

**BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025, in**  
**Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm.**

No	Item	Action
	<p><b>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council:</b> Jamie Burgess (JB) (Vice-Chair), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), Robert Houstin (RH), Kenneth McLaren (KMCL), Martin Rennie (MR), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary &amp; Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b> Alec Clark (ACk) (SAC Councillor), Lee Kirkwood (LK) (SAC Link Officer), PCs Paul McKinlay (PMcK) &amp; Andrew Thorne (AT) (Ayrshire LPST). 1 Member of the public.</p>	
1	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p>	
	<p>John Heath (JH), Pearl McGibbon (PMcG).</p>	
2	<p><b>Police Report</b></p>	
	<p>PCs McKinlay and Thorne attended in person and gave the latest report. Details of incidents since the last CC meeting are as follows: <b>01/12/24 to 31/12/24:</b> There were 4 incidents raised in the period with 3 crime reports being created. At present, none have been detected. Incident breakdown as follows: Fraud:1; Assist Members of the Public:4; Theft &amp; Housebreaking 1; Road Traffic Matters: 1. Period from <b>01/01/25 to 29/01/25:</b> 6 Incidents were raised with no crime reports. Incident breakdown as follows: Road Traffic Matters: 1; Assist Members of the Public: 3; Abandoned vehicles: 1; Suspect Persons: 1.</p> <p>The PCs then asked for any questions, with KMCL enquiring if there was further information on speed checks. This had not yet been carried out. A discussion, including input from the member of the public, then followed regarding the current situation with the large number of lorries from the Mark Hill site going through the village and the problems associated with this, including dirty roads. ACk informed that Pinwherry &amp; Pinmore CC were also concerned about the situation and the talk of increased lorry numbers. This had been clarified by ARA and JT explained the background to the transportation of the loads. There had been very little information at the time the traffic plan was devised. ACk had asked Sharon Dowey MSP to raise the matter at Holyrood at First Minister’s Questions. CS had heard the exchange and found the answer most unsatisfactory. Situation to be monitored.</p> <p>JB referenced the housebreaking within the village, which was of concern to all, being a very rare event. A report of night-time drones in the sky was also found to be alarming.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p>
3	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting of Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024</b></p>	
	<p>These were approved: proposed by KMCL, seconded by RH.</p>	
4	<p><b>Matters Arising from the Minutes</b></p>	
	<p><b>Item 4: Matters Arising: Blocked drains:</b> In spite of this being pursued after the last meeting, the matter was still not resolved, with ACk being updated as to the problem. The pavement near No.10 still floods. All are concerned at the lack of action after many complaints from both the CC and residents. ACk will pursue.</p> <p><b>Locked Gates at Kildonan:</b> CS had been informed that at the recent MP’s surgery in Barrhill a resident had raised this matter and the MP’s Case Worker was investigating. CS had forwarded extracts from previous minutes to assist. CS will update ACk.</p> <p><b>New Luce hill road:</b> AL had again reported the washed away edges near the ‘feeding station’ to ARA. He was informed that the collapsed road verge will be repaired but there is no time frame. Ongoing</p> <p><b>Item 6b: Updates: BDT: Martyrs’ Tomb Walk Footbridge:</b> CS had sent details of this to Cllr Lamont but no information was available. ACk will follow up. CS to update him.</p> <p><b>Item 11: Correspondence: SEPA: Flood Resilience:</b> JS had participated in the Zoom meeting . She found it interesting and realised how lucky Barrhill is to very rarely flood.</p> <p><b>Item 12: AOB: Christmas Lights:</b> All agreed the extra lights purchased had helped to make a good display this time, enjoyed by all.</p> <p><b>Timber Lorries/Knowe Road:</b> Defective road surfaces south of High Altercannoch still not repaired. The cones have now fallen down into the burn. ACk will pursue.</p> <p><b>Transport Meeting:</b> CS had attended the Rural Road Roundtable meeting at Ballantrae on 1<sup>st</sup> December to discuss A77 road closure/diversions. Ironically the MSP was delayed due to</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ACK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CS/ ACK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACK CS/ ACK</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ACK</p>

