

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th November 2024, in
Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm.

No	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council: Jamie Burgess (JB) (Vice-Chair), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), John Heath (JH), Robert Houstin (RH), Kenneth McLaren (KMcL), Martin Rennie (MR), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary & Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p>In Attendance: Alan Lamont (AL) (SAC Councillor), Lee Kirkwood (LK) (SAC Link Officer), 1 Member of the public.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Pearl McGibbon (PMcG)</p>	
2	<p>Police Report</p>	
	<p>The latest report was received today, with PCs McKinlay and Thorne on dayshift again and unable to attend in person. Details of incidents since the last CC meeting are as follows: Assist Members of the Public:3; Planned Shoots:16; Road Traffic Matters:2; Sudden Death:1; Animals:1; Disturbance:1; and Domestic Incident:1.</p> <p>No Crime Reports were raised during this period.</p> <p>Regarding the matter of speed checks, as queried by CS, PCs McKinlay and Thorne will endeavour to get down to Barrhill during the Festive period to conduct some checks.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting of Wednesday, 30th October 2024</p>	
	<p>These were approved: proposed by KMcL, seconded by JB.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes</p>	
	<p>Item 2: Police Report: Speed checks – see above at Item 2.</p> <p>Item 4: Matters Arising: Blocked drains: AL had again chased up ARA, and more photos are to be taken of the various locations to assess the requirements. No time frame has been set for the work and ARA had pointed out that the drains had been flushed out. (This was to no avail.) A lengthy discussion then ensued as this problem has been reported time after time, with MR re-iterating that it was scheduled to be done prior to resurfacing of the Main Street in October 2022. KMcL wondered who was responsible to ensure action is take – ARA or the SAC Councillors? AL will again pursue.</p> <p>Locked Gates at Kildonan: AL had contacted Rachel Shipley again, who is still havng difficulty getting any response from the landowner. The legality of the situation is being looked into in view of the fact that the path through the grounds is part of the Whithorn Way.</p> <p>Postal Delivery Service: Noted the situation had improved lately – continue to monitor.</p> <p>Dog Waste Bags: There was still a problem with dog fouing and although AL had contacted EH no notification yet that an Enforcement officer would visit Barrhill, though AL understood a visit to Ballantrae has been scheduled. Ongoing</p> <p>Item 5: Treasurer’s Report: Incl. Micro Grant Guidance: All had been asked to read AC’s notes on this but JT informed that he had discussed this with Foundation Scotland’s Suzy Mercer and the whole busness of grants is being looked into, with the view to having one guidance for all groups. AC queried who can apply and reasons why – there is no definition. It was agreed to wait until decisions elsewhere had been reached. Noted</p> <p>Item 10: Place Planning: See below at Item 10.</p> <p>Item 12: Correspondence: Biosphere: JS had participated in the Zoom meeting with the National Park Reporter on 14th November, which she found very interesting. She had forwarded the meeting notes to all members. (It was noted that NatureScot had booked the hall on Tuesday 10th December 11.30am-1.30pm for a drop-in consultation event on the proposed NP.)</p> <p>Item 13: AOB: Dirty Roads: See below at Item 7.</p> <p>New Luce hill road: AL had reported the washed away edges near the ‘feeding station’, but nothing done yet. To be pursued. (See below at Item 12 AOB: SAC Councillor’s Report.)</p> <p>Speed Check cables: No news on this – ongoing.</p> <p><i>Other matters on the agenda.</i></p>	<p>AL</p> <p>AL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AL</p>
5	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p>	

	Incl. Micro Grant Guidance	
	AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank remain at £1,707.08, as no further payments have been made. The CF balance is now £8,060.59, after payment of applications approved on 30 th October, leaving an overall bank balance of £10,117.67. Micro Grant: See above at Item 4:Matters Arising. AC was thanked for his report.	
