



**Minutes for Beith and District Community Council**  
**Held in Beith Community Centre Lounge on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 7:00pm.**

**In Attendance:**

Helen McNaughton	HM	Chair Beith & District Community Council
Jim Murdoch	JM	Treasurer Beith & District Community Council
Janet Barr	JB	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	Secretary Beith & District Community Council
Cllr Donald L Reid	Cllr DR	Ward 7
Joe Murdoch	JM	Police Sergeant

6 members of the public were also present

**Actions**

**1. Guest Speaker:**

Fiona Fisher, Barmill Conservation Group gave a short presentation on the progress made by Barmill Conservation Group since work commenced in 2010. After hosting a community consultation, the public had requested more from the public park and better access to the countryside. Work started with the Vale Grove garden, using donated materials and the help of volunteers. Next was the Vale View garden which received help from The Beechgrove Garden and the difference made by these two projects was evident from the slides. Now full-time in a community post, Fiona is hoping to involve the community more and more. With nature, horticulture, history and health being the key elements, guided walk & cycles, small historical tours, bug hotels, bat walks and bird houses have already proved a success and Fiona hopes to expand on these further. With the park and a designated safe walking route from Beith now signposted, she hopes more and more of us will visit this wee gem. Helen thanked Fiona for her presentation and commented that it was good to hear that a safe walking route was developed between Beith and Barmill. This will strengthen the links between the two areas.

**2. Apologies:**

James Waite	JW	Vice Chair Beith & District Community Council
Brian Smith	BS	Beith & District Community Council
Anthea Dickson	Cllr AD	Ward 7

**3. Police Report:**

Sergeant Joe Murdoch gave a report on the period 14/04/19 – 14/05/19 stating there had been 213 calls resulting in 30 crime reports being raised. The calls had included 70 Priority 1 and 2 calls.

	<p>A member of the public had expressed his concerns regarding the speed of drivers travelling along Roebank Road which was more prevalent at the weekend, including early hours of the morning. Sergeant Murdoch was aware of this problem explained that unless people phone in these incidents and it becomes a documented problem, he is not given the means to deal with them.</p> <p>A concern was also raised about quad bikes racing through the town and the wrong people stopped and searched. JM is looking in to this issue.</p>	
4.	<p><b><u>Minutes of the previous meeting:</u></b> The minutes of the previous meeting had previously been circulated and were approved as an accurate record by:</p> <p><u>Proposer:</u> Janet Barr <u>Seconded:</u> Jim Murdoch</p>	
5.	<p><b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b> There were no matters arising.</p>	
6.	<p><b><u>Planning Applications:</u></b> The Roebank Hotel has received planning permission for an outdoor seating area and notification has now been received for an outdoor license. The license application had been deferred until planning was approved. Initially, The Community Council had supported this application after hearing from joint owner Neil Smith at the meeting held in May. However, following representation from a local resident of the Roebank and of the events planned for the near future, we as the Community Council felt we were misled. The noise from this venue is already a problem for the neighbouring houses and we feel this would make it even more bothersome. It was agreed we would send a letter of objection to the Licencing Board objecting to their application in the hope that this area will not be used. A resident will make representation on our behalf to the licensing board.</p> <p>There was discussion on Loanhead Quarry Consultation. Planning application will be submitted and Community Council have at this time no objections.</p>	
7.	<p><b><u>Treasurers Report:</u></b> Jim Murdoch gave an overview of the accounts, noting that the administration account balance of £353.51 had an outstanding cheque of £50. The project account stands at £1195.22.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>Suicide Prevention:</u></b> HM put forward an idea for benches to be placed around Beith and District with helpline numbers for people to phone and inspirational quotes to read on them. The hope would be that someone feeling vulnerable would seek the required support and it would also raise awareness of mental health issues. HM suggested that different organisations in the town and surrounding area could sponsor a bench and paint in their own colours. The cost and practicalities have not yet been explored but agreed this was a great idea and something we would discuss further.</p>	HM
9.	<p><b><u>GLA Airspace Change – Consultation:</u></b> A consultation on the changes to airspace had taken place on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September in Glasgow prior to out meeting, however, as no Committee Member was available to attend, they have agreed to come and speak at a Community Council meeting. HM will arrange this.</p>	HM
10.	<p><b><u>Garnock Valley locality Partnership:</u></b> As JW was on holiday and the link was not allowing HM to access, no update was provided.</p>	