	<p>the A77 road closure and had to divert via the A714 Pinwherry. All points raised were those brought up by the affected CCs during previous diversions. Elena Whitham MSP had recently reminded the various agencies attending that updates of their actions following the meeting were overdue. An update from Amey now received - circulated to the CC members.</p> <p><b>Closure of A714 on Remembrance Sunday 2025:</b> JB had set enquiries in motion but still awaited a response. Ongoing</p> <p><i>Other matters on the agenda.</i></p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
	<p>AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank still remain at £1,707.08. The CF balance is now £12,360.66, following receipt from Carrick Futures of this year's top-up of the Micro Grant of £5,000 and payment of applications approved on 27<sup>th</sup> November. The overall bank balance is now £14,067.74. AC was thanked for his report.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Updates</b>	
	<p>a) <b>BCIC:</b> JT reported on the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Winter Fuel Payments:</b> These had now been paid out to 140 households. There is still time to apply. The accounts are currently with the accountant in preparation for the <b>AGM</b>.</p> <p>b) <b>BDT:</b> JB informed that while there was little to report at present, business continues.</p> <p>c) <b>Carrick Futures:</b> AC informed that the AGM was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January but he was unable to attend due to the SPEN meeting at Barrhill. He had not yet received an update.</p> <p>d) <b>South Ayrshire Health &amp; Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP):</b> CS did not attend on <b>11<sup>th</sup> December</b> - main items as follows:</p> <p><b>Presentation on AILN (Ayrshire Independent Living Network):</b> Discussion on micro-enterprises and availability of small grants until 2026 to start a new business.</p> <p><b>Locality Plan:</b> New format for meetings commencing in February- 1 theme each meeting.</p> <p><b>PB Funding Evaluation:</b> Mentors provided if required to successful applicants – after 6 and 12 months on from receiving funding.</p> <p><b>Community Engagement:</b> 53 attended on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Discussion on Social Housing needs was prioritised.</p> <p><b>Girvan Hospital Review:</b> Eye screening clinic opening date – hopefully in January.</p> <p><b>Ayrshire Urgent Care Service:</b> From 16<sup>th</sup> December Girvan Hospital is now providing the 'Out of Hours' bed cover, formerly provided by GPs. ACk expressed extreme dismay, shared by all, that the GPs were no longer providing cover. Situation to be monitored.</p> <p><b>Updates: SC First Responders:</b> Fewer hours of cover due to illness.</p> <p><b>Carers: cAyr Fest</b> to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Ayr.</p> <p>Recent lack of <b>ambulance cover</b> in Girvan affecting cardiac arrests was much regretted.</p> <p><b>Stinchar Valley Community Transport:</b> This service is going well. (Confirmed by JB who had sent the recent statistics of take-up to the CC. He and PMcG had attended the recent workshop held in the Memorial Hall and found it useful.)</p> <p>e) <b>Kilgallioch Community Fund:</b> MR had no information to impart.</p> <p>f) <b>Barrhill Events Group:</b> In PMcG's absence MR reported that at the recent meeting a new programme of events was being formed.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Proposed National Park</b>	
	<p>It was noted that the formal Consultation phase is due to end on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025, which is the closing date for responses.</p> <p>The planned 'Drop-in' session scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 had been postponed until 21<sup>st</sup> January. CS and KMcl were among attendees. This was not as other consultations, with no display boards or paper copies of the survey form available – most disappointing.</p> <p>ACk informed of SAC's recent decision to support the proposed National Park, with conditions. These included responsibility for planning applications, with SAC rejecting any dilution of local authority powers, wanting to keep these in-house. The Local Plan and the normal application process should be adhered to. A discussion ensued with some scepticism as to how much notice would be taken of these conditions. The proposed name was also discussed. It was agreed that individual survey responses should be made.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Planning Applications Incl. Loch Crongart Forest Plan Renewal</b>	
	<p><b>Planning Applications:</b> JS reported one for Barrhill w/e 24/01/25: Chirmorie Windfarm Ltd: Further application to vary conditions 29 and 41 of planning permission for Proposed Chirmorie Windfarm. This delays the start of construction for 18 months due to an</p>	

