

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Thursday 10 December 2020 at 7.00 pm via Microsoft Teams Business

Ite	Subject	Pg	Ref	Officer	Timings
m	W. I	No			
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.			Clir Bell	7.00 – 7.05
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Elaine Young	7.05 – 7.10
3.	PB Update Receive update from Pam Crosthwaite, Empowerment and Capacity Officer.		Presentation	Pam Crosthwaite	7.10 -7.25
4.	Garnock Valley Young People Receive update on recent work.	-	Verbal	Garry Tait	7.25 – 7.35
5.	Community Support Receive update from Angela Morell.	-	Presentation	Angela Morrell	7.35 – 7.45
6.	Cost of the School Day Receive update from Angela Morrell	-	Verbal	Angela Morrell	7.45 – 7.55
DEC	ISION REQUIRED				
7.	Community Representatives Partnership to consider applications for the Community Representative vacancy.	Pg 8	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	7.55 – 8.10
8.	Grant Receive report from Agenda Morrell.	Pg 19	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	8.10 – 8.20
STA	NDING AGENDA ITEMS				
9.	Locality Officer Update Receive update from Christina Pieraccini	Pg 21	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	8.20 – 8.25
10.	HSCP Locality Forum Update Receive update on progress.	-	Verbal	Dr Janet McKay	8.25 – 8.35
11.	Locality Plan Progress Receive feedback from sub-groups Moving Around Facilities and Amenities Work and the Local Community	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps	8.35 – 8.50
12.	Lochshore Receive update from Angela Morrell.	-	Verbal	Angela Morrell	8.50 – 8.55
OTH	IER BUSINESS – TO INFORM LOCALITY P	LANNIN	G		

13.	AOCB • Local Police Plans	-		Cllr Bell Supt Derek Frew	8.55 – 9.00
FOR	INFORMATION				
14.	 Overview of projects detailed in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan in relation to Garnock Valley. 	Pg 25	Enclosed		
	Regeneration Delivery Plan Consultation		Link embedded.		

Distribution

Elected Members

Councillor John Bell (Chair)
Councillor Robert Barr
Councillor Anthea Dickson
Councillor Joy Brahim
Councillor Todd Ferguson
Councillor Donald L Reid

Community Representatives

Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council James Waite, Beith & District Community Council Audrey Mason, Community Representative Trish Wallace, Community Representative

CPP/Council Representatives

Dr Janet McKay, North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (Vice Chair)
Kaileigh Brown, Third Sector Interface
Andy Dolan, Police Scotland
Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Rosemary Fotheringham, Funding Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer
Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer (NHS Ayrshire & Arran)

Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	15 September 2020 - Microsoft Teams
Present:	Councillor John Bell (Chair); Councillor Robert Barr; Councillor Joy Brahim; Councillor Anthea Dickson; Councillor Donald L. Reid; Dr Janet McKay, NAHSCP (Vice-Chair) Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer); Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC; Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, NAC; James Waite, Beith Community Council; Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council; Audrey Mason, Community Representative; Trish Wallace, Community Representative; Kaileigh Brown, TSI; Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue; Garry Tait, Community Development Worker, NAC; Claire Fitzsimmons, Manager (Regeneration), NAC; Gavin Paterson, Partnership Engagement Officer, HSCP; Peter Stevenson; Euan Gray; Committee Services Officer, NAC
Apologies:	Councillor Todd Ferguson; Andy Dolan, Police Scotland;

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest	
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted.	
	The Chair took the opportunity to mention the passing of Theresa Potter. Theresa's work with the Partnership and the wider community over the years was praised and all in attendance agreed that she would be missed greatly, both personally and professionally. The Partnership asked that their deepest condolences be passed on to Theresa's family, friends and colleagues.	
	The Chair also advised that Ian Shaw had decided to step down from the Partnership to allow him to focus on other areas of community work. The Partnership requested that their thanks be passed on to Ian and wished him all the best in the future.	
	Councillor Barr, as a matter of caution, declared an interest in an application for funding from the Dalry Old Folks' Committee to the Margaret Archibald Bequest which he expected to be discussed at the meeting.	

