

**BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024, in**  
**Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7pm.**

No	Item	Action
	<p><b>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council:</b> Jamie Burgess (JB), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), John Heath (JH), Robert Houstin (RH), Kenneth McLaren (KMCL), Martin Rennie (MR), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary &amp; Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair). <b>In Attendance:</b> Alan Lamont (AL) (SAC Councillor), Katy Busby (KB) (SAC Link Officer), and 6 Members of the Public.</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b> Colin Wylie (CW), Steven Duncan (SD) and Neil Shearer (NS) (SPEN).</p>	
1	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p>	
	<p>Pearl McGibbon (PMcG), PCs Thorne &amp; McKinlay (Ayrshire LPST), Jamie Burgess (JB) (For late arrival)</p>	
3	<p><b>Speakers: Colin Wylie, Steven Duncan and Neil Shearer</b>  <b>Scottish Power Energy Network (SPEN): Mark Hill Sub-station Extension</b>  <i>(In the absence of the Police, this item taken before Item 2)</i></p>	
	<p>JT introduced and welcomed the speakers from SPEN. Colin Wylie, Project Manager, gave the background to the sub-station extension and spoke of huge network changes recently, with global warming affecting matters. He referred to the current Net Zero targets, reminding the meeting that funding from SPEN is available to help communities working to achieve this. He then introduced Steven Duncan, Project Manager for the Mark Hill Sub-station Extension, who then updated the CC. After long delays due to time taken in reaching agreement with the landowner, work will finally commence in April/May. Peat will be removed from the site and transported 60km (<i>more like 80</i>) to Dalfad, near Cumnock. Operations will take place 5 days per week, excluding Saturdays/Sundays, consisting of 50 lorry loads per day (100 round trips). When members expressed concerns SD informed that a Traffic Management Plan has been agreed with ARA.</p> <p>JT queried how long these journeys would last – apparently the time span is 8 to 9 months, until the end of January 2025. An exemption to deposit the peat at Dalfad has been given by SEPA. Other questions from members included: JS - will the loads be covered? SD unable to answer but will find out. CS sought assurance concerning the strength of road bridges, in particular the bridge in the middle of Main Street. Assurance given that the bridges had been checked.</p> <p>Following previous experiences of the conduct of lorry drivers associated with windfarm constructions, concern was expressed about this and all felt there should be an identification system in place to enable errant drivers to be identified and reported. The contract has now been awarded and SPEN will look into this and support it. AC asked if the extension is sufficient for any future windfarms but CW informed that SPEN’s remit is to facilitate connections as they arise. <i>AL entered the meeting 7.25pm – delayed by traffic.</i></p> <p>MR enquired about battery storage – systems have been planned and CW will check this. AL queried the provision of fire prevention systems/fire cover – SD will clarify this.</p> <p>Neil Shearer was then introduced and spoke of the construction of the OHL to Mark Hill sub-station, to carry electricity from Stranoch, Chirmorie and the Arecleoch Extension, a section of which is to be underground, to the sub-station.</p> <p>AC referred to the lack of foresight when bringing a line underground some years ago, not allowing for future windfarms. Most of the route and traffic are over forestry land but it has not yet been finalised. Poles will be transferred by helicopter, thus reducing traffic coming through Innermessen etc. Work may start in the summer – it was approved under a Section 37 application and the section here could take from the end of the year until next summer.</p> <p>JT reminded of the poor foundations encountered when a new OHL was installed a few years ago, with poles falling over. Stickers were suggested for the lorry cabs to enable identification. SPEN will consult with the parties concerned. <i>(JB entered the meeting at 7.55pm.)</i></p> <p>A final question concerned the lorry drivers pay—is it by the load or normal wages? The former could result in speeding. To be confirmed.</p> <p><i>JT thanked the three speakers, who then left the meeting.</i></p>	

2	<b>Police Report</b>	
	<p>No Police were present but the following reports had been received – the missing February report was not received, however, although it was requested.</p> <p><b>Period 28/02/2024 – 24/03/2024:</b> 14 incidents were raised as follows, from which 1 crime report was created and enquiries have been concluded. Notification of planned shoots: 11; Road Traffic Matters: 1; and Domestic Incidents: 2.</p> <p><b>24/03/2024 – 22/04/2024:</b> 11 incidents were raised, from which 2 crime reports were created, with both detected. Notification of Planned Shoots: 6; Road Traffic Matter: 1; Domestic Incident: 1; Sudden Death: 1; Drugs Related Incident: 1; and Hate Incident: 1.</p>	
4	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting of Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>	
	These were approved: proposed by KMCL, seconded by RH.	