	<p>inadequate Environmental study.</p> <p><b>Decisions List:</b> Forestry and Land – Prior approval not required for the formation of forestry accesses at Kilgallioch Windfarm (off Gowlands Terrace/New Luce Road).</p> <p><b>Loch Crongart Forest Plan Renewal :</b> CS referred to a consultation email from Scottish Woodlands regarding this and proposed a reply with the usual CC comments e.g. more broadleaves and protecting PWS. Draft to be circulated before sending.</p>	CS
9	<p><b>Small Grant Applications</b></p> <p><b>Discussion on SPEN'S Biodiversity CVP Fund</b></p>	
	<p><b>Barrhill Events Group:</b> MR had withdrawn an application from the Group following discussions with AC. For the timebeing, funding will be sought from another source.</p> <p><b>SPEN Biodiversity CVP Fund Grants.</b> MR informed on progress with this after further communications with SPEN, and also with Barrhill Primary, which is also seeking funding for outdoor projects. Amongst suggestions was tree planting on The Avenue leading to Arnshen Park and supplying breeding and feeding boxes for the red squirrel population. MR proposed 10 boxes be installed. It was suggested that feeding boxes should be installed up the Knowe Road this time. The school are interested in enhancing its outdoor area to include a poly tunnel with extra planters and associated tools and equipment. They are also interested in an outdoor teaching area or cosy space. <i>(See below at Item 13: AOB.)</i></p> <p>MR will liaise with SPEN.</p> <p><b>Indoor Short Mat Bowling:</b> Noted that a thank you email was received after the application was approved at the last meeting, which was appreciated.</p>	MR
10	<p><b>Light Pollution at Entrance to Kilgallioch Windfarm</b></p>	
	<p>JS circulated pictures of light pollution affecting properties in the Galloway Forest within the CC's area. These lights had appeared in December and appear to emanate from both Kilgallioch Windfarm and the Mark Hill site. Some are on 24 hours 7 days a week. In addition, the light at the entrance to Kilgallioch is blinding when approaching on the A714 from Barrhill. These appear to be switched off at the weekend. CS to contact Colin Wylie.</p>	CS
11	<p><b>Place Planning</b></p>	
	<p>Audrey Gatt (AG) had sent the amended Children's survey for consultation, with any comments raised on the questions notified to her. Although still considered on the long side, it was approved and CS to inform AG that this can now go ahead. AG had informed of the low number of responses so far online, which was disappointing. She had suggested door to door or drop-ins to encourage more responses but it was felt that the publicity had been sufficient. A closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> February was set – to be circulated/posted online - for the submittance of forms and LK will arrange to collect the box from the Hall after this date.</p>	CS LK
12	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p>	
	<p><b>SAHSCP:</b> Usual emails including information on: Learning Disability Team; Glendoune Course Brochure; Alcohol Related Brain Damage Study/ADPartnership Lunchtime Briefings; Alzheimer Scotland 'What's On'; cAyrFest Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to celebrate unpaid carers; Equalities Outcome survey now live; Vibrant Voices Group starting in Girvan on 18<sup>th</sup> February in the Library 1.30-2.30pm– for those with communication difficulties.</p> <p><i>(Details of above items available on request)</i></p> <p><b>SAC:</b> Report on the presentations given at the workshop for CCs on 7<sup>th</sup> November – Barrhill Chair/Secretary did not attend.</p> <p><b>Zurich Insurance:</b> Information on storm guidance/Preparation for winter.</p> <p><b>CC By-elections 2025:</b> Not relevant to Barrhill this time – no CC vacancies.</p> <p><b>SPEN: R110-T3 Transmission Business Plan:</b> 5 year plan for transforming what the transmission network delivers. Zoom meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January. <i>(See below at Item 13.)</i></p> <p><b>SAC: Community Led Ward Capital Projects:</b> Info from Kevin Braidwood - all Girvan.</p> <p><b>Carrick Futures AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025. Stinchar Valley Community Transport Workshop 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 (see above at Item 6d Updates)</b></p> <p><b>Foundation Scotland/Scottish Rural Action</b> newsletters.</p> <p><b>SA Community Transport:</b> Out &amp; About leaflet. <b>ARA and SPEN:</b> Various road works.</p> <p><b>SAC Girvan's Story Drop-ins:</b> 29/01/25 and 01/02/25. <b>CRAG</b> Community Arts craft workshops. <b>geViews &amp; Plantscape:</b> Brochures on plants etc - passed to BDT.</p> <p><b>Biosphere Community Network:</b> Minutes of Zoom meeting of Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</p> <p><b>SAC:</b> Information requested from those on a <b>PWS</b> affected by the recent loss of electricity.</p>	

