unclassified C road: ARA had actioned this promptly and thanked the CC for informing of the damage caused to the tarmac by heavy vehicles involved in working on a new forestry road. The repair work has now been carried out and discussions held with Forestry personel regarding this.</p> <p>Kilgallioch Extension Meeting: AC had attended this meeting on 3rd July to discuss community benefit but unfortunately due to the commandeering actions of one participant no decisions had been reached.</p> <p>Postal Delivery Service: A reply, circulated, had been received from Royal Mail, admitting there had been problems with understaffing at the Girvan sorting office, which was now rectified. Members however, all felt that since then matters had deteriorated again, with hospital appointments being missed. CS to write again to Royal Mail.</p> <p><i>Other matters on agenda.</i></p>	CS
5	<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	
	<p>AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank now total £1,747.08, following payment for the web hosting and tea/coffee supplies. The CF balance is now £9,784.51, after payment of various small grants approved last month, leaving an overall bank balance of £11,531.59. AC also reported that Carrick Futures have revised the small grants criteria and ratified that a sum up to £1,000 can now be awarded. The rules will be laid down at the next CF meeting, but AC discussed the problems that could arise if larger amounts are granted early in a financial year. Noted. AC was thanked for his report.</p>	
6	<p>Updates</p>	
	<p>a) BCIC: JT informed that the Board is working its way through matters. Funding matters are being looked at with Foundation Scotland, who monitor things closely. JT informed that the BCIC hope to soon co-opt another 2 directors as there have been two expressions of interest in joining.</p> <p>b) BDT: JB informed that the new BDT is now in place, with 6 trustees. He is the new Chair, with Rod Ekern Vice-Chair and AC Treasurer. He had discussed the handyman's duties with Dean and confirmed that cutting the edges of the Martyrs' Tomb Path is included. As this had not been done this year CS had arranged for the Community Payback team to do the work. Due to bad weather the grass has not yet been cut and the path is extremely overgrown. It was thought advisable to wait initially for the CP team to do the first cut, which will hopefully be soon.</p> <p>The Trustees had also looked at the BDT's funding – at present there is £13K in the account. KMCL enquired if meetings are open to the public but was informed a resident could address the trustees at the start of a meeting, by appointment only. Minutes are now displayed. MR informed they were difficult to read and requested larger type. Noted by JB.</p> <p>c) Carrick Futures: AC informed there had not been a meeting. (See above at Item 5)</p> <p>d) South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP): CS did not attend the latest meeting on 14th August, but main items as follows: Vibrant Voices Choir: Information given on this – Fridays 2–3pm in the Biggart Hospital, Prestwick, for those with communications issues. Staying Ahead of the Curve service: Assessment by occupational therapists – it is a preventative service to maintain a person's independence. An Ageing Well check can lead to a conversion about this. Girvan Locality Plan: The final version is out now. Funding/PB Proposal: Of the 24 applications, the sub-group selected 16 to go through to the event on 26th September, including one from Barrhill Events Group.. Girvan Hospital Review: This is going well – there are 3 streams – Minor Injuries Unit/ Well-being Hub/Enhanced Multie-disciplinary Team Working. Updates: First Responders – 2 training in September. VASA South Ayrshire Lifeline – re-branding as Connect South Ayrshire. Thriving Communities: Summer holidays activities programme. Carers: There are more young carers than realised, some younger than 5 years. Community Bus: As mentioned above, this new service commences on 17th September, initially for one year. It is a 16 seater bus on 5 routes. All households will receive free bus passes. Quay Zone: Peter Linton reported that the roof is now repaired and the buiding will be surveyed after stripping out is completed the refit to start at the end of the year. The re-opening is expected next July/August.</p> <p>e) Kilgallioch Community Fund: AC reported that the AGM was held on Monday. It was his</p>	BDT