5	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes Incl. South Carrick Community Transport</b>	
	<p><b>Item 5: Matters Arising: New Luce Hill Road:</b> Still not been repaired - AL will contact ARA.</p> <p><b>Blocked Drains:</b> AL had accompanied ARA staff on a walk through (on a very wet day) when the drains in Main Street were investigated. The gully situation is still ongoing and an assessment is to be carried out. AL will be informed of the date and will be involved. Ongoing</p> <p><b>Old Cemetery:</b> CS had updated Fiona Ross –no reply yet as she was on holiday.</p> <p><b>Notice Board:</b> After a discussion a majority felt an extra notice board is not necessary.</p> <p><b>Item 9: South Carrick Community Bus Service:</b> JB had attended the last meeting. An application for £25K about to be submitted to CF with the suggestion that each CC donates £500. AC informed CF criteria would not allow this - all funding should be sought from CF. Address list of residents sought for a mail shot—the CC has one from a previous survey—CS will look it out to see if it is still suitable.</p> <p><b>Item 11: Correspondence: Cabinet Office: King’s Portrait:</b> AC had ordered this but it has not yet been delivered.</p> <p><b>Item 12: AOB: Knowe Road:</b> This is still in a poor condition – AL will contact ARA.</p> <p><b>Postal Deliveries:</b> Little information from Girvan Sorting Office but JS had heard that 3 extra staff had been employed.</p> <p><b>BDT Newsletter:</b> CS had submitted a CC report in mid-March but BDT had not yet received sufficient material to produce a newsletter.</p> <p><b>Disabled Access to Car Park:</b> A suggestion was made that Dean, the BDT handyman, may be able to assist—to be looked at.</p> <p><i>Other matters on agenda.</i></p>	<p>AL</p> <p>AL</p> <p>CS</p> <p>AL</p> <p>BDT</p>
6	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	
	<p>AC circulated his report. The accounts for the last financial year have now been audited and sent to SAC, to Tracy Whiteford’s replacement as Communities Officer. CC funds in the bank now total £1,275.51, following payment of the auditing fee. The CF balance is now £12,285.86 after expenditure of £350, giving an overall bank balance of £13,561.37.</p> <p><i>AC was thanked for his report.</i></p>	
7	<b>Updates</b>	
	<p>a) <b>BCIC: AGM:</b> JT informed that the delayed BCIC AGM took place on 27<sup>th</sup> March, with 55 members present. There are now 3 new directors. No meeting yet since the AGM.</p> <p>b) <b>BDT:</b> The BDT Chair, Gillian Young, reminded that the AGM will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> May. She informed that the work on the Crosswater pub is progressing well. The consultation meeting last month had been well attended. BDT Vice-chair Sarah Malone reported that the Dog Training classes had been very successful. It is hoped to hold another class in the future - other funding is being looked at. Dean has carried out a lot of work in Arnsheen Park and to the lights in the toilets. The section of stone dyke demolished when timber fell off a lorry is now repaired and new lights have also been put in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>c) <b>Carrick Futures:</b> AC reported that the last meeting was postponed, as it was not quorate.</p> <p>d) <b>South Ayrshire Health &amp; Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP):</b> CS reported from the minutes of the last two meetings. The main items discussed on 13<sup>th</sup> March were as follows:</p> <p><b>Rural Community Transport:</b> Eileen Mccutcheon gave an update on this. The survey has now gone out, with 79 responses so far. She informed that there are further cuts to the Colmonell bus service.</p>	

	<p><b>TATL:</b> Update on this –meetings undertaken with various community groups. Feedback includes desire for local clinics e.g. diabetic clinic, Minor Injuries Unit; and a return to Face to Face consultations with doctors. Amy Duthie has met with 204 people.</p> <p><b>Draft Locality Plan:</b> Feedback still welcome.</p> <p><b>PB Event:</b> As previously mentioned, this was held on 21st February in Carrick Buildings, with 12 groups successful, but not Colmonell Community Association and Dailly CC.</p> <p><b>Girvan Hospital Review:</b> The Minor Injuries Unit should be used more e.g.after 5pm.</p> <p><b>Updates:</b> including <b>First Responders</b> – who reported issues with the radios. They were on call for 22 hours the last week. Further courses such as First Aid and refresher defib training are planned. <b>Cosy Spaces:</b> This successful project will restart in October.