

1) **Welcome.**

CE welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) **Attendees.**

Claire Erskine (CE); Mhairi McKenna (MMcK); Kim Mawer (KM); Sharon Adams (SA); Debbie Cassels (DC); Calum MacDonald (CM); Andrew MacDonald (AM); Laura Cunningham (LC); Cllr Alec Clark (AC); Ryan Ward SAC link officer; Steve Tidmarsh; Fionnadh Ratchford.

3) **Apologies.**

Colin McNally, Martin McCourt, Ruby Cunningham, Sean McIlwraith

4) **Previous Minutes Approval.**

Minutes from 26th November approved, proposed by KM, seconded by DC.

5) **Matters arising and updates.**

MM to speak a second local villager in person about the high number of cars in Vennel car park. The cars have now been removed.

AL to investigate why there is not an accessible access at the south side of the bridge. - Outstanding AC to chase up.

CE to issue letter to Glenapp Estate landowners outlining the village views and position on the proposed BESS. – Letter sent

AL to request a dog waste bin for the Bennane, at the north end of the beach. – Outstanding, AC to chase up.

AL to investigate possibility for the access path at the back of the beach from the harbour to Park End to be resurfaced. – AL has investigated but this is not a straightforward repair due to the land ownership issue.

SA to attend the Youth Link meeting on behalf of BCC and report back. – SA reported that the meeting was a report on youth work in the future.

AL to investigate lack of drop kerb at top of Vennel adjacent to church. – Outstanding, AC to chase up.

LC to forward notes from Kilgallioch and Arecleoch wind farm extension meeting to Claire. -
Completed

6) **Reports.**

a. Police Scotland.

Report for period - 30/10/24 – 27/11/24

There were 9 incidents raised within the period 30/10/2024 to 27/11/2024. There was 1 crime report created from these incidents which has been detected.

Incident breakdown:

Road Traffic Matters: 3

Abandoned 999: 2

Abandoned Vehicles: 1

Police Info: 2

False Calls: 1

Crime Report Detection Analysis:

Road Traffic Matters – 1 (Speeding offences)

Report for period - 01/12/24 – 31/12/24

There were 22 incidents raised for this period. There were 6 crime reports created of which 4 were detected.

Incident breakdown:

Road Traffic Matters: 15 (9 of which relate to the temp traffic lights being faulty)

Abandoned 999: 2

Assist members of the public: 1

False Call: 1

Fraud: 1

Damage: 1

Animals: 1

Crime Report Detection Analysis:

Road Traffic Matters: 4 (2 x speeding offences)

Report for period - 01/01/25 – 28/01/25

There were 12 incidents raised for this period. There were 10 crime reports created of which 7 were detected.

Incident breakdown:

Suspect Persons: 1

Disturbances: 1

Communications: 1

Assist members of the public: 2

Road Traffic Matters: 4

Thefts: 1

Concern for persons: 1

Police Info: 1

Crime Report Detection Analysis:

Road Traffic Matters – 7 (5 x Speeding offences)

b. Youth Club.

Numbers are remaining consistent at 7 or 8 each session. The youth club young people attended the Girvan Youth Trust Xmas meal at Z1 on 16th December. A planning meeting was held on 15/01/25 to discuss activities for the coming sessions. Activities will be football, badminton, arts and crafts, cooking, return to Ballantrae bowling club for lawn bowls, quizzes and a scavenger hunt. A games triathlon evening as held on 22/01/25. Trips planned for this session are Blackpool Pleasure beach; Laser Quest, bowling and McDonalds; sleepover in the hall. The sleepover is likely to be held at Z1 youth bar due to need for fire warden training to be carried out for this to take place in Ballantrae hall.

c. Ballantrae Trust.

Festival of Ballantrae – Planning for this year's event is ongoing

Planning ongoing for upgrade to bedrooms in Kings Arms. There is a joint meeting of the Board of the Ballantrae Trust and The Ballantrae Community Pub Ltd to discuss the way forward with The Quantity Surveyor planned for 06/02/2025.

Scotmid re the carpark and EV Charger, planning permission required, no news

Playpark upgrade – order placed for gym equipment, location agreed with the supplier, South Ayrshire Council and the Gala committee, awaiting installation date. Funding received from The Ballantrae Community Fund for 10 Years maintenance by South Ayrshire Council.