2. Action Note

The action note from the previous meeting held on 23 January 2020 was approved.

The following points were discussed as matters arising:

Garnock Valley Men's Shed

The asset transfer was still in progress and would be discussed at the next meeting of North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet. Councillor Barr advised that the Dalry Parish Boundary Trust had a grant of £5,000 set aside for the group and would be paid when the process is complete.

Community Wealth Building

Since the last meeting the Council has agreed to implement their Community Wealth Building Strategy and will be looking to work with community partners to implement this. It was agreed that it would be beneficial if someone from the Council could come to a future meeting and provide an update on how this work is progressing.

CIF Applications

The application by the Beith Community Development Trust was approved by the North Ayrshire Cabinet as recommended by the Partnership.

Since the last meeting it was agreed that the application by Radio City should be independently reviewed and would not be discussed by the Partnership until this process has been completed.

Police Scotland - Proceeds of Crime Fund

It was confirmed that nominations have been received for the vacancy on the group responsible for disbursing this fund.

3. National Cycle Network – Dalry to Kilbirnie

The Partnership received a report on the options for the potential realignment of National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 7 between Dalry and Kilbirnie. Claire Fitzsimmons, Manager (Regeneration), was in attendance to present the report.

The new route would utilise in part the disused railway that runs south of Kilbirnie and is owned by Sustrans. The proposed route would require the support of fewer landowners than previously identified routes.

Members of the Partnership asked questions and were provided with further information in relation to:

J. McGee

- flooding risks, how these can be minimised and the expected impact of the Garnock Valley Flood Protection Scheme; and
- issues around land ownership and current leases on the land.

The Partnership unanimously agreed to (a) support (i) the potential alternative route identified in the report; (ii) officers working with the community with a view to gaining the landowner support required; and (iii) an application to Sustrans 'Places for Everyone' fund to allow officers to further consider the viability of a new route; and (b) thank Peter Stevenson for his involvement in progressing the project.

4. Garnock Valley Young People

The Partnership received an update from Gary Tait, Community Development Worker, on the recent work which has been undertaken with young people in the Garnock Valley.

The update included information on:

- an alcohol awareness program which was being rolled out across the locality;
- work being done to have someone from the Garnock Valley take up a role on the NAC Youth Executive;
- proposals to start STEM workshops in schools for pupils who are at risk of exclusion;
- the training which has been undertaken by staff while working from home and the expected benefits of this; and
- proposals to take over the management of the local skatepark.

Discussion then took place on how to approach antisocial behaviour in a number of areas of the locality. It was highlighted that guidance for restarting youth work has been issued however this is only for outdoor activities.

Noted.

5. Community Investment Fund

The Partnership were provided with details of a CIF application which was at the expression of interest stage. The application was submitted by Dalry Community Council and Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council and was supported by Beith Community Council and was seeking funding to carry out a feasibility study on a proposed new route for the National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 7 between Dalry and Kilbirnie. The project will require around £20,000 of CIF funding. This figure would be finalised should the application progress to the next stage.

Following consideration of the expression of interest, the Partnership agreed to request a full application be brought to a future meeting.

C. Pieraccini

6. Community Hubs and Next Steps

The Partnership received a report from Angela Morrell on the work of Community Hubs throughout lockdown and the next steps for them. The report contained details of the support offered by the hubs, from food supply to help with mental health, and details of an Audit Scotland report which praised the work of the CPP and LPs.

Discussion then took place on the important role of the hubs in supporting the community, and in doing so, bringing together different partners and organisations to work together to great effect.

Noted.

7. Locality Officer Update

Christina Pieraccini provided a report on work which had been undertaken with communities in the locality. Further to the information detailed in the report she highlighted that the GV Men's Shed was in the final three for best Men's Shed in Scotland and that details of the winner would be provided in due course.

The work undertaken by Councillor D.L. Reid and the Jolly Beggars Burns Club was also highlighted. The group have delivered over 1,400 care packages to people with disabilities and widows and widowers over the age of 70 throughout lockdown. A further package delivery was scheduled for the next weekend.

