

1) **Welcome.**

CE welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) **Attendees.**

Claire Erskine (CE); Mhairi McKenna (MMcK); Kim Mawer (KM); Sharon Adams (SA); Ruby Cunningham (RC); Cllr Alec Clark (AC); Martin McCourt (MM); Laura Cunningham (LC); Andrew MacDonald (AM); Debbie Cassels (DC)

3) **Apologies.**

Colin McNally, Calum MacDonald, Ryan Ward, Sean McIlwraith.

4) **Previous Minutes Approval.**

Minutes from 25th February approved, proposed by MMcK, seconded by KM.

5) **Matters arising and updates.**

AC to investigate why there is not an accessible access at the south side of the bridge - AC has spoken to the relevant department in SAC and they had stated that there was an accessible access to the south side of the old bridge. This is incorrect AC to refer to Fiona Ross.

AC to request a dog waste bin for the Bennane, at the north end of the beach – AC to follow up with Fiona Ross.

CE to call a further meeting of the BESS subcommittee – completed

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 – completed

KM to take on organisation the dates and distribution of posters, leaflets and invites – completed, press release for bridge sent, 'reopening' event arranged for 21st April 1pm, posters to be issued and invites sent out.

LC to come back with more information about possibilities for the windfarm meeting – LC confirmed that SPR have not yet been in contact to arrange a further meeting.

AC to follow up 4 prominent potholes on the Foreland. - The potholes have had a temporary repair full repair to be completed within 48 working days.

SA to take on work around the resilience team - SA has had a meeting with David Girvan and Leslie Geoffrey for setting up of a resilience team, SA is to feedback to Leslie Geoffrey regarding support given out during the recent power cut.

CE to email Chris Wilkinson a form to be co-opted onto the council – not possible.

AC to follow up ownership of the benches that are outside the pub and outside the church – Benches do not belong to SAC, the bench outside the King's Arms is currently posing a H&S risk, due to its location MMcC stated that this bench would be moved by the Ballantrae Trust.

AC to follow up the loss of the salt bin and fence along due to the storm as they have fallen down the hill on Church Street – AC confirmed that will be dealt with as soon as possible.

6) **Reports.**

a. Police Scotland.

For the period 26th February – 26th March 2025.

There has been a total of 7 calls to the Police:

Road Traffic Matters: 4

False Calls: 1

Animals: 1

Assist members of the Public: 1

There were no crime reports for this period

b. Youth Club.

Numbers are starting to pick up and are remaining consistent. There has been a variety of activities held including hot chocolate making, girls vs boys dare, pong and baking nachos. There are a range of activities planned, football, badminton, arts & crafts, cooking, lawn bowls, quizzes and a scavenger hunt.

c. Ballantrae Trust.

Festival of Ballantrae – ongoing

Planning ongoing for upgrade to bedrooms in Kings Arms. - ongoing

Scotmid re the carpark and EV Charger, no news

Playpark upgrade – awaiting installation

d. Community Association Report.

March has been a steady month. Clubs are all going well but we sadly saw the end of our pickleball sessions. Anne hopes to bring something similar back as she progresses through her coaching course. The hall continues to have covering caretakers but Barry O'Hare has been offered the position, and his official start date is 31st March which is great. With him starting we would love to increase lets and private functions. As well as welcoming any new ideas for clubs anyone wishes to set up. We could do with some more weekday activities so feel free to spread the word. Our AGM went well, and we were able to vote to bring in a new constitution; our old one was outdated and adopted when the school was using the hall, so a lot of wording was not appropriate anymore. Attendees were able to bring good discussions and some new thoughts and ideas which was great and supportive of some new projects we will be implementing over this Year. Lots to look forward to as well as the Halls centenary in November. The discussion on making the hall a more viable and functioning rescue centre was well received; our first step will be inviting groups and key people to discuss what this may look like. The BCA will then work on getting this idea into practice.

e. Traffic/travel/transport.

None in period

f. Harbour Committee.

None in period

g. Planning.

None in period

h. Licensing.

Catriona Andrew has finally been in contact; MM has now been added to the relevant distribution list and should now receive all relevant licensing updates.

i. Ardstinchar Bridge

Press release for bridge sent to SAC and Ballantrae News. This has been shared widely on social media and via SAC intranet and website news page.

KM has organised an event for the reopening of the Ardstinchar bridge, this will take place on 21st April 1pm, posters to be issued and invites sent out.

j. BESS

CE called a further meeting of the BESS subcommittee; a press release is to be issued. There have been difficulties in communicating with the L48 energy, emails not replied to, and telephone calls not returned.

k. Galloway National Park

Nature Scot will be publishing their consultation findings on 25th April, there will not be any further updates until after this is published.

