

DALRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Dalry Community Council Meeting

Monday 31st August 2020, held via Zoom

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming all present to the first Zoom meeting of Dalry Community Council. She thanked Graham Emans for attending to discuss CCTV upgrades in the town.

2. Present / Apologies

Present:

Community Councillors – Sheena Woodside (the Chair), Julie Wales (Treasurer), Peter Stevenson (Secretary), Carrie Borland

Other attendees – Robert Barr (Councillor for Dalry), Christina Pieraccini (North Ayrshire Council), Graham Emans (North Ayrshire Council), Allan Wright (Kilbirnie Community Council), Joe Crossland, Ella Fry, John Higgins, Nik McNicol, Alan Wales, Julie Wales

Apologies were received from:

Lynn Benevento (Community Councillor), James McCosh (Community Councillor), Myra Sim (Community Councillor), Patricia Gibson (MP)

3. Minutes of Meeting on 9th March 2020

The Secretary asked for comments on the draft minutes of the March meeting. The following clarifications were received:-

Item 5 – the renewables application had been put forward for approval, rather than approved.

Item 7e – it was noted that plans for VE Day had been affected by Coronavirus, however Councillor Barr praised the VJ Day celebrations put together by David Park. This view was shared by those in attendance.

Subject to these changes, the meetings were proposed as an accurate record by Peter Stevenson and seconded by Julie Wales.

4. Matters Arising

The Secretary ran through matters arising from previous meetings.

The Chair and Myra Sim had reviewed the list of community groups. The Chair advised that there were open questions about the nature of some of the groups. **Action to be carried forward for further review.**

The Secretary confirmed that action regarding taxi-sharing had been overtaken by Coronavirus, and it was unwise to recommend people share journeys in the circumstances. **Action closed.**

Christina Pieraccini confirmed that Christmas Lights switch-on events were not recommended, and Saltcoats had already cancelled their 2020 event.
Action carried forward.

The Treasurer confirmed she had emailed Alan Scott at Streetscene regarding litter and dog-fouling. Streetscene officers have been active in Dalry during lockdown, with two penalty notices issued for dog-fouling and two for fly-tipping. **Action closed.**

A community litter-pick is still desirable however guidance on the number of people gathering together would severely restrict this. It was suggested that people could be allocated into smaller 'teams' which might get around limits on households meeting. A risk assessment would be required.
Action carried forward.

5. Chair's Report

The Chair acknowledged the good work of the community and wider Garnock Valley in pulling together during lockdown. She advised that some people were still not getting government assistance and work was needed to support those who had fallen through the gaps. Councillor Barr noted that North Ayrshire Council was the only council area where bin collections did not stop. He also advised that Dalry Parish Boundary Trust had set aside £65k for Covid-19 support.

Christina Pieraccini was asked to update on the regeneration funding. She advised that everything had been delayed due to Coronavirus. The Treasurer advised that the mural project had been delayed until Spring 2021, however the Burns Club have been approached for their input to the Burns Mural. She advised that a second mural would be installed at the shelter between LIDL and Merksworth Park.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer confirmed that the Community Council have an administration account containing £229.81 and a project account containing £1,479, which comprises funding for IT equipment and VE Day.

7. Updates

7a. Police Report

No-one from the police was in attendance at the meeting.

7b. Councillor Updates

Robert Barr advised that he had been in communication with NAC's Building Control department regarding the old police station on Smith Street. He hoped that it would be possible to tidy this area up.

He advised that the police had been issuing tickets for illegal parking near Todd's shop on New Street.

He updated the meeting that concerns had been raised by residents near the Lynn Glen regarding the volume of visitors, and a meeting will be required to find a resolution.

He confirmed that work was underway to look at temporarily widening the pavement from the Cross down New Street towards the traffic lights; he also advised that plans were being looked at to install a cycle path in both directions on Garnock Street.

7c. CCTV Update

Graham Emans introduced himself to the meeting and confirmed that plans had been underway for a while to add to and upgrade the CCTV within the town. These plans had been put in place with Sergeant Joe Murdoch, ex-Sergeant in the Garnock Valley. He advised that new CCTV cameras would be installed on Courthill Street outside Rosearden and at the junction of Smith Street and New Street at the car park. He confirmed that the Smith Street camera and existing camera at the Biggart Fountain would mean the entirety of New Street was covered.