Councillor Barr also highlighted that the Dalry Parish Boundary Trust had provided grants to the HSCP, local foodbanks and Anam Carra totalling over £17,000. He advised that there was still over £65,000 available for dispersal and that they have been advised the award criteria can be loosened given the ongoing Covid-19 situation.

Christina agreed to circulate a PDF version of the update.

C. Pieraccini

C. Pieraccini

8. HSCP Locality Forum Update

Janet McKay provided the Partnership with an update on the work undertaken by the HSCP throughout lockdown. Details were provided on the challenges faced by services including Care at Home. Discussion took place around finding a balance between face to face and virtual consultations. The group were advised that NHS A&A had to provide a remobilisation plan to Scottish Government in August through to April 2021.

Kayleigh Brown noted that work was ongoing with CIS Ayrshire to provide Kindles and WiFi access to those who need it. She agreed to submit a flyer which could be circulated to the rest of the Partnership for more info.

K. Brown

9. **Locality Plan Progress** The Partnership received an update from each of the three working groups. Moving Around The recent focus has been on the Plug the Gap cycle path project. The group agreed to push back the traffic needs analysis by one year due to Covid-19 restrictions limiting the level of public consultation that can be carried out and an overall reduction in traffic levels as many continue to work from home. Facilities and Amenities Discussions have taken place around how Town Centre Funding could be utilised. They also agreed to create a sub-group whose sole focus would be on progressing the GV2020 Vision project. Work and the Local Community The group provided details of an app currently under development which aims to provide a place for local shops and venues to sell, advertise and promote their goods and services on. confirmed that the GV Participatory Budgeting Event had been pushed back by one year due to Covid-19 restrictions. Noted. 10. Lochshore Angela Morrell provided an update on the development of Lochshore including details of Sustrans funding and how this would be used, a planned consultation event around the Lochshore Masterplan, and a potential walkway around the loch. Noted. 11. **AOCB** Peter Stevenson queried if, following discussion at this meeting, further P. Stevenson details of the Plug the Gap project could be posted to social media. It was confirmed that the information discussed at the meeting should be promoted via social media. J. McGee Councillor Barr requested information on the progress of applications to the Margaret Archibald Bequest and confirmation that decisions on these were not being taken by officers of the Council.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.



Nomination Form Locality Partnerships Community Representative

1. Personal Details

Title: Mr / Mrs / Ms / Other:Mr	
Forename:Henry Johnson	_ Surname:
Address:	
Kilbirnie	
Postcode:	
Tel. No:	
Email:	

2. Please tell us about any current and previous experience of working in a group or committee.

Date or Year	Role or description of your involvement
Current	Chairman of charity trustees of Garnock Valley Men's Shed
Current	
	Charity trustee of Stoneyholm Mill Trust
Current	Charity trustee of Project Kilbirnie (currently dormant)
Current	Member of Kilbirnie Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Yes x	No				
If you an	swered y	es to the above	question, please tell us provide the following informatio		
ate or ear	Volunte	eer Role/Title	Organisation/company name and aims		
	See a	above	See above		
nominat	ing) have	e that might be	xperience that you (or the person you are relevant to this nomination?		
		Service	of working on committees during 33+		
	•	rts and Social	Association of a nationwide government		
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Proposer

Please give the name and contact details of one person who has known you (or the person you are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years and who would be prepared to support your nomination:

Kilbirnie
form is correct to the best of my knowledge.
nt is a public appointment, which is of interest shire Community Planning Partnership. e will be released to the Locality for which fulfil my duties as a member.
Date:17/11/20
a proposed nominee, please ask them to
Date:

Please note this information (with the exception of your contact details within Q1 and information given at Q5 and your proposer's contact details) will be shared with all attendees at the Locality Partnership meeting. Your contact details will be held by the Community Planning Team within North Ayrshire Council and we will use these to contact you about Locality Partnership and Community Planning matters only.

