

## Minutes of Belmont and Kincaidston Community Council

Thursday 2nd April 2026 @ 7.35pm Belmont Academy, Ayr

**Members Present:** Cara Bennington (Secretary and Acting Chair), Ian Douglas (Treasurer), Colin Hall (Planning & Licensing Contact), Carol Campbell, Dennis McLellan, Con Brennan, Matthew Grant (Link Officer), Councillor Brian McGinley.

**Apologies:** Flora Fleming (VC), Hezekiah Adesina, Dianne Markham.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Minute</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	Sederunt was passed around, and the meeting was quorate with 6 members in attendance out of a current membership of 10.	
2	Declarations of interest on agenda items - None declared.	
3	<b>Community Police Report</b> Secretary had received the Ayr East Police Report for the month of March and read out the crime stats at the meeting.	
4	<b>Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting in March -</b> Proposer – Carol Campbell    Seconder – Ian Douglas	Secretary to send approved March minutes to SAC.
5	<b>Treasurers Report</b> – Nothing to report since we just had the AGM before this meeting.	
6	<b>Planning and Licensing</b> – Nothing to report.	
7	<b>Community-Led Action Plan for Ayr East</b> – The evidence to support this plan has come from the residents' survey responses. Audrey Gatt has been working with FHMCC and BKCC to produce this five-year plan, 2026-2031. The plan contains requests from both Community councils in Ayr East for improvements in services from many public providers, including South Ayrshire Council, specifically for Ayr East.	Secretary to email the latest draft of the Community-Led Action Plan for Ayr East to members for their perusal.
8	<b>Belated report on the Undersky play day event in July 2025 funded by BKCC via the South Ayr Locality Planning Partnership</b> – after Dianne Markham spoke to UnderSky at a conference in Maybole, UnderSky were reminded to send a report to BKCC containing stats and photographs. We need this to show to our funders, South Ayr Locality Planning Partnership, who kindly provided the funding for the free event which took place at Kincaidston Park.	Secretary to send the Undersky report to Neil Goudie to provide proof of what we spent our funds on.
9	<b>Secretary report</b> – Secretary told members about the launch of Stepping Stones on 28th March in Ayr Town Hall which the secretary attended (along with her partner who had helped to plant trees at Woodpark). Dianne was on a pre-arranged vacation and could not attend. The event was very inspiring - hearing what other community groups had done to encourage biodiversity and a love for nature in their communities. A short video was created for each community group which will be available to view online soon. BKCC received a special plaque to place in their Pollinator Friendly Area in Woodpark play area, Belmont. Cara will be planting Ragged Robin and Lesser Celandine amongst the trees planted at Woodpark this coming week with Jenny Aitkenhead from Stepping	

	<p>Stones. Some of the trees are leaning down and need some support. Recent weather has been very wet and windy. A nature booklet is being produced by Undersky to promote each of the community projects helped by Stepping Stones. Woodpark will feature in one of the 4 booklets.</p>	.
10	<p><b>Ayr Petanque Club</b> - Discussion about the proposal from Allan and Istvan to take over the Multi-Use Games Area in Kincaidston Park if it isn't being used. Matthew Grant, our SAC Link Officer, who works with youth in South Ayrshire was concerned that the Games Area would only be able to be used for one purpose i.e. Petanque and that people in the vicinity would be unhappy to lose the facility for ball games. It was felt that the club might be able to find a piece of ground that they could build a petanque area on and get the funding to do that if they contact the external funding officer at South Ayrshire Council. Petanque is gaining popularity in Scotland and is a game that can be played by all ages and abilities.</p>	<p>Secretary to put the Ayr Petanque Club in touch with the external funding officer at South Ayrshire Council, Tracy Whiteford.</p>
11	<p><b>BKCC Facebook posts</b> - Secretary explained to members that she had been contacted by SAC about a post, or posts, appearing on the BKCC Facebook Group page which had been reported as being political when political posts are not appropriate for a Community Council to appear to promote, innocently or not. The posts were immediately removed and the Secretary sought to find out who had posted them. Councillor McGinley was asked about the posts since they had his name on them but he was unaware of their existence on our group page, and there was not enough expertise on the workings of Facebook groups for anyone to say with certainty how exactly this post arrived on the site. The Secretary had thought the posts were informative to the community and naively thought it was okay to leave them up and even give them a like to promote their visibility as usually done to all posts. BKCC have learned a lesson from this incident and all posts are pre-approved now.</p>	<p>Secretary to make other members administrators or moderators of the Facebook Group. Also, Secretary must find out more about the workings of a Facebook Group and pay attention to what is being put up.</p>
12	<p><b>Ageing Well Champions Board</b> - Dennis had attended the latest meeting of the board in the Cutty Sark, Ayr Town Centre. There was a discussion on day-patient appointments at Crosshouse Hospital being missed, apparently due to patients arriving by car and not being able to find a parking space. The hospital is talking to Community Transport to see if South Ayrshire patients can be transported and seen within a two-hour window to alleviate the problems. Mention was made of the fact that there is a bus service right outside the hospital which will take anyone to Kilmarnock Bus Station and to many places from there.</p>	
13	<p><b>South Ayr Locality Planning Partnership</b> - next meeting is on Tuesday 28th April from 1430 - 1630 at Annbank Village Hall, Annbank KA6 5EE. All South Ayr residents welcome to attend.</p>	
14	<p><b>Meeting ended 2045hrs.</b> Next meeting is on <b>May 7, 2026</b>, in Belmont Academy conference room on the ground floor in the 'Admin' corridor.</p>	

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