



Alloway, Doonfoot & St Leonards Community Council (ADSLCC)

Minute of Meeting of the above Community Council held on 16 April 2024

7.00pm, at Doonfoot Primary School

1. **Welcome and Introduction:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Sederunt/Apologies:** (25 Present)

ADSLCC Member's Present: Andrew Russell (A) Chair, Sheila Scott Secretary (D), Paul Brooks Treasurer (A), Rod Whinhall Planning - Licensing (SL), Norman Sharp (A), Alex Drain (SL), Madge Claybion (A), Ian Duncanson (A), Laurence Marcantonio (SL), Pamela McKay (D), Alan Graham (A), Patrice Graham (A), Zoe Montgomerie (A)

Apologies: Sandy Paton V/Chair

Members of the Public Present: Nancy Boag, Davies Brock, Ann Marshall, Mike McArthur, Rory Mohan, Corrie Lawrence, Owen North, Volodymyr Khymnyuk, Maggi Kirkby

Ayr West Councillors Present: George Weir, Bob Shields

Apologies: Martin Dowey, Lee Lyons

Speaker: None

SAC Link Officer: Jenni Donald

3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **Approval of the draft minutes of the meeting held on:** 12th March 2024

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

Proposed: Paul Brooks Seconded: Laurence Marcantonio

5. **Speaker:** None
6. **Police Report:** None; see report for March after the close of meeting. Member Laurence Marcantonio reported a story he had heard that some suspects had been detained with 'loot in the boot' from house breaking in Ayr and Nationally.

Police; Twitter and Facebook are not for reporting crime. For non urgent crime reporting use, 101. Links; Your Police 2022-2023 - Police Scotland - Citizen Space - Survey

7. **SAC Councillors/Link Officer Reports – Reports:**
 - (i) Citizens Advice Bureau SAC. What progress was made at the 11th January meeting? What further meetings are planned? Why is it taking so long to see progress?

After lengthy discussion it seems that the Executive Officers are stalling progress intimating there is no need for a CAB as the present SAC HUB system provides all the service that is

required. This item has been on our agenda for more than 18 months, but we only found out, from a whistleblower, that decisions are being made by an unelected executive while the elected administration has a CAB in its manifesto.

Our items of contention are that the Council run HUB cannot be independent of the authority. The cost to the residents of South Ayrshire for the HUB must be a lot more than would be for a CAB which has a quantifiable cost to the Council.

A CAB/CAS has offered to work with the HUB in the hope that SAC would see advantages to transition to a CAB. SAC are concerned that there would be redundancies, which rather proves there are savings to be made and alleviated by an appropriate transition. There has been no attempt by the Executive to start any transition process but rather to obfuscate the issue to the point of ignoring it. We find this to be totally unacceptable. The vast majority of Councils in Scotland run a CAB. Many years ago now an overall cost of the HUB was asked for. That was ignored or found impossible to quantify without a lot of work or merely hidden.

- (ii) The new Community notice board placement at St Leonards/Ewenfield Road. Our Link Officer J Donald reported that SAC were looking for a new site for St Leonards and would move the Notice board at Alloway Primary using the Ward Funding. Jamie Tait is the contact.
- (iii) Is SAC contemplating a scheme of maintenance to paint the LHS & RHS of Rozelle House? Maclaurin Art Gallery has indicated to us that the outside is the responsibility of SAC? The lease agreement commitments mean that negotiations are continuing.
- (iv) Report pointing out that Doonholm Rd is becoming potholed and dodging traffic is a danger to school children. Can ARA investigate? Councillor Weir intimated he would investigate.

Throughout the points above Councillor Shields also made a valuable and informative contribution to the discussion. He also intimated that it was found that the executive could spend up to £10,000 per project of levelling up money without itemised accounting. He sought agreement that all spending should be accounted for and detailed where it had been spent. Once again the CC gave their thanks and all indications showed this was met with approval.

8. ADSLCC Sub Committee for funding projects: Update on the meeting on 21th March 24 with Councillor Dowey, NTS, and Fiona Ross SAC.

- (i) General discussion 21st March 24 about what had been done by the Council and reconfirming what was being asked for in Alloway for Burns Cottage Garden, Poets Path and wooden barriers and the Burns Centre. The rotten RHS barrier has since been removed. A funding meeting is arranged with Ward Councillors for 19th April 2024.

9. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

- (i) During the meeting above Councillor Martin Dowey confirmed the path at the Balgarth would be upgraded by ARA from funding out with our Ward funding allocation.

10. Planning & Licensing Update info: 'Still up for consideration item (ii) on the website'

- (i) Craig Tara 23/00182/APPM R/Panel site visit to take place 22nd March (Approved). There was disbelief at the meeting that the number of objections failed to impress the Panel. Once again the public thought there to be a disconnect with the planners in our town.