</p> <p><b>Meeting Venue:</b> Moving from Girvan Hospital to the Carrick Buildings.</p> <p><b>10<sup>th</sup> April Meeting: Community Transport:</b> Funding application from Colmonell Community Association in for a 1 year pilot, to operate from the summer. Free membership card but donations invited from travellers.</p> <p>Presentation on <b>Local Heat &amp; Energy Strategy:</b> Every Local Authority to have one to ensure working towards Net Zero - consultation out. <b>Chatty Spaces:</b> A need to continue but there is a lack of volunteers. Colmonell continuation now confirmed. <b>Draft Locality Plan:</b> Still open for comments. <b>LPP funding</b> confirmed, including £15K for PB – to discuss how to ensure the villages will benefit. <b>Girvan Hospital Review:</b> A Staff Nurse is now employed for the Minor Injuries unit. Various updates: <b>Hygiene Banks</b> now set up.</p> <p>e) <b>Kilgallioch Community Fund:</b> AC reported on the last meeting, which was a funding round. A number of grants were awarded, including £19,000 to Colmonell Community Association for events for 3 years. Colmonell Bowling Club received £500 towards the toilets maintenance costs and £5000 went to Barr SCIO for the hall.</p>	
8	<b>Planning Applications</b>	
	<p><b>Planning Applications:</b> There were no applications relevant to Barrhill.</p> <p><b>Decisions Lists:</b> No decisions lists received since November 2023, therefore requested.</p> <p><b>December to March List.</b> There were 3 for Barrhill: Land adjacent to Arnimean – Erection of telecommunications mast and installation of antennas and ground-based apparatus – Approved; Barrhill Investment Company (BCIC) 18 Main Street: Installation of air source heat pump – Approved; and Ballochmorrie House: Alterations and extension to dwelling house and erection of garage and associated works – Approved.</p>	
9	<b>Small Grant Applications</b>	
	<p>i) <b>Barrhill Individual: Medicine Blister Pack Recycling Service:</b> Application for £384 to purchase 4 boxes at £96 each to provide a recycling service at the Barrhill Doctors’ Surgery on Main Street. The applicant, Ms Felicity Stryjak, was present and explained the project. Following questions from members the application was put to the vote. Of the 9 members present, 5 voted for the application, 3 against and 1 abstention - application approved.</p> <p>ii) <b>Barrhill Bowling Club:</b> Application for £494.64 to form a petanque court in the Bowling Club grounds – approved by 7 members entitled to vote - MR and KMCL declared an interest.</p> <p>iii) <b>Barrhill Angling Club:</b> Application for £500 to purchase fish was approved unanimously, with the comment that the availability of day tickets should be more widely advertised.</p> <p>iv) <b>Barrhill Events Group: (Preliminary discussion)</b> Application is for £593 to purchase a marquee to be used by any constituted group in Barrhill for their events. Cost consists of £512 for the marquee and £81 delivery fee. Amount sought exceeds the £500 limit laid down by Carrick Futures but this is expected to increase soon. The application was approved, to be actioned should CF rules change.</p>	<p>CS</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS</p>
10	<b>Dog Fouling</b>	
	<p>KB had contacted Environmental Health and instigated action. She informed that there will be a 100 leaflet drop in the village in May. It is hoped that this will encourage the offending dog owners to be more responsible and result in the reduction of dog fouling incidents in the village. Ongoing</p>	KB
11	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p><b>SAHSCP:</b> Usual emails including information on: <b>Citizen Science Workshops/Events; Support for Women Scoping Study; Ayrshire Cancer Support – Young Children; Heartbeat Cardiac Support; ADP- Drug Related Deaths; Mentally Healthy Communities Newsletters; Diabetes Peer Support Groups; Dementia Support Awareness/Dementia</b></p>	