He advised that the three existing cameras would be upgraded. He also confirmed that the Council and Police were looking to deploy mobile CCTV cameras, however were looking at how to provide these with power.

The Secretary asked whether the new cameras, particularly the one at Smith Street, would be able to detect speeding in the area. Graham Emans confirmed that Police Scotland would be able to add a speed camera to the CCTV infrastructure if they wished. He emphasised that all cameras within the town work well, and the sooner people report an incident the sooner they can adjust the view of the cameras.

7e. Public Park Update

The Chair advised that she had been in communications with SEPA, Scottish Water and the Council regarding sewage spilling into the park. She noted that Environmental Health were now involved too. She confirmed that she felt Scottish Water were not doing enough – that they had suggested replacing a manhole cover would resolve the issue, and UV light from the sun would kill any bacteria. She had requested signage be put up but none had been forthcoming.

Alan Wales advised that a similar situation in Barrhead had been given a full environmental clean with detergent. He confirmed he worked in this field and would be happy to help the community organise soil samples for testing.

The Chair advised that the Council did not have the funding in place to fix the wider flooding issue. The Secretary agreed that whatever solution was found needed to be joined up amongst the various bodies involved.

7d. Locality Partnership Update

Christina Pieraccini confirmed that the Locality Partnership had not been able to meet since the start of the year, however the next meeting is scheduled for the 15th of September.

She advised that the Moving Around Working Group had been discussing re-routing NCN7 between Dalry and Kilbirnie. A Travel Needs analysis had been postponed until next year when travel needs may have resumed an element of normality.

The Work and Local Community Working Group have been looking at developing an app for promoting local businesses. Beith Trust are leading on this. Funding has been provided for three years. The Secretary suggested some overlap between funding provided through the Town Centre Regeneration Fund for marketing Dalry.

Christina Pieraccini advised that the Lochshore Project has also been delayed as a result of Covid-19, and work on the new visitor centre would begin 6 months later than planned. A circular route around Kilbirnie Loch is being looked into. Public events are planned for the 10th and 15th October.

8. Planning Applications

The Community Council have been asked to comment on a planning application for a new coffee shop on New Street. Councillor Barr updated the meeting on local concerns about the building work that had been undertaken to date and the provision of parking. The Secretary asked if training was available to understand how the Community Council should consider this application. Christina Pieraccini advised that this could be provided, however it was permissible to register the wider community's concerns at this stage.

ACTION: Peter Stevenson to respond to planning application and arrange appropriate training via Christina Pieraccini.

9. Licensing

No licensing applications had been received.

10. Correspondence

Any correspondence received had been covered elsewhere in the agenda.

11. Any Other Business

A participatory budgeting event had been planned for autumn 2020, however given Covid-19 this would be delayed until autumn 2021.

The Secretary advised that an application was being submitted to the Locality Partnership for funding in relation to the re-routing of NCN7 between Dalry and Kilbirnie. He advised that a new route was being considered and, pending landowner discussions, further information would

be shared as soon as possible. The funding application was to allow feasibility work to take place.

Ella Fry thanked the Community Council for allowing her to attend. She advised that residents at the Lynn Glen had concerns about the number of people using the Lynn Glen path over the summer. Julie Wales advised that her daughter had been involved in picking up litter from all the visitors. Ella Fry confirmed that litter and stress had both been issues, and that although things had quietened down now, over the summer people were travelling tens of miles to visit the Lynn Glen. The Chair advised that a one-way system had been trialled however the number of visitors meant it didn't help much.

A discussion took place over the junction of the Kilwinning Road and Saltcoats Road near St. Andrew's Gardens. The Roads department have no plans to install a roundabout here. The Secretary advised that elected councillors had been approached for a meeting to discuss numerous roads issues, including that junction, the junction of Roche Way and Townend Street and the junction of Townend Street and New Street.

ACTION: Peter Stevenson to follow up with elected members in relation to roads issues and other ongoing problems within the town.

Julie Wales asked if there were any plans to reinstate the bridge at the Moss-side 1 walk. She advised that a resident in Westpark Wynd had retrieved the bridge from the burn.

ACTION: Julie Wales to provide contact details for person in possession of Moss-side 1 bridge

12. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Dalry Community Council will take place at 7pm on the 28th September via Zoom.