11.	<p><b><u>Beith Conservation:</u></b> As BS is on holiday it was agreed to discuss this at a later date.</p>	
12.	<p><b><u>Calendar of Events:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🗳️ <b>Garnock Valley Community Forum</b> – The Empowering Communities funding &amp; CIF funding application outcome would not be decided until the end of October. HM &amp; JW</li> <li>🗳️ <b>A737 Action Group</b> – TM and BJ had attended, reporting that the Regional Manager for Transport Scotland was being invited to discuss the whole road instead of just small parts. BJ expressed her concerns that this action group were only interested in one junction and not anything out with this. Cllr DR thought we should be putting pressure on the Scottish Government to action the plans for the Beith bypass, however, there is still the one objector who has stopped this from progressing to the next stage, and we may have missed our opportunity for funding. CP suggested we work with Community Councils in North Ayrshire that are also affected by the A737 eg Dalry and Kilwinning. This will be explored further. TN &amp; BJ</li> <li>🗳️ <b><u>Lochshore development group</u></b> - KC and TN had attended the last meeting which was a brain storming session for as many ideas as possible for the area. The next meeting is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September, HM will attend. HM</li> <li>🗳️ <b><u>VE Day 2020</u></b> – JB shared the plans of the Cunningham Choir and the Garnock Valley community Bands concert, which is being held on 10<sup>th</sup> May in the Community Centre. The music will be relevant to the period and the commemoration. They have been given the venue free of charge from BCA and hope the Community Council will offer their support and help. The CC will support and assist at the event. HM passed on VE Day booklet to JB with information on events that could be held. JB will liase with BS to discuss additional events. JB &amp; BS</li> <li>🗳️ <b><u>Your Voice, Your View</u></b> – a discussion took place on the Councils draft plan to relocate Beith Library into the Community Centre. The Community has been given 4 weeks to submit a viable alternative proposal. JB suggested this would be a great space for a recording studio and music lessons and will put together a proposal for this. JB suggested speaking to the Radio City Association to benefit from their experience and local knowledge. Cllr DR suggested a public meeting should be organised to try and form a sub committee to take any ideas forward. It was agreed that we should try and engage with the public and local groups, however, although Facebook users seem to voice their opinion, it remains difficult to get the public involved in any way. James Robson, Beith Community Association reported that they had held a meeting with affiliates and their executive where suggestions were made. BCA will discuss this further. All</li> </ul>	
13.	<p><b><u>General Correspondence</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🗳️ <b><u>Beith Development Trust</u></b> – requesting a letter of support for the installation of solar PV system. It was agreed that this was a good idea and the letter confirmed. HM</li> <li>🗳️ <b><u>The Scottish Ambulance Service</u></b> – inviting members of the public to join a focus group, meeting quarterly, to share experiences and to discuss how to make improvements. IJ is interested in this. IJ</li> </ul>	
14.	<p><b><u>A.O.C.B.:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🗳️ TN highlighted that there was a problem with speeding through Burnhouse</li> <li>🗳️ Problems from the Beith Fair were discussed with underage drinking being of the most concern. Several ambulances had attended, and parents being called to pick up drunk children. There was also concern on the state of the park and skateboard park which was full of broken bottles. This had taken too long to be cleaned up.</li> <li>🗳️ BJ raised concerns that bins were not being collected on the allocated days. This was apparently down to short staffing and having to employ agency workers.</li> </ul>	

	<p>🗣️ BJ also raised concerns on the material being dumped at Knowes Farm Landfill Site and reported that there was again a smell being omitted. HM suggested that the WH Malcolm Resident Liaison Committee arrange a meeting and inform the Community Council of any actions which arise from this. JB to take forward.</p>	
<p><b>15.</b></p>	<p>With no further business, the meeting was closed with a vote of thanks from the Chair.</p>	
	<p>Discussion took place on the date &amp; venue for next meeting and HM informed the group that Barmill Community Association would confirm availability at their meeting on Thursday. HM proposed that if Tuesday 8 Oct was unavailable that the meeting could be held on Friday 11 October. All agreed and BJ &amp; IJ tendered their apologies if held on 11 October.</p> <p><b>Post meeting:</b>  <b>The next meeting of Beith and District Community Council will take place on the 11th October in Barmill community Centre – 7pm.</b></p> <p>Karen Campbell  Secretary</p>	