Please return this completed form to the Community Planning Team at North Ayrshire Council, 2nd Floor (West), Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE or communityplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Proposer

Please give the name and contact details of one person who has known you (or the person you are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years and who would be prepared to support your nomination:

-			David			
Gar	dner					
A	Address:		,			
Poste	code:			Kill	birnie	
	el. No:	name of the design of the control of				
	imail:		X			
De	eclaration			a:		
-1	confirm that the info	ormation given or	n this form	is correct to	the best of	my knowledge.
to I	A Locality Partnershion individuals and se understand that if I his group was estab	rvices within Nor am appointed m	th Ayrshire y name wi	Community I be released	Planning P	artnership. ality for which
5	Signed:	hy gh	<u></u>	Date:	17/11/	20
	f you are completing gree to this nomina			oposed nomi	inee, please	ask them to
S	Signed:			Date	e:	*

Please note this information (with the exception of your contact details within Q1 and information given at Q5 and your proposer's contact details) will be shared with all attendees at the Locality Partnership meeting. Your contact details will be held by the Community Planning Team within North Ayrshire Council and we will use these to contact you about Locality Partnership and Community Planning matters only.

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Nomination Form Locality Partnerships Community Representative

1. Personal	Details	
Title: <mark>Mr</mark> / Mrs	s / Ms / Other:	
Forename: _ <u>l</u>	MichaelSurr	name: _ <u>Deadman</u>
Address: <u>E</u>	<u>Seith</u>	
Postcode: _		
_	Email:	
2. Please te committe		nd previous experience of working in a group or
Date or Yea	Role or description of	of your involvement
2010 - 2013	and all festive for the	ommittee to ensure that Beith is illuminated he community at Christmas. I proposed and ndraising events and attended meetings ir to achieve this.
3. Have you last 5 yea Yes X	` .	nominating) undertaken voluntary work in the
	J	uestion, please tell us provide the following information
Date or Year	Volunteer Role/Title	Organisation/company name and aims
	Supporting community	I helped someone I was supporting to set up an ADHD support group. From this I also started

		and inclusive to anyone who wants to meet up and build better community involvement while boosting people's confidence and improving their overall wellbeing.
		experience that you (or the person you are experience this nomination?
n a role whe wellbeing on community a within a comsupported the community, I donations ke	re I supported people within their journey into employmend am now on my own journ munity café run by Cornerstonem by giving out parcels to plocal businesses and the prep	in health and social care settings. I had an opportunity to work an employability project, I was lucky enough to help people's ent. Through this I gained a passion to work more in the ney to learn more about how best to do this. I have also worked one, this was in a building owned by the Salvation Army so we beople from the community. I also took deliveries from the pared parcels delivered by NAC. I organized and sorted out all and tidy, helping to make up new food parcels easily and keeping
	_	e you (or the person you are nominating) would not a member of the Locality Partnership.*
have dyslexi	ia so use of any technology v	vould be beneficial, programmes like Microsoft word.
	you (or the person you Partnership?	are nominating) want to be a member of your
positive chan learn and sta communities	nges that benefit as many peo ort my journey. This year has o' wellbeing so if successful I a	y community and to be able to use my creativity to make ople as possible. This would be a great opportunity for me to been hard for everyone so we need to help and support the am looking forward to working in partnership with many like-people to make such a positive impact.

Proposer

Please give the name and contact details of one person who has known you (or the person you are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years and who would be prepared to support your nomination:

Name: Jean Highgate_____

Address	<u></u>	
		Postcode: _
	Tel. No:	Email:
Declaration		
I confirm that the information given or	n this form is correct to t	he best of my knowledge
A Locality Partnership member appoir interest to individuals and services wir Partnership.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
I understand that if I am appointed my this group was established to enable	me to fulfil my duties as	a member.
Signed: <u>Michael Deadman</u>	Date:	:29/11/20
If you are completing this form on behagree to this nomination by signing be		ee, please ask them to
Signed:	Date:	·

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Nomination Form Locality Partnerships Community Representative

1. Personal Details

Title: Mr.