6	Updates	
	<p>a) BCIC: JT reported on the last meeting. Winter Fuel Payments: Emails from Foundation Scotland will be sent out (Friday) and letters, regarding the arrangements for the Winter Fuel payments (£500 per household). This will take place on Saturday in the Memorial Hall, between 10am and noon, for residents to collect cheques or register for bank payments. Refreshments will be provided. Grant payments were also discussed.</p> <p>b) BDT: JB informed that progress continues to be made. He had held discussions with Dean as regards the duties of the handyman. There was concern regarding the icy pavements during the recent frosty weather and he was unsure as to what should be covered by Dean or who is responsible for gritting elsewhere. The situation laid down in previous years was explained to JB, with ARA providing the grit/salt for the bins and the community grits the pavements with equipment previously provided. The Car Park is BDT's responsibility and Dean had expressed willingness to assist on a voluntary basis in gritting pavements if required. Martyrs' Tomb Walk: Dean had completed the grass cutting, which had improved the path, and he reported the defective hand rails on the footbridge over the Cross Water Burn. CS, who declared an interest, re-iterated that she had initially reported this to SAC's Rachel Shipley (RS) about a year ago following reports from the Community Payback Team after it worked on the path. It was to be inspected by an SAC engineer but despite further queries to SAC nothing further had been heard. The path itself is in urgent need of improvement and JT suggested it could be a project for Dean during the winter months. CS will send details to AL for him to pursue.</p> <p>c) Carrick Futures: AC informed there is a meeting next week.</p> <p>d) South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP): CS did not attend on 13th November - main items as follows: Presentation by Dr. Philp Hulne on Primary Care and General Practice and a day in the life of a GP – he provided statistics with Primary Care happenings. It is hoped to introduce 3 services in Girvan – Spirometry Service for COPD from January 2025; Point of Care testing for 'D Dimer' re-blood clots; and Staff Training for Type 2 Diabetes. Presentation on the Strategic Review – this takes place every 3 years. Locality Plan: From the New Year, each LPP meeting to focus on a priority. H & SCP Funding: 3 Proposals for remaining fundig of £1K – cAyr Fest 22nd February 2025 – celebrating unpaid carers - £360 for transport to event; VASA: £140 (£10 x 14) for vulnerable persons in Carrick, for Christmas lunch and presents; and Age Concern, Girvan: £500 towards the initiative to help reopen the premises (currently closed). Girvan Hospital Review: Eye screening clinic and Carers' Wellbeing to commence in February. (CS had attended the hospital visit on 28th October.) Updates: SC First Responders: 2 New responders now in Barrhill and 1 volunteer in Barr trained and awaiting radio training. Carers: 144 young carers live in Carrick. Stinchar Valley Community Bus: Operational now for 6 weeks with 240 journeys undertaken – slight amendment to timetable following consultation.</p> <p>e) Kilgallioch Community Fund: MR was unable to attend the last meeting.</p> <p>f) Barrhill Events Group: In PMcG's absence MR reported that the photographic exhibition on Remembrance Sunday had gone well, with a good attendance. Christmas Festivities: A vegetarian choice had now been added to the menu for the Senior Citizens' dinner on the 14th December; arrangements are well in hand for the Children's Party and the dance on 30th November. Regarding funding for the party, AC queried the final amount, which at £426 varied from the original application figure of £500. AC needed all amounts to be verified by invoices and MR assured that full details will be forthcoming. CC members, excepting those on the Events Committee (MR and JH, who declared an interest), agreed to approve the sum providing conditions are met.</p>	<p>CS /AL</p> <p>MR</p>
7	Mark Hill Sub-station Extension Works	
	Following complaints to SPEN's Colin Wylie regarding the filthy state of the road, prompt	