7) Treasurer Report

Account balances to date

Special Interest bearing account

	Opening balance	£3279.90
31/01/25	Interest	+9.35
28/02/25	Interest	+£7.96
	Closing balance	£8294.52

Community Benefit Fund account

	Opening balance	£12,000.81
04/02/25	Chq 223 – Jimmy King	-£98.70
06/02/25	Chq 225 – red squirrels	-£497.27
24/02/25	Chq 224 – History group	-£489.00
27/02/25	Chq 227 – power cut recourses	-£20.86
27/02/25	Chq 228 – Thanks	-£50.00
	Closing balance	£10,844.98

Harbour Account

	Opening balance	£945.00
No statement	Closing balance	£945.00

Admin Account

	Opening balance	£252.00
03/02/25	Cheque 20	-£60.00
28/02/25	Cheque 21	-£60.00
	Closing balance	£132.00

1. For information we have received this year's funds from SPR which are £77,551.21. Compared to £75,157.28 last year. These will be shown in next month's balances.
2. I was previously asked to enquire about interest rates for funds held by Foundation Scotland, this was confirmed to be 3%, the interest received in our SIB account is 1.25%

Small Grants

BRICC have applied for £512 to purchase a laptop for the use of their secretary to provide minutes to the committee and keep correspondence together in a secure central place – BCC

have applied for a laptop from a SAC fund on behalf of BRICC. If this application is unsuccessful a cheque for £512.00 will be issued to BRICC.

The Kings Arms Pub and Hub have applied for £280 to pay for an entertainer (Destination Anywhere) to perform on Friday 6th June, the weekend of The Festival of Ballantrae – approved.

The Trust has applied for £1000 for a new extractor fan in the pub, this is required to pass food safety regulations – approved.

8) Funding Reports

Ballantrae Community Fund

The meeting was held 10/03/25

Only one application (£6,957.00) for the Colmonell and Ballantrae Agricultural Society, granted.

Funding available: £44,884.01.

Funding available for education and training: £8,151.00

an advert has been developed, also indicating that there is a grant available for rural driving lessons. The BCC had increased micro-grants to £1,000.00, BCF minimum grant threshold has increased to £1,000.00 in line with the higher limit for micro grants. The grant award letter wording is to be altered, so the BCF and the SPR are acknowledged.

Annual report to SPR is due on 01/04/25

The cut-off date for applications is 30/04/25

The next funding meeting is 23/06/25

Carrick Futures

Next funding meeting: 23rd April 2025

Next application deadlines: 27th May 2025 for late July 2025 decision.

Kilgallioch Community Fund

No meeting period

9) Councillor report from SAC

Budget approved for next year, 8% increase in council tax, however SAC is able to maintain all services.

New Girvan library was officially opened last week. The Renovated McKechnie institute was also opened last week with an updated smuggler's exhibition. New banking hub is open and up and running, with increased footfall daily. The schedule advertised outside is for when there are specific advisors present for those banks on that day.

Tennis courts are currently being resurfaced, the contractors have highlighted that the fence to the tennis courts is in quite bad repair, and this is also to be repaired as part of these works, as SAC have agreed to fund this.

AC has attended a round table meeting at the Hive in Dumfries and Galloway, for the proposed Galloway National Park, this was a positive event, for sharing of information and current positions on the proposed national park.

AC attended a meeting with the transport minister in conjunction with the other SAC members and representatives from Dumfries and Galloway. He reported that this was a positive meeting and that the minister had a good understanding of the issues with the A77 along with the A75 as she is local to Dumfries and Galloway. AC suggested that BCC should invite the Minister to a meeting to discuss the issues local to Ballantrae, as she was very receptive to helping with the local viewpoints.

10) **Thriving Communities report**

No report

11) **Correspondence**

KM asked if the community skip would be coming back, AC said that there are currently no plans for the skip to be reinstated.

KM asked if there was any progress on the resurfacing of the Vennel car park, AC will request an update. AC also confirmed that currently there are no plans for the parking charges to be applied to the Vennel car park.

CE reported that two members of the public had contacted the community council about a lorry parking on the Foreland near the junction and causing an obstruction, AC to speak to Ayrshire roads Alliance.

Also noted were incidents of lorries blocking the pavement on both sides of the road near the shop. AC to follow up with ARA.

CE reported bins are not being emptied on a regular basis and are therefore overflowing. SA stated that the commercial bin uplift day had been amended without notice. AC to follow up with neighbourhood services.

CE is now a member of the Ballantrae Community Fund and awaiting induction.

CE wished Happy Birthday to Alec Clark on behalf of the BCC.

A.O.C.B

AM - southern upland partnership have been awarded funding to deliver nature connection workshops. They would like to be invited to a BCC meeting; CE requested AM to arrange this.

MMcK - shared photos from the Red Squirrel group, the group have confirmed that there are also pine martens present in the local area.

Date of next meeting will be 29th April 2025 at 19:00

Items	Actions	Who	By when
5	AC to refer to Fiona Ross about 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 to chase up with Fiona Ross.	Alec	ASAP
9	BCC to invite the Minister to a meeting to discuss the issues local to Ballantrae.	Kim	ASAP
11	AC to request update on the resurfacing of the vennel car park	Alec	ASAP
11	AC to follow up lorry parking down towards the harbour with ARA.	Alec	ASAP
11	AC to follow up incidences of lorries blocking the pavement on both sides of the road with ARA and parking attendants.	Alec	ASAP
11	AC to follow up public bins not being emptied regularly with neighbourhood services.	Alec	ASAP
12	Invite SUP to a BCC meeting	Andrew	ASAP
			ASAP
			ASAP