Forename: James Surname: Robson

Address: **Beith** Postcode:

Tel. No: Email:

2. Please tell us about any current and previous experience of working in a group or committee.

Role or description of your involvement
Chair – Friends of Spiers
Committee Member – Beith Lights and Laughter
Chair – Gateside Primary Parent Council
Committee Member – Spiers Trust
Saltcoats Christmas Lights Committee
Board Member – North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service
Chair – Beith Community Association
Chair - JMS Advice (SCIO)

3.	Have you (or the person you are nominating) undertaken voluntary work in the
	last 5 years?

Yes	х	No	

If you answered **yes** to the above question, please tell us provide the following information:

Date or Year	Volunteer Role/Title	Organisation/company name and aims
2017-Current General volunteer		As a community volunteer with Radio City Association I have assisted with Electric Valley projects including the recent placements of benches and memorial plaque
2017- Current	General volunteer and Chairperson	As chair of Beith Community Association I have administered the running of the community centre building and found new revenue streams to ensure its continued viability.
2016-2017	Community Engagement Officer/ Social Policy researcher	With North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service I helped provide advice on numerous issues such as welfare rights, employment rights, housing rights and other issues as well as providing policy advice
2016	General volunteer	As a representative of NA Citizens Advice I served on the Saltcoats Christmas Lights Committee where I helped organise and run Saltcoats Xmas lights switch on event.
2011-2016		During my time with FOS I was also involved in the production of the first Conservation and woodland management plan for Spiers grounds. I organised regular workdays, where volunteers carried out maintenance of Spiers ground, organised several annual events.

4. Please tell us about any other experience that you (or the person you are nominating) have that might be relevant to this nomination?

I believe I can contribute to the Garnock Valley Locality Planning Partnership as a community representative with my experience in a range of areas and my affiliation with a number of local voluntary organisations throughout the area which allows me to reach out on behalf of the partnership.

After leaving school and entering employment, I initially became a bus driver. One of the Garnock Valley community priorities is "Moving Around", as the Valley lacks decent transport links. I can offer my experience on this subject to find solutions. I subsequently entered further education with both the Open University and UWS studying Society, Politics and Policy which gives me an understanding of practical policy solutions of the Garnock Valley Community Priorities. I also understand the pressures of operating a small business locally having set up a small self- entrepreneurial online retail business and the support that the LPP could offer to contribute to local inclusive growth and economic development as part of the NAC Community Wealth Building agenda. This also gives me an overview of another community priority "Work and Local Community". I can also offer expertise regarding the "Facilities and Amenities" priority as Chair of Beith Community Association who manage the Community Centre I have represented the centre and others on NAFCO. I have a range of experience built up through the third sector on policy development and implementation with experience of developing methods and practices of good governance and skills relating to community engagement as well as operating charitable and business organisations.

N/A	
	ou (or the person you are nominating) want to be a member of your Partnership?
raising my ow work in uniso Garnock Valle contribute wh people experi develop the r	nd is rooted in the Garnock Valley. I grew up and went to school in Kilbirnie and am now in children in Beith. I understand the importance of the towns and villages of the Valley to in to accomplish common goals that each of our community's face. Like many in the y, I was not born into a life of privilege so I wish to see our communities prosper and herever I can to help to address the number of local social and economic issues that local ence on a daily basis. I wish to work in partnership with all local organisations to better etwork of organisations to increase their impact and enable the community's voice to be g that local people are not socially excluded from the development of ideas.
has. I want to believe I coul	ooking to get involved in the LPP because I see the huge potential that the Garnock Valley help the Garnock Valley and the people in its communities achieve their potential. I help the LPP to develop ways to reach out to a wider audience in the Valley, ensuring mber of our community is able to have a voice.
Proposer	
Please give person you a	the name and contact details of one person who has known you (or the are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years all be prepared to support your nomination:
Please give person you a and who wo	are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years
Please give person you a and who wo Name:	are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years all be prepared to support your nomination:
person you a	are nominating) in a personal or community capacity for at least two years all be prepared to support your nomination:

Declaration

I confirm that the information given on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge.

