

## **DALRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Dalry Community Council Meeting**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Rosearden Hall**

#### **1. Welcome**

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming all present and highlighting the attendance of Jenny Baker and Caroline Duffy, of North Ayrshire Council and Police Scotland respectively. She confirmed that Graham Emans had submitted apologies and the planned update on CCTV would be delivered at the next meeting.

#### **2. Present / Apologies**

Present:

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

Other attendees – Joy Brahim (Councillor for Dalry), Christina Pieraccini (North Ayrshire Council), Jenny Baker (North Ayrshire Council), PC Caroline Duffy (Police Scotland), Reg Graham (Dalry Community Development Hub), Allan Wright (Kilbirnie Community Council), Robert Cuthbertson, John Higgins, Ronald Stalker,

Apologies were received from:

James McCosh (Community Councillor), Patricia Gibson (MP), Graham Emans (North Ayrshire Council)

#### **3. Minutes of Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The Secretary noted that comments had been received on the draft minutes published on social media. He displayed the amended minutes for consideration of the meeting. No comments were received. Myra Sim proposed the minutes as an accurate representation of the meeting; Julie Wales seconded this.

#### **4. Matters Arising**

The Secretary ran through matters arising from previous meetings. It was noted that community councillors would review the list of groups in Dalry. Myra Sim commented that a number of the groups on the list no longer functioned.

Peter Stevenson confirmed he had not been able to create a journey-sharing poster as yet but wanted to do this before the next meeting.

Christina Pieraccini confirmed that Stewart Beck in her team had spoken with the Christmas Lights committee and offered to assist with arranging

funding. The governance of the group is in order and concerns about delays to obtaining consents in 2019 had been taken on board.

PC Duffy confirmed Sergeant Marshall had spoken with Transerv about updating the road markings at the junction of Kilwinning Road and Saltcoats Road, and the new bypass roundabout on Kilwinning Road.

Community councillors had discussed the timing of the monthly meeting and agreed to trial holding this on the last Monday of the month.

The issue of litter and dog-fouling had been referred to the elected councillors for action.

The idea of a community litter-pick had been discussed and added to the agenda for wider comment later in the meeting.

## **5. Chair's Report**

The Chair confirmed that she had attended the Facilities and Amenities Group within the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership. A plan to locate a wind turbine and hydro-power station near Kilbirnie had requested funding from the Communities Investment Fund. £77,000 had been sought to fund the creation of 3 part-time posts. Income from the renewables project would be distributed across the Garnock Valley. Information about the proposal can be viewed on the Community Planning Partnership website at [www.northayrshire.community](http://www.northayrshire.community) and can also be shared on the Community Council's social media.

**ACTION:** Sheena Woodside to forward relevant documents to Peter Stevenson; Peter Stevenson to share on social media.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer confirmed that the Community Council have an administration account containing £346, and a project account containing £1,804.67. She advised that £650 of that has been spent on IT equipment, with further spend expected.

## **7. Updates**

### **7a. Police Report**

PC Duffy introduced the crime statistics for Dalry from 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020 until 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020. She advised that from 182 calls from members of the public, 37 crime reports had been generated.

47 of the 182 calls fell within the four priority categories of drug dealing and drug misuse (1), violence and anti-social behaviour (18), dishonesty (14), and road safety / road crime (15). There were 9 priority 1&2 calls, 7 missing person calls and 3 concern for person calls.

In the same period in 2019 214 calls were received, and last month 149 calls were received.

The Chair advised that speeding in town had become a real issue since the bypass opened, particularly on New Street near the junction with Smith Street. Carrie Borland added that the West Kilbride road was also a trouble spot. PC Duffy advised that she would pass these concerns on to traffic officers.

**ACTION:** PC Duffy to pass on concerns about speeding in Dalry.

#### **7b. Councillor Updates**

Joy Brahim advised that she had spoken with David Hammond, Head of Commercial Services at North Ayrshire Council, about the litter and dog-fouling issues, as well as flooding in the public park. She asked for feedback on particular areas of town where litter and dog-fouling are a problem. Attendees suggested James Street, Vennel Street, Aitken Street, Smith Street and Courthill Street. It was noted that anyone caught allowing their dog to foul the pavements could be fined £70.

A concern was also raised about the state of the gardens in some council-owned properties on Townend Street and Garnock Street. Councillor Brahim to raise this with the Council.

Councillor Brahim also noted that the picnic area on the Fairlie Moor road had been cleared, however the ongoing vandalism and littering meant that the landowner could end up closing the site. She urged residents to report any issues they are aware of within the picnic area as soon as possible.

#### **7c. CCTV Update**

It was noted that Graham Emans had submitted apologies and would be invited to address the April meeting.

#### **7d. Lochshore Update**

Jenny Baker addressed the room, outlining the background to and scope of the Lochshore Project. She noted that the Scottish Government have financially supported the construction of a visitor and community hub within the site at the southern end of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. SLR Consultants had produced a masterplan for the development around the concept of “play”. The idea is to attract visitors on a national scale and use this for socio-economic development of the neighbouring communities.

She outlined that the project is split into three phases – restore, destination and housing. There are a number of potential plans for the site, including new facilities for Garnock Rugby club, education and volunteering space, a café, developing a mountain bike track, a path around Kilbirnie Loch, a wetland, a running track.

