

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 25th June, 2025
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), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary & Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p>In Attendance: Alan Lamont (AL) (SAC Councillor), Audrey Gatt (AG) (SAC Acting Link Officer), 1 Member of the public (for part).</p>	
1	Apologies for Absence	
	Lee Kirkwood (LK) (SAC Link Officer). PC Paul McKinlay (PMcK) (Ayrshire LPST).	
3	Speaker: Malcom Haddow, SWSEIC Support Officer South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre (SWSEIC)	
	<p><i>(In the absence of the Police, this item brought forward on the agenda.)</i></p> <p>JT introduced the speaker, Malcom Haddow (MH), who then reintroduced himself with an explanation of his position with the SWSEIC. MH informed the CC that funding had been received from Carrick Futures to hold various events, which would increase the reporting of wildlife in an area. This includes moth trapping and the plan to hold an event in Barrhill. All types of moths are recorded, with traps being set up the night before and then taken to a central point the next day to be examined and recorded, before freeing the moths. While this can be done all year round it is better to do so in the summer.</p> <p>MH understood from CS that there are now sufficient volunteers in the Barrhill area and following a discussion the dates of Tuesday 26th/Wednesday 27th August were confirmed for the event to take place. MH will produce posters for the event and send out. JB suggested inviting the Primary pupils to attend – CS will inform the school.</p> <p>He was thanked by JT for an interesting talk and then left the meeting.</p>	CS
2	Police Report	
	<p>PC McKinlay was unable to attend, but sent the report for the period from 28th May to 24th June 2025. Total calls to Police: 2, with details as follows: Disturbance: 1; Road Traffic Matters: 1. There were no crime reports from these calls.</p> <p>JT queried the absence of information regarding the recent grass fire up the Knowe Road, which the Police had attended. CS reported an increase in speeding through the village. All had noted that the traffic counters have now been removed and MR queried if the results were known. AL will enquire into this.</p>	AL
4	Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Wednesday 28th May 2025	
	These were approved: proposed by KMcl, seconded by JB.	
5	Matters Arising from the Minutes Incl. Mark Hill Sub-Station Extension	
	<p>Item 4: Matters Arising: It was noted that apart from drain cleaning, which still did not appear effective, the items referred to Kevin Braidwood for ARA to attend to had still not been actioned. These include the following: Two sections of defective road edges on the New Luce Hill Road and two on the Knowe Road (B7027); Raised manhole at Doctors' Surgery. (It is noted there are no safety concerns with this item.) CS will pursue.</p> <p>Traffic counters: See above at Item 2.</p> <p>Mark Hill Sub-station Traffic Plan: AL informed that ACk was experiencing difficulty in obtaining figures for the vehicle numbers, so there was still no confirmation of these. CS had obtained an update from SPEN's Coin Wylie, who informed that with the current reduction the site team anticipate around 30 wagons a day for the next 2 weeks - a combination of removing waste and importing material and then a lower rate of wagons after this completion of waste removal. He also expressed SPEN's appreciation of the community's understanding over recent months.</p> <p>OHL Works - Knowe Road/A714: CS had been notified by a concerned resident of recent preparatory work for the new OHL, of tree felling etc with the possibility of traffic disruption</p>	CS

	<p>on the roads and queried if the CC had been given notice of this. The CC confirmed it had not been notified. AC informed that traffic lights had been put up and delays to traffic were not lengthy. CS will respond to the resident.</p> <p>Barrhill New Cemetery: CS had contacted the local molecatcher who informed that when dealing with the neighbouring property the cemetery moles had been caught. Noted</p> <p>Updates: SAHSCP: CS had contacted VASA re-the Social Fit event and AC informed that a hall booking had just been received for 10th September. Noted</p> <p>Item 12: AOB: A714 Duisk Bridge: CS had reported this and ARA responded that no concerns had resulted from the most recent inspection of the wing wall in January 2024, which was carried out in line with 'best practice' every 2 years, and are happy that the bridge remains structurally safe. Following an update from CS that a further stone had very recently fallen an inspection was to be carried out on 19th June, to check the condition of the wing wall and the arch, although ARA opined that the small block of stonework missing from the wing wall is not affecting the strength of the bridge. No further information received.</p> <p>BDT Line Manager: AC informed that this situation is now resolved.</p> <p>Gowlands Terrace: CS had forwarded contact details to ACk who had informed Kevin Braidwood of the problem. This had thankfully now been satisfactorily resolved at last, to the resident's relief. <i>Other matters covered by agenda</i></p>	CS
6	Treasurer's Report	
	<p>AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank show a total of £15,593.00, which is due to the receipt from Foundation Scotland of the Carrick Futures grant of £13,250 towards the Community Action Plan. In effect, discounting this, the balance is £2,343.00, following the receipt of SAC's grant top-up and reimbursements from SAC (e.g Zurich's insurance payment.) The CF balance remains at £10,323.03, resulting in an overall bank balance of £25,916.03. <i>AC was thanked for his report.</i></p>	
7	Updates	