Our application to The Ballantrae Community Fund for funding for the cinema and transport for next year as successful as was our application for 3 years funding for the Ballantrae News.

Planning is ongoing to revive the Smugglers Festival in 2025, but the playwright has had to drop out due to ill health.

d. Community Association Report.

None in period.

e. Traffic/travel/transport.

1. Traffic Lights at Carlock Wall (3000 + days and still an issue)

No action from meeting with Transport Scotland and Amey on 2nd Dec.

2. Traffic lights at Stinchar Bridge from 16th September 2024 - Feb 2025:

Works Extended

Issued: 24 January 2025

Please be advised that due to operational issues encountered on site, bridge refurbishment works on the A77 at Ballantrae Bridge are now due to be completed on Wednesday 14th May 2025. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Despite requests, lights still causing multiple issues with 'being stuck at red' (see incident report below). This is generally because north bound traffic doesn't go right up to lights.

3. Road Closure Proposal:

Re the recent closures of A77 and diversion chaos that ensued:

At the request of BCC, Elena Whitham MSP arranged a mtg on Dec 2nd with Transport Scotland, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, Amey and Police Scotland and other community councils impacted by the road closures. (Minutes of meeting

Summary of actions:

Action Item	Responsible party	Deadline
Share example visuals of roadwork requirements	Amey	13 th January 2025

Assess roadwork signage which makes clear what roads are unsuitable for certain traffic.	Amey/Transport Scotland, ARA	13 th January 2025
Assess current communication strategy for unplanned road closures.	Amey/Transport Scotland, ARA, Police Scotland	13 th January 2025

No actions have been received to date.

4. Pedestrian Safety Design:

No additional actions from meeting with Transport Scotland and Amey on 2nd Dec. Although design was promised soon.

5. Brake Dust Sampling:

No further progress.

6. Incident report 27/11/24 – 27/01/25

Date	Type	Location	Description
10/12/2024	Incidents	Bridge	3 instances of traffic meeting in middle of bridge and having to reverse
10/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Carlock	Carlock temporary traffic lights stuck on red
12/12/2024	Incident - RTC	Village	Car had to take evasive action to avoid concrete lorry going too fast in middle of road at cemetery
12/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Bridge	Ballantrae Bridge lights only letting 3 cars through at a time, 15 min queues up hill
13/12/2024	Road Blocked - RTC	Glen App	Car flipped over in between Cairnryan and Stranraer.
13/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Bridge	Traffic lights being checked
14/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Bridge/ Carlock	Both Carlock Wall and Bridge Lights not working
15/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Bridge	Lights at red all day.
15/12/2024	Incident - RTC	Village	Car crash in centre of village. Police in attendance
22/12/2024	Road Blocked - Tree	Glen App	Tree down

30/12/2024	Traffic Lights	Bridge	People waiting for lights to change from red for 20 minutes
19/01/2025	Incident - RTC	Bridge	Four car crash on bridge. Fire, ambulance and police in attendance. Traffic diverted to other lane.

f. Harbour Committee.

The harbour does not appear to have suffered any damage during the recent storm.

g. Planning.

No report

h. Licensing.

Nothing in period.

i. Ardstinchar Bridge

AC reported that all scheduled works have now been carried out. AC will follow up on the request for accessible access at the south side of the bridge. BCC to add report to next issue of the Ballantrae News to publicise the works carried out. AC will contact Sarah Ross from SAC comms department to add details of the bridge history. DC to ask Judie McCourt to add any relevant details on behalf of the Ballantrae History group.

j. BESS

CE reported that all interested parties have been mailed regarding the community response and feelings on the proposed BESS.

Responses have been received from:

From Craig of SAC planning department, Energy Consent Unit, Ross Leigh SAC, Elena Whitham – MSP, Elaine Stewart - MP

Further concerns have been raised after the recent 3-day power outage due to storm Eowyn.