	<p>last meeting as a director, with MR attending as a new director for the CC. CS had also attended, as a member.</p> <p>f) Barrhill Events Group: PMcG informed that previously reported difficulties had been resolved and the July Fun Day had been successful. The group is now constituted and a bank account opened. It is also fully insured. It was agreed to now itemise this in the Updates section on the agenda. PMcG ran through the events currently planned, including a fireworks display, Children's Hallowe'en Party etc.</p>	
7	Planning Applications	
	<p>Planning Applications: JS reported 4 relevant to Barrhill. W/e 05/07/2024: Siting of a static caravan at Laigh Altercannoch; Prior Notification for forestry related building works (non-residential) in the vicinity of Mark Hill Windfarm, which relates to the construction of roads and ducts for the installation of cables from Tralorg to Mark Hill; and 2 applications re-forestry roads related to Arecloch Windfarm Extension.</p> <p>July Decisions List: Prior approval not required for Prior Notification for forestry - related building works near Mark Hill Windfarm; and LBC approval given for alterations and extension to Listed Building at former Arnsheen Church.</p>	
8	Small Grant Applications	
	<p>i) Barrhill Individual: Blister Pack Recycling: Following the success of this project this second application was for £418 for boxes to last 10-12 months. The applicant had sent a full breakdown of the costs of differing box sizes. A lengthy discussion then ensued with members referring to similar schemes in different outlets (Boots/Aldi), although it appeared some of these were closing. A member of the public informed that the company involved in the recycling appeared to have made vast profits and excess packs were being sent to landfill. It was unanimously agreed not to approve the application but to make further enquiries. CS to inform the applicant.</p> <p>ii) Barrhill Men's Group: This application was for a total of £229, consisting of £49 fuel costs for 2 mini-buses provided free of charge to visit Kelvingrove Art Gallery and museum, and £180 entry charges for up to 18 at the National Museum of Rural Life, East Kilbride. Surplus seats would be offered to all in the community. A lengthy discussion again ensued with the decision by all but one, who abstained, to fund the fuel costs but not the entry charges. CS to notify.</p> <p>iii) Barrhill Events Group: The application was for £220 to pay for a Public Entertainments Licence to hold a Fireworks Display. The pros and cons of such displays were discussed, with one member against and 3 CC members not eligible to vote as they are in the group. The remaining 6 members finally agreed to approve the application for this year.</p> <p>iv) Barrhill Book Club: This application was too late for inclusion on the agenda, missing the deadline for applications. The applicant intimated there was no urgency but it was agreed to consider it - for £55 to cover a year's hall hire costs, for an hour once a month, excluding December. This was approved in full, with the cheque to be paid direct to the BDT.</p> <p>Dog Waste Bags: AC had been informed that the 'dog poo bags' were running low. He will enquire if the price is the same as last time. Approval was given for an application to be submitted for a grant to order and pay for these bags.</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS/AC</p> <p>CS/AC</p> <p>AC</p>
9	Place Planning	
	<p>After the last CC meeting CS had informed Audrey Gatt (AG) that the CC did not approve of the Primary School survey questionnaire. AG was prepared, however, to start off with only the adult version. Approval to do so, with the agreed amendments, was delayed by members until now, after further discussion. CS to inform AG so that the project can finally commence..</p>	CS
10	National Park in Galloway	
	<p>A letter (forwarded to all) had been received from Nature Scot, which is the Reporter for the proposed Galloway National Park. Prior to the formal consultation it is open to suggestions how to explore the situation and what is best for CCs regarding any meetings. It was noted from the map that the proposed area has sections outwith Galloway, although the name is 'Galloway' and that while Girvan is included Barrhill is not.</p> <p>It was noted there was distinct opposition in rural parts of Galloway to a National Park and members also showed no enthusiasm. There was, therefore, a neutral response.</p>	CS
11	Correspondence	
	Thanks Letter: Members were gratified to receive a handwritten letter from a holidaymaker	