	<p>action had seen the permanent presence of a road sweeper on Main Street, which has helped matters. Reports of several vehicle accidents and near misses have resulted in videos of incidents being sent to SPEN. Cllr Clark, after complaints to him and AL about numbers of lorries causing a safety issue early in the mornings, by parking on the offside of the road on the village outskirts while waiting for the site to open, had contacted SAC's Head of Planning but still awaits an answer. Following complaints to SPEN of these queues, a Safety Stand Down was arranged for 3 driver sessions to take place regarding safety issues. It was again noted that the majority of the drivers are complying with the 20mph limit. AC had also contacted SPEN with regard to increased traffic on the B7027. He also reiterated the problem of the defective road surface about 20m beyond High Altercannoch, where ARA had left cones but not fixed the problem. To be passed to ARA.</p>	AL
8	Planning Applications	
	<p>Planning Applications/ Decisions List: JS reported nothing relevant to Barrhill. MR then left the meeting at 8.20pm, with JT notifying him of the item of correspondence from Ballochmorrie Estate – he was not aware of the matter. See below at Item 11.</p>	
9	Small Grant Applications	
	<p>i) Barrhill Badminton Club: The amount sought was £500 to cover the hall hire costs for 50 sessions at £10 per session for 2024/2025. This was approved in full by members after AC declared an interest, with the cheque to be paid direct to the BDT.</p> <p>ii) Individual for Indoor Short Mat Bowling: The amount sought was £60 for hall hire costs to cover 3 months of indoor bowling – from 8th January 2025, 12x1 hour sessions. KMCL declared an interest and approval was then granted by the other members. The cheque to be paid to the BDT direct. CS to notify.</p> <p>iii) Barrhill Development Trust: The application for £357.12 was to cover the costs of providing refreshments for an open day at the Crosswater pub, to show residents the progress so far of the building renovation works. A full breakdown of figures was provided. After discussion the grant was approved in full, with BDT members declaring an interest.</p> <p>iv) Barrhill Development Trust (2): This second application from the BDT concerned funds of £474.89 to provide additional Christmas decorations for the display outside the Memorial Hall. A lengthy discussion ensued, with a suggestion that the CC could also apply for a grant to contribute an additional £500. This was finally agreed, with the BDT members declaring an interest. JB will place the order.</p> <p>v) Ballantrae Scout Group: A sum of £489.93 was sought to purchase 7 camping tents to be used for a camping trip, and hopefully used for the next 4-5 years. It was noted that Barrhill members account for a third of the scouts, with two thirds of the Leaders also from Barrhill. The application was approved in full. CS will notify.</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>CS/AC</p> <p>AC/CS</p> <p>AC/CS JB</p> <p>CS/AC</p>
10	Place Planning	
	<p>At long last the consultation had commenced, with a Community Payback team delivering flyers to all households, both in the village and surrounding area. This is taking time to achieve as none have been posted out to rural households. Survey forms were delivered to CS and these are now available in the Memorial Hall, together with a ballot box for the submitted paper forms.</p>	ALL
11	Correspondence	
	<p>Ballochmorrie Estate: JT had received a letter from the owner of Ballochmorrie Estate, regarding an anonymous letter he had received, making allegations about a staff member and family, which purported to come from 'Concerned members of the Barrhill community'. Assurance was sought whether this was the case and if so requesting names of the complainers. No Community Councillor had any knowledge of such matters and those who knew the staff member spoke highly of him. CS to respond accordingly.</p> <p>SAHSCP: Usual emails including information on: Aberlour Family Matters Service; Mentally Healthy Communities Newsletter and project Update; Connect South Ayrshire launch on 1st November; VASA: details of Christmas Day Elves (to be considered); Webinar on Equality and Diversity Forum; Seed Funding Ayrshire Climate Hub; Draft Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy; Health Walks; Diabetes Community Survey; Call for Case Studies – Intergenerational projects; Out & About Winter Community Transport; Alzheimer Scotland 'What's On'; and Memory Café at Boyle Court, Girvan. (Details of above items available on request)</p>	CS