A Locality Partnership member appointment is a public appointment, which is of interest to individuals and services within North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership. I understand that if I am appointed my name will be released to the Locality for which this group was established to enable me to fulfil my duties as a member.

Signed: Date: 30/11/2020

If you are completing this form on behalf of a proposed nominee, please ask them to agree to this nomination by signing below:

Signed: Robert Hobbs Date: 30/11/2020

On Behalf of the Radio City Association, 1A Bridgend, Kilbirnie, KA25 7DF

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Locality Partnership: Garnock Valley Locality

Date: 10th December 2020

Subject: To advise the meeting of an application received in respect of the Margaret

Archibald Bequest Fund

Purpose: To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

Background

An application has been received in respect of the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund. Details of this application are summarised in Appendix 1 of this report.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

The balances available for disbursement are bullet pointed below:

• The Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund has a balance of £8,979

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To consider the application for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

For more information please contact: Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2nd Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine. Email - amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: Rosemary Fotheringham (rosemaryfotheringham@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 01294 475935 **Date:** 29/08/2019

MARGARET ARCHIBALD BEQUEST

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2020/21

Margaret Archibald Bequest Criteria:

The application should benefit all those aged 65 and over and in poverty.

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount	Previous Awards
		Requested	
,	utility bills for Rosearden Hall, Dalry: - N-Power electricity - £30pm - Business Stream Water - £99pm - Scottish Hydro Gas - £49pm	,	2017/18 - £6,000 (Trips/Christmas Lunches)
	TOTAL £178 x 12 - £2,136		

Economy & Communities, Finance & Corporate Support, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

Finance & Corporate Support:

Grants should generally not be used for running costs.

The financial statement provided is for May 2016 to June 2017.

The organisation states they have also applied for a grant for the same purpose for £1,300, it this was successful an additional £836 would be required, no updated has provided on the progress of this grant claim.

Legal:

The detail provided appears to satisfy the criteria of the Trust. So long as the Trustees are satisfied that the applicant group is "in need" financially, I am of the view that any financial assistance will be within the powers of the Trustees to award.

Connected Communities:

Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee are seeking funding in respect of utility bills for Rosearden Hall. They received an initial £1,300 grant award from the Scottish Government Third Sector Resilience Fund and are now seeking funding to ensure that utility bills are paid. The group has provided details of procedures that are in place to ensure compliance with public health requirements in relation to COVID-19 as and when Rosearden re-opens.

Details contained with the application demonstrate that the award will be used for those who are aged 65 and over and in need.



December 2020

Garnock Valley Community Support Hub – The Hub continues to support vulnerable people within the community. The Hub offers advice, guidance, food parcels and prescription collections and deliveries for those unable to leave their home due to self-isolating or who are in financial hardship. From 23rd March to 30th November, over 4500 volunteer hours were contributed from the community to the Garnock Valley Hub.

Garnock Valley Community Food Network – Local organisations continue to work together to develop a Garnock Valley Food Network. This is a whole locality collaboration to help address food insecurity in the Garnock Valley. The Network has worked on a leaflet which signposts local people to where they can access food as well as a leaflet to share in the run up to Christmas to help the local community know where they can access food over the festive season. The Network have also been coordinating Christmas support to families.

Beith Community Development Trust continue with their weekly cooked meal service. They have also been working with parents at St. Bridget's Primary School and Café Solace to distribute food at the primary school. This takes place on a Tuesday and a Friday lunchtime. Beith Trust also distribute food at Beith Astro on a Friday at lunchtime.

Working with Dalry Community Association, Dalry Community Sports Club launched their food larder on 18th November in Dalry Community Centre. This distributes food that has been donated locally to local people, as well as food destined for landfill. This is available in Dalry Community Centre every Wednesday 6.30 - 8.30pm and Saturday 10.00am -12.00 midday and is open to all in the community.

Café Solace have been very busy with their Friday night 3 course meals which regularly sells out due to high demand. This is a takeaway or delivery service.

Salvation Army have also been busy making 3 course meals on a Tuesday and a Thursday, as well as distributing food on a Monday.

