

Proposed Steve O'Brien
Seconded M Watson

CROSSHILL, STRAITON & KIRKMICHAEL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Secretary: John Haston, 71 Patna Road, Kirkmichael, Ayrshire KA19 7PJ
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Minutes of meeting held in Crosshill Community Centre on 23rd July 2024

- 1. In Attendance:** Patrick Lorimer (chair), Emily Pike (vice chair), John Haston (secretary), Gordon Ferrie (treasurer), Steve O'Brien, David Stokes, Steven Dunlop, Councillor Brian Connolly, Marnie Watson

Pat Lorimer welcomed everyone to the meeting. The previously planned meeting on 25th June was cancelled at short notice due to lack of a quorum.

- 2. Apologies:** Margo O'Brien, Martin Dunlop, Ryan Douglas (SAC Link Officer)

- 3. Register of Interests:**

No changes to the register of interests declared, and no conflict of interest noted.

- 4. Police matters:**

The police were not present, and a report had not been received.

The "accident black spot" crossroads at B7045/ B742 were discussed following another recent accident involving our secretary, and the campaign for safety improvements will be pursued. It was agreed not to refer to this as "killer crossroads" providing some improvements are made in the next few months. It was not acceptable for this many accidents in one place to be dismissed as bad driving. Improvements need to be made to visibility and awareness of the crossroads before another serious injury or fatality occurs.

Post meeting note: An email was received from ARA the next day confirming both actions and timetable to deal with the 'Killer Crossroads'.

- 5. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 28th May were accepted, proposed by Steve O'Brien and seconded by Emily Pike.

- 6. Matters arising from the minutes:**

The proposed Place Making survey sent by email by Audrey Gatt was discussed, and various comments agreed. Pat will summarise this and respond to Audrey by email. Pat will circulate the response to everyone prior to sending it off.

Gordon noted that the path at Fowlers Croft has since been cut back.

- 7. Village concerns**

Kirkmichael: Flooding in the playing fields is still a problem. Wild flower area was not planted this year. ABS crossroads are a serious concern. Bolestyle road is in a very poor condition from Patna Road to Dyrock Road, as is the road to Patna, within SAC limit. Christmas lights situation is uncertain. It was requested if community payback people could help paint the community container. Brian Connolly will send contact details for them. There is still no news on the lay-by by the school. The community skip was delivered on Friday afternoon, and was full by teatime. It was asked if the skip could be placed at the other end of the village occasionally.

Post meeting note: An incident of sheep worrying at Kirkmichael was reported to the police about a month ago, with several sheep killed and injured. They know who's dogs they are but can't do anything apparently. Then the dog was seen in the field again chasing sheep, and a video was sent to the police. Can the police do something about this matter?

Crosshill: Gala day on 15th June went well. The £6,000 has been received from the NCCBC and allocated to various groups. The second defibrillator is still not installed at the Community Centre as permission has not yet been granted by SAC. Emily will chase this up. Nothing has been done yet about the war memorial base. Milton Street and the car park is getting worse. The problem with kids on a farm buggy seems to have gone away for now. Traffic speeding figures are still awaited from ARA. Brian reported that SAC Roads Dept

(ARA) are to inspect the road at Church Square and the car park at junction of Milton Street and Bruce Square.

Straiton: Straiton Show was successful, but fairly quiet due to the weather. The two grass areas have been cut back. The BT Exchange appears to be done fairly regularly, and the Fowlers Croft is done occasionally by community payback. The cemetery water butt needs a repair to attach it to the water pipe. Pat will contact Elaine at SAC. Speeding traffic near Longcroft (South of Straiton). Fibre availability – low speeds reported and patchy in areas. Mobile reception also poor in some areas. Pat will request someone from OpenReach to attend a meeting to explain the situation. Closure of Newton Stewart road for 4 weeks with little warning caused much concern for residents. Brian advised that the Newton Stewart road is due to close again for resurfacing this year. Some potholes were filled in, but not the one by the raised drains in Dalmellington Road.

8. Treasurer's report

Gordon Ferrie presented the monthly report. The bank balance was £2,352.31. SAC has reimbursed expenses totalling £712.98, and two tranches of Straiton Toilets comfort scheme totalling £1,200.. Cheques outstanding are £34.16 for printer ink and £1.200 for Straiton Toilets comfort scheme,

9. North Carrick Community Benefit Co. (NCCBC)

The Bruce anniversary celebrations went well, with a battle re-enactment and jousting display in Maybole. The charity shop is done and available for use. The flat above is to be rented out at market rate. Four applications are in for review and approval at the next meeting on 16th August. Kirkhill wind farm is operational and will contribute around £63K from this year onwards. More grant applications are welcome. The £6K CPF grant may rise to £7K in November this year to a final bottoming out price. The next round of CPF will be available in November this year subject to the current round being signed off.

10. Wind farms

No updates have been received for any of the proposed wind farms in our area.

11. Correspondence

All email correspondence to the secretary were forwarded to the rest of the council, so these are not repeated here. One item to discuss is a list of office bearers that is required to be completed following our AGM and submitted to SAC. This form was completed and signed.

12. Planning applications

Steve O'Brien gave a planning report, with seven new planning applications:

- **24/00215** – Waste water treatment works, near Littleton Farm, Crosshill. New buildings and facilities.
- **24/00373** – Milton Street Crosshill. Erection of cow statue.
- **24/00414** – Recreation ground, Straiton. Installation of sculpture
- **24/00415** – Junction Straiton Road and Bolestyle Road, Kirkmichael. Installation of sculpture.
- **24/00392** – 15 Kirkmichael Road, Crosshill. Change of use, church hall to dwelling house.
- **24/00453** – Aitkenhead Mill, Straiton Road, Kirkmichael. New dwelling house with attendant garage.
- **24/00455** – Balbeg Cottage, Straiton. New Shepherds hut to compliment existing holiday lets.

No objections were made to the above. No planning decisions were reported.

It was noted that the three village sculpture installations are funded by NCCBC as part of the Bruce anniversary celebrations, with designs selected by local people.

13. Social media

Margo gave an update: X (Twitter) now has 25 followers. To get further stats would require a costly subscription, with little benefits. Facebook followers are steadily increasing.

The WhatsApp group is working well.

14. Any other competent business

- Galloway National Park has been selected by the Scottish Government as the preferred option for a new national park. PL will pursue this.
- Pat will not be at the next meeting and Emily has agreed to chair this.. Also the new head of ARA, Jane Corrie, will be attending, and a summary of all outstanding ARA matters will be prepared.
- It was agreed that the minutes could be published in agreed draft form, once they had been reviewed by all via email.

15. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 27th August 2024, at 7:30 pm in the McCosh Hall, Kirkmichael.

The meeting closed at 9 pm.