	<p>Scottish Rural Action newsletter; Elaine Stewart MP: Email forwarded to BDT as she seeks to book the Memorial Hall for an advice surgery.</p> <p>SAC Councillors AL and AC: Information on Scotrail's 2 for 1 offer on train tickets from stations south of Ayr.</p> <p>Scottish Government – Section 36 Application for proposed Glenvernoch Windfarm: (13 turbines up to 200m high 2.8km south of Glentroll and 7km north-west of Newton Stewart). Barrhill CC is a consultee for this application and CS proposed that an objection be submitted. A discussion followed with a vote being taken. Of the 9 members present 3 were opposed to an objection, 1 abstained and 5 voted to object. CS will therefore draft a letter of objection to be submitted before the deadline of 15th January 2025.</p> <p>Biosphere Community Network: Next Zoom meeting on Monday 20th January 2025.</p> <p>National Park Reporter Team: Formal Consultation phase now commenced – responses by 14th February 2025.</p> <p>SPEN Biodiversity CVP Fund Grants: SPEN had referred again to this fund but no further progress was apparent - MR had left the meeting so could not comment. Noted</p> <p>Bridges Scotland: Invitation to conference in Glasgow.</p> <p>SEPA: Flood Resilience: Teams meeting on the 28th - JS may participate.</p> <p>Stranoch Windfarm: Notification of further closure of the U90 road near Penwhirn reservoir. JT referred to the next Liaison Group meeting in January and felt it is important that Barrhill representatives attend in view of the need to look to the future as regards windfarm funding. <i>Other items also circulated/covered by Agenda.</i></p>	<p>CS</p> <p>JS</p>
12	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</p>	
	<p>Christmas Lights: AC asked for further details of what would be involved in the extra decorations. Possible use of solar energy to be investigated.</p> <p>Kilgallioch Extension Meeting: AC and JT (for BCIC) had attended this on 25th November, held in Barrhill on this occasion. AC informed that the Arecleoch Extension had been joined with Kilgallioch for the 2 extensions to now be considered together. A copy of the options had been discussed, regarding funding going direct to the communities involved or to Carrick Futures to distribute.</p> <p>JS commented that the entrance to the Kilgallioch Windfarm was now lit by an extremely bright security light, which was disconcerting to drivers.</p> <p>Timber lorries: AC noted an increase in timber lorries using the Knowe Road, which he had reported. JT commented that areas of private forestry are now being harvested, and these do not have use of the forestry track in order to avoid the B7027.</p> <p>RH also reported the leftover cones disrupting traffic on the Knowe Road, south of High Altercannoch. AL to remind ARA. <i>(See above at Item 7.)</i></p> <p>SAC Councillor's Report: Regarding the edge of the New Luce hill road above the station, approx. 60 yards beyond the feeding place, which had been washed away resulting in a very narrow carriageway, AL informed that pictures have been submitted to ARA who will repair this area. No time scale as to when the work will be actioned, unfortunately.</p> <p>Transport meeting: Elena Whitham MSP has called a Roundtable meeting at Ballantrae on Monday 2nd December at 1pm to discuss A77 road closures/Diversions. CS/JT will attend.</p> <p>Role of Link Officer: LK queried if there were limits on his participation at meetings. He was assured that any input is most welcome.</p> <p>JB raised the matter of the damaged road sign on entering the village. He also queried if it would be possible to close the A714 temporarily during the Remembrance Day service next year, following the traffic interruptions experienced on 10th November. All agreed this would help matters and JB will enquire into this.</p> <p>Road Sweeper: KMCL queried the amount of water extracted from the street mains by the road sweeper employed by SPEN and asked who pays for the water.</p> <p><i>The meeting closed at 9.20pm, JT thanking all for their attendance. He also thanked AL for his attendance and help over the last year, as the rota for SAC Councillors attending CC meetings changes in January.</i></p>	<p>JB</p> <p>AL</p> <p>JT/CS</p> <p>JB</p>
13	<p>Date & Time of Next Meeting:</p>	
	<p><u>Wednesday, 29th January 2025, at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u> <u>NB. There are no meetings in March, July, September and December.</u></p>	