Jenny sought opinions from the meeting on three proposed 'Active Travel' connections to Glengarnock train station. It was noted that improving the cycle connections between Dalry and Kilbirnie would be worthwhile. Jenny advised that the Active Travel team were dealing with this. Joy Brahim offered to chase this up as this had been in the planning phase for a long time.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to check progress with the project to connect Dalry and Kilbirnie by cycle path.

Jenny Baker confirmed that the first phase of work would create 12 jobs and by year three they hoped that up to 145,000 visitors would access the site. Works are due to start on site in October 2020 for 12 months. The Lochshore Development Group has been set up to engage stakeholders in the project as it moves forward.

A question was raised regarding the value of the project to the local community. Jenny confirmed that up to 100 jobs would be created directly and indirectly through increased income to the area. She noted that an open day was planned for May to allow people to see the range of groups involved, and that the Community Council had been invited to have a stand at this open day. She confirmed that other projects were underway in the Garnock Valley, including the Stoneyholm Mill and Town Centre Regeneration Funding.

A concern was raised regarding the investment in Kilbirnie, when Dalry's appearance had suffered due to lack of basic investment in things like flowerbeds. Joy Brahim undertook to raise this with David Hammond.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to raise appearance of Dalry with David Hammond at North Ayrshire Council.

Peter Stevenson suggested that since Dalry's benefit from the project would be indirect, the project to improve cycle and transport links between Dalry and Kilbirnie should be given more importance to ensure people from Dalry can travel easily to Lochshore and tourists can easily visit Dalry once at Lochshore.

Ronald Stalker confirmed that direct benefit to Dalry would include the improved facilities for 73 under-16 rugby players registered with Garnock Rugby Club, as well as closer facilities for football teams while the pitches in the Public Park and Putyan Park are unuseable.

A concern was raised that the project was to benefit the whole Garnock Valley yet fishing permits at Lochshore cost Dalry residents double what they cost Kilbirnie residents. Allan Wright offered to look into this with Kilbirnie Community Council.

**ACTION:** Allan Wright to speak with Kilbirnie Community Council about fishing permits at Lochshore.

Following the discussion around flowerbeds in the town, the Chair allowed a discussion regarding the planting of a tree at the junction of Townend Street and Lynn Avenue. Those present at the meeting supported this plan and Joy Brahim offered to look into this within the Council.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to raise tree planting at Lynn Avenue with North Ayrshire Council.

#### **7e. VE Day Celebrations**

Myra Sim advised that the 10-person working group had met to discuss arrangements. On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May an exhibition and quiz will be held; on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May live music and a tea dance will take place in St Margaret's Hall or the Cross. A grant has been applied for with the results due in the next week. Myra confirmed that the primary schools would get involved, with the children being asked to make bunting. The next meeting of the working group is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 4:30pm. Allan Wright asked if Myra would send him an outline of the proposal so he could prepare a poster.

**ACTION:** Myra Sim to send proposal for VE Day celebrations to Allan Wright.

#### **7f. Community Litter-pick**

The Community Council have discussed holding a litter-pick in order to improve the town and raise the Community Council's profile. It was noted that Kenneth Gibson also did an annual litter-pick in Dalry. Joy Brahim offered to find out when this is so the two events don't clash.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to find out when Kenneth Gibson MSP will hold his annual litter-pick.

PC Duffy advised that she had tried organising a similar event for some of the local schoolchildren, and that she was happy to tie in with the Community Council for a weekday event. She confirmed that she wanted to build the link between the schools and the community and build a sense of pride in the local area.

Jenny Baker and PC Duffy left the meeting.

#### **8. Planning Applications**

No planning applications had been received.

#### **9. Licensing**

Two licensing applications had been submitted by Dalry Thistle for evening events at the community centre. The Community Council had no objections to these applications.

## 10. Correspondence

Sheena Woodside confirmed that an architect had been appointed to assess the works required to the pavilion in the Public Park. Costings would be produced by the end of March.

Joy Brahim confirmed that the car parks in Courthill Street and North Street would be lined following recent resurfacing works. Sheena Woodside asked Joy Brahim to look into the workmanship on site as the tarmac is patchy. It was noted that the workers had laid new tarmac without removing the old surface.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to raise issues over workmanship on carpark surfacing with North Ayrshire Council.

Sheena Woodside confirmed that she had contacted the Council about the old police station on Smith Street. An enforcement notice has been served on the owner. Joy Brahim advised that at some stage compulsory sales orders will come into force, which will ensure the property is sold and maintained properly.

## 11. Any Other Business

Ronald Stalker reported another accident near Romeo and Juliet's on the Kilbirnie road. Joy Brahim offered to raise this with the Roads Department at the Council.

**ACTION:** Joy Brahim to raise road safety issue on Kilbirnie road with North Ayrshire Council.

Julie Wales confirmed that the Fairy Trail sub-group of the Community Development Hub are planning an event at the Lynn Glen on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2020 as well as a stall at the Cattle Show. She advised that two murals were planned for the town – one themed around Robert Burns on the wall of McKinnon Brothers garage, the other at the shelter between Merksworth Park and LIDL. She advised that the Hub are looking for new members.

Joy Brahim confirmed that she was hoping for money from the Ayrshire Growth Deal to address issues with the B714 road to Saltcoats, as there are a high number of accidents.

## 12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Dalry Community Council will take place at 7pm on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020 in Rosearden.