CE to call a further meeting of the BESS subcommittee.

k. Galloway National Park

AM confirmed that Scottish Ministers have made a statutory proposal to establish the new National Park in the Galloway area (including parts of East and South Ayrshire). AC confirmed that SAC have confirmed their support of the new national park proposal. At this stage, no

decision to establish this National Park has been made and Ministers are keen to gauge the level of support for the proposal and alternatives to it. AM reported on his fact-finding process over the last few months. He has investigated argument both for and against the Galloway Nation Park, he explained the pros and cons of both sides. The proposal has now moved into stage two of the process, this will be managed by Nature Scot. This second stage will be a consultation stage with all local and interested parties. This consultation seeks views on designating a National Park in the southwest of Scotland, and on the possible area and potential functions, powers and governance it could have. There will be variety of pop-up consultation events which can be attended by all residents. There are two formats of a survey: a summary version (10 plus questions) designed for individuals and households and a longer, more technical version (40 plus questions) designed more for organisations and stakeholder groups.

AC reported on SAC's response to the proposal. AC shared detailed information with AM, of SAC initial official response. AM to summarise SAC response and forward to CE for wider distribution.

7) Treasurer Report

Account balances to date

Special Interest-bearing account

	Opening balance	£3,279.90
21/11	Transfer for harbour repairs	+£5,000.00
29/11	Interest	+£4.81
31/12	Interest	+£9.81
	Closing balance	£8,294.52

CBF account

	Opening balance	£10,878.61
11/11	SAC grant	+£1,125.00
11/11	Chq 212 – Pilates replacement chq	-£75.00
12/11	Chq 214 – BT Xmas party	-£500.00
18/11	Chq 219 – village Xmas lights	-£1,069.48
19/11	F/S Carrick Futures	+£5,000.00
19/11	Chq 217 – Xmas sweets and gifts	-£1,000.00
22/11	Chq 218 – SIB harbour repairs	-£5,000.00
27/11	Chq 220 - pantomime	-£1,558.80
04/12	Chq 222- Georgette hi viz	-£342.00
17/12	Chq 221-History Group	-£500.00
20/12	F/S Carrick Futures	+£5,000.00

30/12	Interest	+£42.48
	Closing balance	£12,000.81

Harbour Account

	Opening balance	£945.00
No statement	Closing balance	£945.00

Admin Account

	Opening balance	£312.00
28/11	Chq 18 – min sec	-£60.00
	Closing balance	£252.00

£5,000.00 now available from Carrick Futures to distribute in awards of up to £1,000.00. This will need to be advertised, via social media and village notice board.

SA reported that she has sought advice from both SPR and Foundation Scotland for increasing the Ballantrae Community Fund small grants to £1,000.00. The advice received was for a vote to be held at the BCC to agree to increase or not to match the Carrick Futures £1,000.00 small grant. Vote held and carried unanimously to move to £1,000.00 small grants in line with Carrick Futures. SA to draft letter and send to SPR confirming this proposal.

The Pantomime attracted 48 people, we have provisionally rebooked for 21/12/25, SA happy to submit a funding application for this event.

Putting green takings box has been counted £220.00 was received in takings. Half of this money has been passed to Billy Galloway for his work during the year maintaining the green. The remaining £110.00 cash is to be banked.

SA is in the process of submitting an application for the February Carrick Futures funding round for additional Christmas lights and displays in the village.

Repairs carried out in the period to the lifebuoys.

CE suggested applying to the small grants fund for ancillary works and ongoing maintenance to be carried out to the harbour throughout the year. MMcK suggested applying for £1,000 and this was agreed unanimous. SM to submit small grant form.

Small Grants

Ballantrae History Group have applied for £489.00 for a lockable display cabinet, bookcase, roller blind, lighting and stationery for the history room within The Kings Arms – Approved

Christopher McCulloch has applied for £497.27 for the red squirrel preservation. Costs include feed and fuel (receipts provided) - Approved

8) **Funding Reports**

Ballantrae Community Fund

No meeting in period

Next meeting: 10th March 2025

Carrick Futures

Report on 28th January 2025

Funding meeting held on 22nd January, one application from Ballantrae trust for the Festival of Ballantrae for the sum of £19,751.00. Decision not yet released.

Next funding meeting: 23rd April 2025

Next application deadlines: 25th February 2025 for late April 2025 decision.

Carrick Futures fund strategy review meeting was held early in December. There will be a fund relaunch and pop-up village events in spring to publicise the new and updated fund policies.

Kilgallioch Community Fund

Meeting held on 9th December

Next application deadline: 10th February for 4th April 2025 decision.

Arcleoch extension community benefit fund meeting to be held 11th February 19:00. CE to forward SPR action note to all community councillors. LC to chair joint meeting between BCC and Ballantrae Trust to determine community preferred option for the distribution of additional community benefit funds.