- (ii) Kirkgate House; New planning application 23/00864/APP Change of use of existing dwellinghouse to form ancillary hotel accommodation and additional car parking. ADSLCC comment submitted.
- (iii) Corton 23/00345/APPM ADSLCC Retail Park (Approved), proviso on £17m SAC loan. This one provided questions if it is thought now if Corton would go ahead and many were pleased that it had stalled over the £17m price tag. Maybe it will give more time to consider the dualling of the A77 road or at least a drawing with that in mind as a start.

11. Secretary's Business:

- (i) Our Secretary meeting with SAC contractors on site, SWECO engineer and SAPI South Ayrshire Paths Initiative representatives regarding issues of paths in our area. Report summary with handout out emailed to mailing list.

12. Treasurers Report:

Current balance to date 16th April £1,108.57

13. Any Other Competent Business:

- (i) Report to ADSLCC with regard to the decline of University Hospital Ayr 16 04 24

We appreciate the difficulties Ayr Hospital is having with lack of trained staff in Scotland however we were very concerned to hear recently what a poor state several departments in Ayr Hospital are in:

We hear that Code Black has been in place since Easter.

Now that there is no Intensive Care at Ayr and Crosshouse is full, local patients are being transferred to Glasgow. Something we warned about previously.

Waits in A&E are over 3 days.

A patient has been in the Combined Assessment Unit for more than a month when 24hours is the assessment time.

Outpatients is not running well.

Gastro, Neurology and Diabetes/Endocrinology have over a year waits for urgent appointments.

We have sent a letter outlining further problems to Dr McGuffie and await his response.

- (ii) LDP 3 Local Development plan suggestions

1. To designate the grazing field on Longhill Ave presently in the Dunure area to be in the ADSLCC area, it belongs to the house in our area across the river.
2. To designate the triangle of land at the end of Greenan Rd where the 3 beach houses in Doonfoot were proposed and refused as open space.

3. To better protect the Old Racecourse from permanent development as open space Common Good Land **for all** manner of **temporary** and emergency use.
4. To make an interim designation of a proposal that Alloway village to the Burns Centre and onto the Brig O' Doon be labelled as a possible world heritage site with more preparation cumulating in an eventual Unesco application.
5. The wet land off Doonfoot Rd by Cunning Park, be labelled open space as a wildlife habitat, open corridor to the sea and nature conservation area.
6. That the authorities pursue a detailed plan/drawing for the future dualling of the A77 bypass around Ayr to Doonholm Rd.
7. The field off Cunning Park Drive towards the North bank of the river Doon formerly grazing and stables and owned by the nearby house to remain as such except for a possible new private perimeter access road to the Fishermen's house.
8. Cambusdoon grounds and river walk to be categorised as open space leisure.

Local Place Plans LPP are due to be reviewed on a statutory 4 year cycle. Myself and Secretary Sheila attended an online planning meeting a few days ago. It is very important for the public to speak up at this time because all planning will relate to it in the next 4 years. You can use the SAC website to find out what should be thought of. We have to put any proposals in through the CC for consideration and reasons why.

- (iii) Dr Pauline Creasey would like to tell us about housing location discrepancies in planning permissions granted and what was actually built with no enforcement in the Mactaggart Mickel-Cala estate off Dunure road. Unfortunately Dr Creasey did not attend the meeting. The Chair who had spoken to her said that the issue related to the developer's housing plan didn't comply with the stated approval drawing. That the developers supplied information was at odds with what was the reality. That no enforcement took place.
- (iv) CC vacancies, ADSLCC to agree on continuing to advertise for members.

14. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday 14th May 2024 at Alloway Primary School (1900-2100).

15. **Close.** 20:56.

If you would like to become a part of your local Community Council, then why not attend one of our meetings and then a voting member if you wish.

ADSLCC email Chair.ADSLCC@talktalk.net and secadslcc@gmail.com

After the meeting the Police Report for mid March to mid April was received see next page.

The following was recorded of crimes in the Ayr West area in March 2024: Inspector Joanne Logan absent / Allen Dodds leads the area locality team.

Crimes --

Thefts	07	(up 3 from Feb) 7x Shoplifting
Disorder/Breach of Peace	02	(same as from Feb)
Assault	00	
Vandalism	00	
Misuse of Drugs Offences	00	(down 1 from Feb)
Fraud	01	(same 1 from Feb) Bank scam phone calls
Road Traffic Offences	02	(same as from Feb) Fail to stop/report after accident
Other Crimes	03	(down 1 from Feb)

Info: No significant crimes affecting the local community have been recorded over the last month. Previous reports of house breakings, a group of nominals have been arrested and are remanded in custody. Enquiries are ongoing to their criminal activities at a national level. I hope this news it will provides some reassurance to the community.

Can I continue to ask everyone to remain vigilant with regards to Fraudulent Scams. The perpetrators of these can be extremely convincing, however it is extremely unlikely that any Financial Organisation will make direct contact over the phone. If in doubt, hang up and phone the number on the back of Bank/Credit card or go into a branch, if possible.

It has come to my notice that a recent housebreaking concerned a ladder from a nearby building site. The house was entered from an upstairs window where there is less likelihood of an alarm. The whole opening window was removed from its catches once released from its keepers.