	<i>Other items circulated/covered by Agenda.</i>	
13	<b>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</b>	
	<p><b>Cycling Proficiency Tests:</b> KMcl raised the matter of the roads round Barrhill not being safe for the Primary pupils tests. All agreed and the suggestion was made to look at creating a safe circuit round Arnsheen Park for this purpose.</p> <p><b>SAC Capital Projects:</b> KMcl also referred to the number of reported grants worth £1million given to other villages in Carrick but nothing to Barrhill. ACk queried if Barrhill had proposed any and it was confirmed that recreating the footpath at the side of the Cross Water Burn from the Main Street bridge towards The Avenue had been put forward some time ago. CS will search previous minutes and inform ACk. <i>JB left the meeting at approx.8.45pm.</i></p> <p><b>B7027 Knowe Road:</b> RH reported the road surface breaking up. (see above at Item 4)</p> <p><b>Barrhill Old Cemetery:</b> RH enquired as to the removal of moss on the path in the Old Cemetery, leaving the surface muddy and in need of topping with gravel. ACk will enquire.</p> <p><b>Public Toilets:</b> LK informed that SAC is querying the ownership of the land on which the Public Toilets are located. It was explained to him that this matter was settled some years ago when the toilets were transferred to the community, and that the land had been given to use by Gowlands farm.</p> <p><b>SAC Councillor's Report:</b> ACk informed that <i>Girvan Library</i> had now moved to its new location in Knockcushan Street. The <i>McKechnie Institute</i> will reopen shortly after the installation of a lift and refurbishment. The new <i>Girvan Primary</i> construction is out to tender. <b>SAC Budget</b> will be set in February. There will be no closures but a possible rise of 7% in Council Tax.</p> <p><b>Banking Hub:</b> This will hopefully soon be opened in the former Royal Bank building.</p> <p><b>Barrhill New Cemetery:</b> JT informed of the damage in the graveyard due to molehills. ACk will contact SAC's section to enquire about molecatchers.</p> <p><b>Net Zero Meeting:</b> JT updated all on the recent meeting held between the CC, BDT and BCIC. Energy costs for the Cross Water pub are being looked into and there will also be another open meeting for the community. Last time only building exteriors were considered for funding but interiors will now be included. Housing numbers to be considered and the project is to be looked into. AC suggested a properties survey should be carried out.</p> <p><b>SAC: Updated Scheme for Community Councils:</b> CS had forwarded to all – SAC is to consult on a review. This will be discussed at the next CC meeting. SAC had also asked for volunteer C Cllrs willing to participate in a Working Group for the review of the Scheme. No-one expressed an interest. CS to notify SAC.</p> <p><b>Stranoch Windfarm Quarry Operations:</b> Regular notifications—members agreed they do not require to be forwarded. <b>Stranoch Liaison Group:</b> JT and AC had attended the previous evening. Minutes, though already received, not to be available until approved. Will be discussed at the next CC meeting.</p> <p><b>Train Timetable:</b> Complaint received regarding lack of trains through Barrhill since storm Eowyn with no alternative transport provided, though there is at Stranraer, Girvan and Maybole. ACk will enquire.</p> <p><b>Barrhill Action Plan:</b> AC informed that funding for this is to go ahead. All agreed to enquiries being made to SAC to ascertain if the Place Plan can be used for this. ACk will contact Audrey Gatt (AG).</p> <p><b>SPEN Webinar:</b> JS had participated in this on 21<sup>st</sup> January but had found it a travesty as in her experience it appeared to be set up to prohibit opinions being recorded.</p> <p><b>Biosphere Community Network:</b> JS had also participated in the Zoom meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and gave a report. She had found the presentation on the new swift project 'Save Our Swifts' most interesting. The next Zoom meeting will be on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The member of the public enquired on behalf of the <i>Primary School</i>, after funding (£2,345) was obtained from Stranoch Windfarm Sponsorship Fund, as to where additional funding was available for the outdoor plans being developed. Confirmed that applications could be submitted to the BCIC and the CC. <i>The meeting closed at 9.40pm,</i></p>	<p>BCIC/ BDT</p> <p>CS/ ACk</p> <p>ACk</p> <p>LK</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>CS</p> <p>JT/AC</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>ACK</p>
14	<b>Date &amp; Time of Next Meetings</b>	
	<b><u>Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February &amp; 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u></b> <b><u>NB. There is no meeting in March.</u></b>	