

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COLMONELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN COLMONELL COMMUNITY CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY 2024

1 SEDERUNT

Paul Brooks (PB) (Chair); Andrea Porter (AP); Judith Brzezinka (JB); Rosie McTaggart (RmcT); Janet Falls (JF); Stuart Clark (SC); Mike Prime (MP); Howard Wilkinson (HW); Cllr Alan Lamont (AL); Tracy Whiteford (TW); Milissa McCulloch (MmcC); Audrey Gatt (AG); Lynn Young (Minutes Secretary)

2 APOLOGIES – None

3 WELCOME

PB welcomed everyone, and extended a welcome to Milissa McCulloch and Audrey Gatt to speak about their roles in SAC.

4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – Approved; Proposed by JF and seconded by MP

5 AUDREY GATT, PLACE PLANNING, SAC

AG gave an overview of her role; she has been in post since October 2023. Place planning is using the assets within the community for the good of the community, involving other parties where appropriate. For example this could look at social integration, social isolation, transport, car parking etc. This was looked into in 2021 and engagement outcomes were published in 2022. Safety and green spaces scored well; public transport, employment and local economy scored lower. An action plan is then drawn up using the information from the local engagement. One way forward now would be to endorse the action plan; further consolidation could be implemented using online and paper forms to engage the community. Place planning is backed up by the capital fund for the ward, and ideas for projects could be passed on to Cllr Alan Lamont. AL encouraged the CC to act on the recommendations from the action plan. PB encouraged the CC to read the action plan; TW will circulate this to all members. TW added that the current action plan is valid till 2025 and may need updated.

6 MILISSA McCULLOCH, EXTERNAL FUNDING OFFICER, SAC

MmcC gave an overview of her role, explaining she can help with funding for projects. She drew attention to idocs Grant Funding which gives information on grants and funding available. PB said that clarity is required as to what projects will be taken by CCC and by CCA; there may also be some joint projects. AL emphasised the importance of both committees working together; it was also agreed that the amount of work being done by CCA at present is not sustainable. Various projects were discussed; MmcC suggested that clubs wanting funding contact her directly; clubs which are set up as a charity have more funding availability. It is helpful if the action plans recommendations can be referenced for new applications. MmcC sends out an email every 2 weeks giving details of funding available; this will be circulated to CCC. TW is External Funding Officer for UK wide funding; small grants can be awarded up to £5000 for groups. Community Empowerment Grants of up to £15,000 can also be awarded. The closing date for applications for this financial year closes on 8.2.24. There will be more time to apply for funding next financial year.

7 PUBLIC FORUM

HW reported that the junction onto the A77 from the B734 has a considerable lack on signage for traffic going both north and south, and it is an extremely fast stretch of the road. PB will attend the Ballantrae Community Council meeting next week and discuss this. AL recommended taking it forward from both community councils.

8 MATTERS ARISING

Police Reports – MP has sent emails to the police regarding monthly reports, but has had no response. AL said there is a new police sergeant; MP will email TW, cc AL, and find out the name of the new officer. PB will update the community on Facebook.

Office Word – it was agreed unanimously that AP could purchase Word for the laptop.

Reimbursement of fees for hiring the church hall and Lendalfoot hall – TW will look into this. PB will ask for a bill from Lendalfoot Community Association for using the hall.

Transport Group – HW reported that the next meeting is on 1.2.24. Transport between Barrhill and Ballantrae will be discussed, also a new bus from Girvan to Colmonell. AG will send details of an online event on transport being held on 25.1.24 as it is unlikely anyone will be able to attend.

Dog friendly village – HW reported that there are now about 60 dogs in the village. PB reported that there is a significant problem with dog fouling in the village. He has reported it to SAC, and today the street cleaner has cleared the pavements. The containers for dog poo bags are empty, and the school do not have any left. SC reported it is against the law not to carry bags when walking a dog. AP suggested that the CC fund a supply of bags; this was agreed and AP will look into sourcing a supply.

Ayrshire Roads Alliance – PB encouraged people to report the state of the roads to ARA.

Electrical charging point – it has been identified that Hyslop Crescent would be the best area in the village for a charging point.

Ramps for access to the river – CCA are taking this forward and it was agreed that CCC would support it.

Weekly walks down path beside The Yett will be established once the weather is better.

9 REPORT FROM SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – AL

AL introduced himself as the new councillor for the ward. He encouraged the CC to contact him for support and advice about any issues.

10 TREASURER'S REPORT – JB

JB reported that full access to the bank account is now available.

The total bank balance at present is £18225.59.

£2000 was paid in on 24.11.23 by Foundation Scotland; it is possible this is from Kilgallioch and JB has contacted Suzie Mercer at Foundation Scotland for clarification. £1228.34 administration grant was paid by SAC on 13.12.23. £14997.25 was received from Tralorg.

JB suggested getting an Easy Access Saver Account; this was agreed unanimously. JB to action.

11 UPDATES

PB reported he had attended a meeting of CCA. Fencing has been installed on the riverbank incorrectly and this will be corrected.

Funding for digital workshops and equipment has been applied for; the result will be known in February.

The pollinator project went ahead.

There are ongoing plans for the Fun Week in June.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Pavement from 59 Main Street to Hyslop Crescent is very uneven. AL will take this forward. AP will report it to ARA; AL remarked this will give extra kudos to the complaint. AP will also report the damaged cattle grid on the Garnaburn road.

PB has been trying to contact Robert Campbell, Asset Management. The notice boards in both Colmonell and Lendalfoot are in a very bad state of repair. It is unclear who owns them, but they need either repaired or replaced. It is now very difficult to get access to the notice board at Lendalfoot. TW said that community groups have funded some notice boards, but it may be possible to replace damaged boards. HW said Kenneth Dalrymple had agreed that it could be done, but so far this has not happened. AL will follow this up.

TW reported that applications for the by election should be completed; PB added that it was hoped to attract some members from Lendalfoot.

AP suggested that dates be given for the community skips. HW said that the dates are on the monthly calendar. TW suggested that the CC could use some of their funds to arrange more frequent skips, possibly another 4. AP will speak to Neighbourhood Services.

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 27th March 2024, Colmonell Community Centre

14 FUNDING (In Camera)

PB reported that Ballantrae Scout Group have applied for funding for swimming lessons, which would cost £760 a year. The Scouts would contribute £260 and are applying for a £500 grant. This was agreed unanimously. The Scout Group will be asked to submit a report on the activity.

PB reported that Colmonell Bowling Club have made a grant application. He declared an interest in this and left the room. The Bowling Club have applied for £500 for green maintenance, fertilising, moss killing and reseeding. The total cost is £527.35 and the Bowling Club will contribute £27.35. This was unanimously agreed and they will be asked to submit a report.