Lochshore – Sport Scotland have confirmed a contribution of £100k towards the Garnock Visitor and Community Hub, which means all funding is in place to start construction. A circular walk detailed design is progressing and there will be consultation on this early 2021.

A joint initiative working with the Green Action Trust will deliver tree planting at the site (approx. 10ha initially) which will be supported by the Council's investment fund. While events at the site are unable to run at the moment, new 'Explore Lochshore' activities are available to download from the TCV website.

Dalry Community Development Hub - The group have been planting lots of bulbs, plants and shrubs around the town centre. The volunteers had a great time and look forward to seeing the display in the spring.



Locality update



December 2020

Funding has been allocated from the Town Centre Fund for the Development Hub to create a community garden. It will be released upon securing planning permission for the project and the completion of a lease agreement with the landowner.

Dalry Community Council – The community council have been working with NAC regarding the flooding at the public park. This is a longstanding issue and they are hopeful that a plan can be put in place to tackle the problem.

Participatory Budgeting – The Locality PB was launched on 1st December and is now open for applications. It will close on 31st January. Groups can apply for up to £1200 for local projects. Voting will take place entirely online this year for this pot. In addition, the 3 Community Councils continue to plan for "Vall£y Voices for Vall£y Money", the events of which it is hoped will take place in September 2021.

Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club – The Burns Club were delighted that their 76th Annual St Andrew's Night went ahead on 27th November via Zoom. It proved to be a great success. Accordingly, the club will now hold their 77th Annual Burns Supper on 22 January 2021 via Zoom.

They continue with the "Bags of Kindness" project and have now reached 2,000 bags distributed in the Garnock Valley and further afield mainly to the elderly and vulnerable. This week they begin distribution of 250 bags which include a selection box, packet of shortbread and Age Scotland Calendar. They will resume their large bags of messages in January 2021 and this will continue until April 2021. They are very thankful to the many funders who have enabled this caring project to go ahead.

Highlights



Moving around (public transport, traffic and parking)

NCN7 – The 3 Garnock Valley Community Councils continue to work with NAC to explore the feasibility of the NCN7 route between Kilbirnie and Dalry. It is hoped that Sustrans NCN team will work on this directly. A decision on this will be known early in 2021.

Walks – A programme of health walks has been organised in line with current Scottish Government Covid regulations. A local community volunteer has completed Walk Leader Training to assist with these walks. These walks will incorporate a photography project, in partnership with Inclusive Images. These are in place to start early in 2021.

A737 at Beith – The 3 Community Councils for the Garnock Valley continue to work closely together and in October sent a joint letter to Transport Minister Michael Matheson seeking clarification on the proposed improvements on A737 at Beith. In addition, the 3 Community Councils recently met with Kilwinning Community Council to discuss the A737 throughout North Ayrshire and plan to meet regularly to discuss.

Next Steps

The group will meet next on Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 6pm online. Anyone interested is welcome to 10th Infin. 22



December 2020

Highlights

Christmas Links Project - Partners and volunteers in the Garnock Valley Community Support Hub have secured funding for 150 Christmas gift bags for the elderly in the area, helping to address the issue of social isolation and wellbeing over the festive period.

Garnock Valley Men's Shed –17 participants have now received free scale model kits and tools to build during lockdown. Weekly Zoom support sessions are provided for 5 learners to assist them with building their models, as well as model building videos being made available.



Facilities and amenities

The Shed Trustees have hosted fortnightly meetings on Zoom since lockdown started. During this time they have been able to continue to administer Shed projects, discuss asset transfer proposals and complete funding applications, as well as providing mutual support to address loneliness and social isolation. The asset transfer for a long-term lease will go to NAC Cabinet meeting in December.

Funding was applied for which was able to provide iPads for 8 shedders to enable them to stay connected during this time. A Digital Champion was identified amongst Shed members to help get them online. The Shed was nominated in the Scottish Men's Sheds Association's Shed of the Year Awards. They took second place.