	<p>a) BCIC: JT confirmed that the AGM had now been held and matters are progressing. Work continues with the Net Zero project and SPR are paying to employ the firm 'Hubbub' to engage with the community energy project. The BCIC is looking at what grants are available elsewhere. Decisions also have to be made as regards the amount of funding that the BCIC would give to households, perhaps contributing up to £20K, which could be used for installing either solar power, insulation, air source heat pumps etc. JT reminded all that in the event of windfarm community benefit funding not being used by the community, it would be removed. Discussions are ongoing regarding the job description to recruit a Development Officer to carry out the survey work. There are a possible 10 different funders from whom match funding could be obtained. AG informed of someone in Girvan who may be suitable. Noted.</p> <p>b) BDT: AC informed that the hall wc was now repaired. He confirmed the Handyman's new Line Manager. Regarding the garden grass - cutting programme, a new person, Scott Davidson, has been appointed to deal with this. Cross Water Tenant: Only one person had been to see the pub - 2 who had previously shown interest, did not apply. AC reminded all that the rental price is negotiable.</p> <p>c) Carrick Futures: JB is now confirmed as the CC's director. No meeting had taken place.</p> <p>d) South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP): CS attended on 11th June and reported the main agenda items as follows: Promoting Good Mental Health & Wellbeing: Presentation by Scottish Action for Mental Health to discuss the 'Let's Connect' South Ayrshire project re-delivering workshops/preventing MH problems; Funding Process: returning to the small grants process to distribute funding; Girvan Hospital Review: there will be a tech demo site set up in the hospital, which will demonstrate gadgets to aid living at home; Revised Meeting Format: feedback showed this was going well. Stewart Marshall had been to Dailly and Comonell to discuss how to bring outreach services to the rural villages and speaking to the locals. VASA introduced 'Over to You' packs, covering wishes on death/Power of Attorney etc; Updates – First Responders recruiting again /defibrillator training continues.</p> <p>e) Kilgallioch Community Fund: MR informed there was no recent meeting, but understood discussions are being held regarding standardising funding criteria for the different companies, which the Scottish Government is keen to do. This has previously been voluntary.</p>	BCIC

	<p>f) Kilgallioch & Arecleoch Extensions Community Benefit: The minutes of the meeting on 22nd May were now available. JT and AC, who attended, informed of the decision for the Arecleoch Extension fund, that all 7 communities involved receive an equal amount. No decision yet on apportioning the Kilgallioch Extension fund.</p> <p>g) Barrhill Events Group: PMcG apologised for mistakenly informing that a Car Treasure Hunt would be held the evening before the Fun Day on 19th July. A window box competition is being held instead. The McDonald Brothers are appearing in August.</p>	
8	Action Plan/Place Planning	
	<p>JB had investigated this and continued AC's enquiries into firms willing to tender. The closing date for tender offers is imminent. AG informed that at long last she had heard back from the Primary Head Teacher, following the intervention of ACk.</p> <p>She then went into the differences between SAC's term 'Place Planning' and a 'Community Action Plan' (CAP). The former includes both local place plans (LPPs) and CAPs. The community led CAPs are more related to land use – 5 have been completed within the SAC area, developed by surveys. The data from the surveys could be used for both categories, however. Funders require a CAP whereas the Scottish Government want an LPP.</p> <p>AG referred to the poor response to the survey, with a better rate achieved from Girvan Academy pupils.</p> <p>Following a discussion it was agreed to go forward with the community engagement to produce a community-led CAP, which can then inform the LPP. AG will draft a letter for the CC to approve for consulting residents. AG will print copies for the CC to distribute. Survey questions to include what funding should be spent on. She advised that a sub-group of 4 CC members be formed – PMcG, JS, CS and JT (when available) agreed to participate. It was also agreed to continue inviting tenders for the Action Plan, as a contingency.</p>	PMcG, JS, CS, JT JB
9	Planning Applications	
	<p>Planning Applications: None relevant to Barrhill, although JS noted 2 windfarm applications elsewhere in Carrick.</p> <p>JS had investigated the outcome of the 2 applications queried last time. It was noted that SAC Planning does not always send out the monthly Decisions List, which is what had obviously occurred. Both applications, for Ballochmorrie House and the siting of a caravan up the Knowe Road, had been approved.</p>	
10	Small Grant Applications	
	<p>Barrhill Bowling Club This application had been received too late for the agenda - only the previous day, with apologies for the lateness. This was for the sum of £1,011.50, in excess of the maximum allowed, to fund various items for the maintenance of the bowling green and the club. A discussion ensued with some members expressing the view that the club's annual fees, which are very low, should be raised in order for the club to help raise funds itself to at least pay for e.g. Liability insurance. AC informed that as the club had already received almost £500 this financial year, the most it could receive would be a balance of £550. MR and KMCL as members declared an interest and took no part in the vote. The other members agreed to award the sum of £550. CS to inform the club.</p>	CS
