



**Minutes of the March Meeting of Beith and District Community Council
Held in Beith Community Centre Lounge on Tuesday the 9th April at 7:00pm.**

In Attendance:

Helen McNaughton	HMcN	Chair Beith & District Community Council
James Waite	JW	Vice Chair Beith & District Community Council
Jim Murdoch	JM	Treasurer Beith & District Community Council
Brian Smith	BS	Beith & District Community Council
Bridget Johnstone	BJ	Beith & District Community Council
Ian Johnstone	IJ	Beith & District Community Council
Ted Nevill	TN	Beith & District Community Council
Karen Campbell	KC	Beith & District Community Council
Cllr Donald L Reid	Cllr DR	Ward 7
Cllr Anthea Dickson	Cllr AD	Ward 7

6 members of the public were also present including 2 from Kilbirnie & Glengarnock CC

Actions

1. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the following apologies were noted:

Apologies:

Janet Barr	JB	Beith & District Community Council
Joe Murdoch	JM	Police Sergeant
Christina Pieraccini	CP	NAC

2. **Police Report:**

As Sgt Joe Murdoch was on shift, James Waite read out the Police Report provided. The data collated between 09/03 and 09/04 showed 191 calls to police resulting in 31 crime reports being raised. 72 of these calls had been priority 1 or 2. There was also an update on the youth problems in Eglinton Street, reporting that 5 calls had been made which had all had been attended by police.

3. **Guest Speaker:**

Sarah Roberts from Transport Scotland opened by giving the benefits of the new Dalry Bypass project which included shorter journey times, improved safety for road users and communities and eliminating the risk of the low bridge on the current road to Dalry. There has been 3.8km of new carriageway built, a new viaduct which spans the river Garnock and the Ayr/Glasgow railway line and a new overbridge at Blair Road. They are confident this work will be completed by the end of 2019.

Civil Engineer Brian Snow then talked us through a presentation of the 6 phases which started in October 2017. Ariel slides showed how much work has already been completed and there were various pictures showing the construction of the 250m viaduct. Upcoming work includes surfacing of the viaduct, completion of the Hillend roundabout, continuation of mainline earthworks and road drainage and then finally the installation of signage, street lighting and crash barriers. Cllr Donald Reid and Helen McNaughton both praised the information given to the public during the required roadworks as it had caused minimal disruption.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting had previously been circulated and were approved as an accurate record by:

Proposer: Brian Smith Seconded: Jim Murdoch

Matters Arising:

No arising matters were discussed

5. **Planning Applications:**

No new planning applications were discussed.

The Chair Helen McNaughton confirmed a letter of objection had been written and receipt acknowledged regarding the use of the Bank of Scotland building for a takeaway restaurant.

6. **Treasurers Report:**

Jim Murdoch gave an overview of the accounts, noting that the administration account balance of £373.51 and the Project account stands at £1194.94.

The laptop and printer which was purchased was £58 more than the grant received.

7. **Garnock Valley Locality Partnership:**

James Waite gave a brief update mentioning there had been interest shown in our intention to visit the STOVE project regarding the regeneration of Dumfries town centre and that this visit would be supported by the Council. Funding could be sought for transport.

The Gaelic Language Strategy had been agreed for the next five years.

8. **Calendar of Events:**

🗓️ **Annual Litter Pick** – Organised for 27th April 10:00 – 13:00hrs All volunteers meeting at the Community Garden. Ted will pass the equipment used on the day to the Canoe Club for their Litter Pick.

🗓️ **St Inans Festival 15th June** - The committee are making good progress with this. Anyone who can Steward on the day should be at the Community Centre for 11:30hrs.

🗓️ **Garnock Valley Community Council Forum Update** – The Joint CIF (Community Investment Fund) application now needs to be formalised and a decision on how the money would be spent if successful. 1st draft of the application should be completed by 1st May and Final application completed by 22nd May.

A 6-week pilot of the Youth Bus is planned for June and July with the intent to collaborate the feedback in August. The next meeting will take place on the 10th June which will finalise the rota for the bus.

🗓️ **Pan Ayrshire Community Council Conference 11.05.19** – this will be attended by Ian Johnstone, Brian Smith & Karen Campbell.

🗓️ **Traffic volume & issues – Howood CC** – this was attended by Brian Smith, Ian Johnstone & Bridget Johnstone who gave a brief overview. There is concern regarding the volume of traffic at the Howood junction and the Risk Brae which will only increase with the improvements being made to the Dalry Bypass. It is the intention to hold a public meeting although this has not yet been arranged. It was suggested that all the Community Councils affected by this issue should collaborate to pursue the matter.

- 🗣️ **Food Forum 24.04.19** – Ian Johnstone will attend.
A discussion took place about the participatory budget of £1250 and ideas on how to help communities feed communities. Cllr Anthea Dickson spoke about The Big Lunch which is organised by The Eden Project and takes place on the 1st and 2nd June. It was agreed that this would be something to consider for next year.
- 🗣️ **Your voice, your view 25.04.19** – this will be attended by Ted Nevill, Karen Campbell & Brian Smith.
Glengarnock Bowling Club are holding a Drop-In session on the 1st June to drive links in the community

9. General Correspondence:

- 🗣️ **Beith Bypass** – Helen McNaughton has written to Keith Gibson MSP, Minister of Transport Michael Matheson and First Minister Nicola Sturgeon. Acknowledgements have been received and awaiting further response.
- 🗣️ **Request from Ros Fallon** – after discussion it was agreed that the first available date for Ros Fallon to address the Community Council was October.

10. Open to the Floor:

The Chair opened the meeting to the floor.

- 🗣️ Kenneth Sibley wanted to speak to the Community Council about a 16-page proposal he has put together on how to use empty shops to help the community. He suggests that an empty shop could be taken over for community use until the owner has a use for it again. His original idea is for a music education programme, which would offer music lessons to all ages of the community. This could be expanded to a variety of arts and craft classes. Although it was agreed that this was a great idea in theory, Cllr Anthea Dickson pointed out that most of the empty buildings are privately owned and they would be reluctant to let anyone use their premises.
- 🗣️ **Community Link Worker** – Stephen Cameron introduced himself and explained briefly on his role in the community. Providing support and information on a wide range of issues that can impact on health and wellbeing including alcohol & drugs, managing stress & anxiety, living with health conditions and caring for relatives. Appointments can be made through Beith Health Centre.

11. A.O.C.B.:

- 🗣️ **Beith Country Park** – Ted Neville addressed the room explaining that the current lease on the Speirs School Grounds and the Marshlands will soon come to an end and North Ayrshire Council are unlikely to renew this. He put forward some ideas put together from a collaboration between Friends of Spiers and Beith Trust. As the meeting was already running over time it was agreed this would be discussed in more detail at a later date.
- 🗣️ Helen informed the group that the Citizen of the Year Presentation is on 3 May and an invitation will follow. Helen is on holiday and unable to attend.

12. With no further business, the meeting was closed with a vote of thanks from the chair.

The next meeting of Beith and District Community Council will take place on the 14th May in Beith Community Centre Lounge.

Karen Campbell
Minute Secretary