GVMS also successfully received funding from Scotland's Learning Partnership for a Shed Christmas Extravaganza. This took place on Monday 30th November and included: quiz, comedy sketch and games on Zoom. Gift bags were provided to the shedders including the Keep Well & Connected leaflet, detailing useful local services and support. GVMS-branded hats and face-masks and other assorted treats. The event provided reassurance and vital contact going into the holiday period.

Next steps

The working group will next meet on Wednesday 3rd February 2021 at 6pm online. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.



Highlights

My community app — This project, led by Beith Community Development Trust, is progressing well. It will build an app which can be used by the whole community, including businesses, to highlight all the activity happening in the Garnock Valley. Soon the working group will be asking for information from the community to help populate the app, ahead of its launch.

Garnock Valley Youth Forum - Have been engaging in a variety of youth work sessions online via a zoom since April and this will be ongoing until December. Within these sessions, the group members confidence and wellbeing has improved, and they are developing projects that will benefit the whole of the Garnock Valley. Some of these



December 2020

sessions/projects include: Mental health and wellbeing, My Media biography, pen pal project (focusing on isolation in older people), quiz nights and joint quizzes with other youth groups in North Ayrshire. They have also worked with the support hub on their Christmas bag project. The young people created Christmas cards which will go in the bags to the elderly in the area. They have also created a Facebook page to highlight and publish the work that they have been doing.

Beith bulb planting - Norrie and Rose Brown celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 1st October in a different way due to lockdown. They ordered 4000 crocus corms and planted them on the grassy banks at the Cross.

They recently received certificates both from the RHS and KSB teams for their work in the community garden. This year they received lots of plants donated from local residents for the garden.

During lockdown a book swap was set up in the community garden. This worked well and as a result they have now installed a weatherproof book swap bookcase situated in the entrance pergola. If anyone has any books and would like to donate them, the bookcase is generally open and they would appreciate all donations.

Beith Skate Park – The Community Development Team are currently engaging with and supporting a group of adults from who have an interest in developing existing play facilities in Beith.

Detached youth workers have been deployed to gather information and data on the need and desire of the local community to have a skate park in the area and to assess community commitment to running it.

The team have engaged with young people from the area through a variety of platforms to raise awareness of and interest in the skate park, also looking to create and support a junior skate park group/committee. The team are currently identifying and engaging with partner agencies to offer the best opportunities for the park to be a success and be a sustainable provision for the area.

A working group has been set up to work across agencies to respond to a rise in youth disorder in the area, primarily in Beith. This group consists of elected members, community councils, Beith Community Development Trust and NAC Community Development Team. It is hoped that the Head Teacher of Garnock Campus and the Locality Sergeant will attend the next meeting.

Next steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 17th December 2020. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.

For further information contact:

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Strategic Housing Investment Programme 2021 – 2026

The Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) 2021-2026 sets out the priorities for affordable housing investment in North Ayrshire over the next five years.

An overview of projects detailed in the SHIP in relation to Garnock Valley is provided below:

Watt Court & Former Dalry Primary School, Dalry (NAC)

Is a 49-unit project which has delivered a new state-of-the-art sheltered housing unit with a community hub, amenity housing and a new area housing office. Works commenced on site during April 2018 with only the supported accommodation (which has an on-site staff base) remaining to be complete during spring 2021.

Garnock Academy, Kilbirnie (NAC)

Is a 50-unit development on the site of the former Garnock Academy. The site start is anticipated for spring 2021 and the project is scheduled to complete during spring 2023.

Laburnum Avenue, Beith (NAC)

Involves the regeneration of 6 properties in Beith to deliver a mix of general needs, amenity and wheelchair user properties. The works are scheduled to commence in autumn 2022 and complete by spring 2024. There is, however, still feasibility work to be carried out on this site.

Newhouse Drive, Kilbirnie (NAC)

Involves the regeneration of 7 properties in Kilbirnie to deliver a mix of general needs, amenity and wheelchair user properties. The works are scheduled to commence in autumn 2022 and complete by spring 2024. here is, however, still feasibility work to be carried out on this site.