9) **Councillor report from SAC**

AC reported SAC have had their UK government grant cut by 60% for the coming year.

The Girvan's Story drop-in sessions will be held 29th January at Girvan Town House and 1st February at Glendoune Community Centre.

New library will be open during the third week in February along with the reopening of the McKechnie Institute with a new revamped exhibition space.

The council budget is due to set with a smaller budget and hard decisions to be made. AC has had notification that all community skips have been suspended, this service is under review.

10) **Thriving Communities report**

Annual South Ayrshire Youth awards are due to be held soon, closing dates for nominations is Friday 31st January. RW to forward details for these to be shared via social media.

11) **Correspondence**

Chris Campbell dog warden attended the village in late November, no fines were issued. CE will contact Chris again due to current increase in dog fouling in the village. AC suggested contacting Connie Logan from SAC Environmental Health for help with managing the dog fouling issue.

CE reported that a working group will be set up to review 'Blue Book' guidance for new community councillors and office bearers. All meetings so far have been held during working hours. CE requested any interested parties to confirm if they are happy to attend on behalf of BCC. RW suggested asking for a twilight session given the lack of availability of community councillors during the day. CE to email Jamie Tait to ask for alternate evening meeting.

A thank you card has been received from Scott and Neve McKinley thanking BCC for the Christmas sweets they received.

Letter of thanks received from Rosemary Stevenson, expressing gratitude for being given the opportunity to switch on the Christmas lights and being awarded the first Outstanding Person of Ballantrae.

KM reported that all residents affected by the recent power outages are eligible for a compensation payment from Scottish Power Energy Networks to cover meals. Details of how to claim can be found on Scottish Power Energy Networks at the following link:

https://www.spenergynetworks.co.uk/pages/storm_eowyn_compensation.aspx

Details will also be shared via the community council Facebook page.

12) **A.O.C.B**

KM asked AC to chase up the resurfacing of the Vennel car park. AC confirmed that the mobile home bays will be permanent.

Fionnadh stated that despite living in Smyrton Hill, she has not received any information regarding the proposed BESS. CE to forward relevant documentation to Fionnadh via email.

MMcK reported Stinchar Valley transport have received funding from VASA for administration circa £21,000.00

CE thanked all parties for their help during the recent storm. CE suggested setting up a village resilience team. SA has been contacted separately by SAC about setting up a resilience team. This to be discussed at the February meeting.

Date of next meeting will be 25th February 2025 at 19:00

Items	Actions	Who	By when
5	AC to investigate why there is not an accessible access at the south side of the bridge.	Alec	ASAP
5	AC to request a dog waste bin for the Bennane, at the north end of the beach.	Alec	ASAP
5	AC to investigate lack of drop kerb at top of Vennel adjacent to church.	Alec	ASAP
6i	BCC to add report to next issue of the Ballantrae News to publicise the works carried out. AC will contact Sarah Ross from SAC comms department to add details of the bridge history. DC to ask Judie McCourt to add any relevant details on behalf of the Ballantrae History group.	Alec Debbie	Before next copy deadline for Ballantrae News
6j	CE to call a further meeting of the BESS subcommittee	Claire	ASAP
6k	AM to summarise SAC response to proposed new national park and forward to CE for wider distribution.	Andrew	Prior to February BCC meeting
7	SA to draft letter and send to SPR confirming increase of small grants awards to £1,000 proposal.	Sharon	ASAP
7	SA to submit funding application for 2025 pantomime.	Sharon	ASAP
7	SM to submit small grant application for £1,000.	Sean	ASAP

8	LC to confirm windfarm extension community benefit meeting with Ballantrae Trust	Laura	ASAP
10	RW to forward details for Annual South Ayrshire Youth award nominations for wider distribution	Ryan	ASAP
11	CE will contact Chris again due to current increase in dog fouling in the village.	Claire	ASAP
11	Community councillors to confirm to CE if you would be willing to join the 'Blue Book' review working party.	All CCs	ASAP
11	CE to email Jamie Tait to ask for alternate evening meeting for 'Blue Book' working party review process.	Claire	ASAP
12	CE to forward relevant BESS documentation to Fionnadh via email.	Claire	ASAP
12	Community resilience team/process to be discussed at February meeting.	All CCs	February BCC meeting