	<p><b>Supports; Advocacy Survey; Vasa – Ageing Well; Carrick Centre Vacancies; Adult Cycling Training; Pathway to Employment Course May-August; Free Travel for Care Experienced Youth; Well-being Pledge Showcse -Troon, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May; and Course Guides for April – June. (Details available on request)</b></p> <p><b>Community Councils:</b> Free Webinars - Scottish Empty Homes. <b>Scottish Rural Action:</b> Newsletters. <b>SAC: Community Map Scotland project:</b> Mapping tool for local Place Plans -- to be looked at by all.</p> <p><b>Foundation Scotland:</b> Bulletin. <b>Scottish Water:</b> Digital Newsletter.</p> <p><b>SAC:</b> Audrey Gatt again offered help with Place Planning. No action as yet.</p> <p><b>A77 Closure:</b> Notification received from Ballantrae CC regarding a night then full weekend closure from 2nd-5<sup>th</sup> May of the A77 Cairnryan Road in Stranraer for roadworks.</p> <p><b>CAG: Active Travel:</b> Latest meeting held last night in Girvan.</p> <p><b>Blackhall Powis:</b> Letter received re-consultation regarding advance notice of a prospective planning application for the development of a Battery Storage at Land at Auchencrosh, Glenapp. There will be a Community Engagement Event taking place on <b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b> in the Ballantrae Community Centre from 1pm to 8pm at night. The company are willing to attend a CC meeting to discuss the plans. After discussion, it was agreed it was not necessary at present to invite the company. All who wish to can attend at Ballantrae.</p> <p><b>SAC: PWS:</b> Information of a Mains Water Connection Project. Scottish Water have been asked to look at feasibility of rural connections. CS had discussed with SAC's Connie Lobban, who is willing to attend a CC meeting. For now, it was agreed to endeavour to inform where possible then revisit the matter later – all to consider. Noted that 3 members are on a PWS.</p> <p><b>SAC: Communities Fun Day:</b> Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p><b>SAC:</b> The new <b>Communities Officer</b>, Jodie McFarlane, introduced herself. She intends visiting Barrhill but willing to see anyone who wishes to meet.</p> <p><b>SAC: Volunteer Awards:</b> Will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> June. <b>CC By-Election:</b> Former co-optees JS and MR were the only nominations and therefore appointed full members of the CC.</p> <p><i>Other items also circulated/covered by Agenda.</i></p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>CS</p> <p>CS ALL</p>
12	<p><b>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</b></p>	
	<p><b>Brown Bin Collection:</b> KMclL referred to the forthcoming charge to collect the brown bins, which he strongly objects to. A discussion ensued and AL explained the reasons behind this.</p> <p><b>SAC Councillor's Report:</b> Following on from his explanation of the brown bin charges and how residents can opt out of the sceme, AL re-iterated the extreme financial crisis facing SAC at present. In spite of this, no services have yet been cut, but next year will be even worse. A feasibility study is to be carried out on SAC's fleet of vehicles.</p> <p><b>Donations:</b> CS confirmed that the 2 x £50 donations the CC is allowed to give each financial year was agreed by email as there was no meeting in March. The recipients were Barrhill Primary School and the Scouts.</p> <p><b>Biosphere:</b> The Spring bird recording event on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April was fully booked and went well. CS and AC were among those attending.</p> <p><b>30mph signs on Knowe Road:</b> Now in place where originally planned by ARA.</p> <p><b>Bridge Repairs:</b> The bridge is now repaired and all expressed delight at its appearance. CS to email thanks to ARA for a job well done.</p> <p><b>Speed Activated Sign:</b> AC queried the continued non-repair of the sign in Main Street, which has been out of action since the road resurfacing in October 2022. CS to enquire.</p> <p><b>Road Sweeper:</b> MR queried why the road sweeper had not been in the village recently. It transpired that there had indeed been a recent visit but the small machine is ineffective. The larger one is necessary and possible use on the Knowe Road queried. AL will enquire.</p> <p><i>The meeting closed at 9.15pm, JT thanking all for their attendance.</i></p>	<p>CS</p> <p>CS</p> <p>AL</p>
13	<p><b>Date &amp; Time of next meeting:</b></p>	
	<p><b><u>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (plus AGM), at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Other meetings in 2024:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>26<sup>th</sup> June, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 27<sup>th</sup> November</u></b></p> <p><b><u>NB. There are no meetings in March, July, September and December.</u></b></p>	