	<p>from Hertfordshire, expressing appreciation to the community for the provision of ‘a public convenience in your village’. CS had informed the BDT, which maintains the toilets.</p> <p>SAHSCP: Usual emails including information on: Release Ayrshire leaflets - Men’s Mental Health charity; Mentally Healthy Communities newsletters; Alzheimers Scotland newsletters -‘What’s On’; ‘Ageing Well’ - Staying Ahead of the Curve; Age Scotland – dementia funding launch; Invitation to launch of ‘Ageing Well’ on 10th September; Alcohol & Drug Partnership Lunchtime briefing sessions and COMPASS – recovery day; Care Inspectorate Living with Neurological Conditions; Carer Support Officer vacancy; Free Emergency Support Training; and Participatory Budgeting event details. <i>(Details of above items available on request)</i></p> <p>SAC: Information from SEPA re-PWS Water Scarcity – Normal conditions. Bottled water supplies available if required. PWS Risk assessments information.</p> <p>SAC: Right Care – Right Place.</p> <p>Girvan 3G Pitch - official opening. SAC: Summer Activities at Colmonell.</p> <p>Biosphere: Faith Hillier’s SDG presentation / Business Engagement Days / Communities for the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>STANTEC UK Ltd: SPT’s appraisal for Rural and Remote Communities. SPT’s Active Travel Strategy survey -closing date 1st September.</p> <p>SAC Ayrshire Sports Challenge – 2nd September Cash for Kids Event.</p> <p>H & P Researcher: Safety of Lithium batteries.</p> <p>SAC:Scotland’s Climate Week 23rd-29th September – CCs’ Climate Related Projects</p> <p>SURF Awards: Best Practice in Community Regeneration.</p> <p>Scottish Rural Action newsletter/Foundation Scotland Bulletin.</p> <p><i>Other items also circulated/covered by Agenda.</i></p>	
12	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor’s Report</p>	
	<p>SPEN Grants: MR gave a report on discussions he had volunteered to undertake with SPEN’s Colin Wylie, Community Liaison, regarding information given that SPEN are offering ‘Micro Grants’ to be used for “Biodiversity Projects”. There is a “fairly broad” network of projects that would be considered, and no in-depth environmental reports would be required. Communities are to provide a couple of lines of description of possible projects. Planting is one suggestion, and another is Bug Hotels.</p> <p>There is no formalised application process at the moment and long-term projects are preferable to short term. A discussion followed, with various schemes suggested by members. CS wondered if it would be possible to have a Japanese Knotweed extermination programme carried out, while MR wondered if we could purchase squirrel breeding boxes and extra feeders with an ongoing commitment for feed.</p> <p>Planting trees on the avenue leading to Arnsheen Park is another possibility.</p> <p>Other projects proposed at the meeting were the eradication of Himalayan Balsam and a cull of Grey squirrels. MR will pass these suggestions on to SPEN.</p> <p>PMcG informed that the Events Group is holding a Christmas Fayre and a show.</p> <p>RH referred to the excessive growth of weeds onto the pavement at the banking round the corner at the top of Main Street. It is known that ARA put this work out to tender, which is normally carried out in October.</p> <p>Blocked drains: AC reported blocked drains outside Nos. 59,69 and 10. CS to inform AL.</p> <p>Arcleoch Windfarm Extension: SPR informed that they are looking to hold community benefit discussions in line with its construction timelines. They now anticipate an Autumn/winter construction start and will therefore be in touch after summer to arrange the next in person community meeting.</p> <p>SAC Chairs/Secretaries meeting: JT and CS had received notification of this meeting in November. After input from KB it was the CC’s view that attendance was not necessary.</p> <p>A77 Roadworks: There will be essential bridgeworks at Ballantrae between 23rd September and 18th March, with a full overnight closure on Monday 23rd September. Closure at Ardwell Friday 6th to Monday 9th (later changed)</p> <p>Ageing Well Champions Board: Meeting in Girvan next day.</p> <p>Spotlight Girvan: Saturday 31st in Girvan – highlighting works of third sector groups.</p> <p>SAC Councillor’s Report: In the absence of AL, no SAC report available.</p> <p><i>The meeting closed at 9.20pm, JT thanking all for their attendance.</i></p>	<p>MR</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS</p>

13	Date & Time of Next Meeting:	
	<i><u>Wednesday, 30th October, at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u></i> <i><u>Other meetings in 2024: 27th November</u></i> <i>NB. There are no meetings in March, July, September and December.</i>	