11	Correspondence	
	<p>SAHSCP: Usual emails including information on: The Hub – official opening of the Learning Disability Team's new community space in Kyle Street; Biosphere Bikes Bike Week; Technology Enabled Care Plan – consultation draft for comment; Girvan Youth Trust -Art Exhibition; Carers' Week information; ADP Lunchtime briefings (3); CAyr local project; Diabetes information; Let's Connect SAMH newsletter; Adult & Young Carers' Awareness Presentation/'Connect' Presentation on PowerPoint; Stay Connected Digital - Libraries Workshop; SACT: Out & About leaflet; Alzheimers Scotland: 'What's On'; Neighbourhood Watch – information on RTS Switch-off. <i>Further details available.</i></p> <p><i>Non-SAHSCP items:</i></p> <p>Zurich Municipal: Information re-summer events' insurance; SAC Access Officer: Confirmation of opening of access at locked gate entrance to Kildonan; EDF: Notification of blasting at Stranoch Windfarm; CAG - Minutes of meeting at Dundonald 6th May and agenda for next meeting at Maybole on 19th June (<i>see below at AOB</i>);</p> <p>SPR: Kilgallioch & Arecleoch Extensions: Notes received of the meeting on 22nd May re-Traffic Management update and Community Benefit, JT and AC attending. <i>See above</i></p>	

	<p>SPEN: Reminder of Free Upskilling Event on Communities Buildings re-Net Zero in Glasgow on 19th June; Harbour Ayrshire Annual Report; Barrhill Bowling Club: Cancellation of the proposed Race Night due to lack of support; SPEN: Notification of problems with scheduled trial run of turbines on 10th June to Kilgallioch Extension: Foundation Scotand newsletter; SAC Update on PWS; Plantscape brochure; and, SPEN: Notification of free workshops on Net Zero Communities.</p> <p>SAC: Third PWS Water Scarcity Report from SEPA; and SAC: Various contact details from ACK.</p> <p>Voltalia: JT read out a letter he had received from Voltalia, an Italian company, informing him of a scoping opinion request to the ECU for the proposed Whiteminwhill Energy Park (windfarm/solar farm/battery energy storage system (BESS)), on the site of the previously rejected Altercannoch Windfarm. Notification will go public on Friday. As owner of the land JT delared an interest. Noted <i>(Details of above items available on request)</i></p>	
12	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</p>	
	<p>Free TV Licences for Over 75s: KMCL raised this for consideration by the BCIC and BDT. He noted that other villages had chosen to support this idea. BCIC/BDT members noted.</p> <p>Community Skips: RH noted that the skip arranged by the BDT, currently in situ, had been filled to overflowing very soon after delivery and with prohibited items included. This spoils things for other residents, as Kings may in future refuse to continue. Noted</p> <p>SPEN's Biodiversity CVP Fund: MR reported that after submitting an application for a smaller grant he had been notified that up to £5,000 was availale. He revised his application with the addition of planting trees and this has been approved in principle.</p> <p>PMcG raised the matter of the incomplete grass cutting of the verges, with the area round the planters and next to the stone dyke, fences etc not being touched bythe lawn mower. These areas require closer strimming. AL will raise this with Fiona Ross.</p> <p>Community Action Plan: AG informed that she will enquire of Girvan Academy if a competent young person could be recommended to assist with this.</p> <p>Councillor's Report: AL, when queried, supported ACK's opinion that SAC is now on the right track, following the recent upheavals. He confirmed that he had raised the subject of the reinstatement of the footpath alongside the Cross Water from the bridge to The Avenue.</p> <p>Overflowing Litter Bins: The owner of the village store had informed CS that the bin outside the shop was too small to accommodate litter from passing traffic and he had to empty it himself inbetween SAC's uplift. He queried if the bin at the pub, seldom used, could be moved up the street. CS had contacted SAC whose first suggestion of siting a larger bin. was deemd unsuitable. SAC to be asked if a second small bin, new or old, can be placed adjacent to the present bin.</p> <p>Stagecoach Contract: CS asked if SAC had been involved at all with the concern regarding the ending of Stagecoach's contract to provide the local bus service, including the school transport to Girvan Academy. AL will raise this with the Education department.</p> <p>Dog mess in Old Cemetery: CS had been horrified to see dog mess on a grave in the old cemetery and a dog poo bag lying abandoned. She enquired if posters could be provided to put up. AL will pass this on.</p> <p>Length of CC Meetings: AC noted the meeting time had considerably overrun and hoped for shorter meetings in future. All concurred with these sentiments!</p> <p>Save Our Swifts Project: CS confirmd that this Biosphere workshop will take place this coming Saturday, from 2 – 4.30pm in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>JS reported she had attended online the Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting on 19th June, held in Maybole, and circulated a report to the CC members. The proposed project to create a footpath from the caravan parks into the village was on the agenda and is being investigated. JS also suggested that part of the A714 and B734 roads could be . considered for the National Cycling Route. To be considered. <i>Meeting closed at 9.30pm.</i></p>	<p>BCIC/ BDT</p> <p>BDT</p> <p>AL</p> <p>AG</p> <p>CS</p> <p>AL</p> <p>AL</p>
13	<p>Date & Time of Next Meetings</p>	
	<p><u>All Wednesdays: 27th August, 29th October & 26th November 2025 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u></p> <p><u>NB. There are no meetings in March, July, September & December.</u></p>	