



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 7.00 pm via Microsoft Teams

### Business

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>			Clr Bell	7.00 – 7.05
2.	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Elaine Young	7.05 – 7.10
3.	<b>Garnock Valley Young People</b> Receive update on recent work.	-	Verbal	Garry Tait	7.10 – 7.20
4.	<b>Locality Priorities and Locality Partnership Standing Orders</b> Receive update from Angela Morell.	Pg 8	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	7.20 – 7.40
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					
5.	<b>Community Investment Fund - Expression of Interest</b> Receive report from Christina Pieraccini.	Pg 10	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	7.40 – 7.50
6.	<b>Grants/PB Update</b> Receive report from Agenda Morrell.	Pg 11	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	7.50– 8.05
<b>STANDING AGENDA ITEMS</b>					
7.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b> Receive update from Christina Pieraccini	Pg 13	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	8.05 – 8.15
8.	<b>HSCP Locality Forum Update</b> Receive update on progress.	-	Verbal	Dr Janet McKay	8.15 – 8.25
9.	<b>Learning Update</b> Receive update.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers	8.25 – 8.35
10.	<b>Locality Plan Progress</b> Receive feedback from sub-groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving Around</li> <li>• Facilities and Amenities</li> <li>• Work and the Local Community</li> </ul>	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps	8.35 – 8.50
11.	<b>Lochshore</b> Receive update from Angela Morrell.	-	Verbal	Angela Morrell	8.50 – 8.55
<b>OTHER BUSINESS – TO INFORM LOCALITY PLANNING</b>					

12.	<b>AOCB</b>	-		Cllr Bell	8.55 – 9.00
<b>REPORT FOR INFORMATION</b>					
	<b>Report from Cllr Reid</b> Update report enclosed.	Pg 18	-	-	

### **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  
Henry Johnson, 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  
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council  
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer  
Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer (NHS Ayrshire & Arran)

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Garnock Valley Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	10 December 2020 - Microsoft Teams
<b>Present:</b>	<p><b>Councillor John Bell</b> (Chair);  <b>Councillor Robert Barr</b>;  <b>Councillor Joy Brahim</b>;  <b>Councillor Anthea Dickson</b>;  <b>Councillor Donald L. Reid</b>;  <b>Dr Janet McKay</b>, NAHSCP (Vice-Chair)  <b>Elaine Young</b>, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer);  <b>Angela Morrell</b>, Lead Officer, NAC;  <b>Christina Pieraccini</b>, Locality Officer, NAC;  <b>James Waite</b>, Beith Community Council;  <b>Sheena Woodside</b>, Dalry Community Council;  <b>Audrey Mason</b>, Community Representative;  <b>Craig McFie</b>, Scottish Fire and Rescue;  <b>Garry Tait</b>, Community Development Worker, NAC;  <b>Pam Crosthwaite</b>, Capacity &amp; Empowerment Officer;  <b>Derek Frew</b>, Police Scotland;  <b>James Robson</b>, Beith Community Association;  <b>Gordon McGuinness</b>, Radio City Association;  <b>Dennis Hopkins</b>, St Bridget's Primary School;  <b>Michael Deadman</b>, Beith resident;  <b>Henry Johnston</b>, Garnock Valley Mens Shed;  <b>Allan Wright</b>, Kilbirnie &amp; Glengarnock Community Council;  <b>John Higgins</b>, Dalry resident; and  <b>Euan Gray</b>; Committee Services Officer, NAC</p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	None

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The action note from the previous meeting, held on 15 September 2020, was approved.</p> <p>The following points were discussed as matters arising:</p> <p><u>Community Wealth Building</u></p> <p>As requested, the Partnership will receive an update on Community Wealth Building at the meeting scheduled for March 2021.</p>	

	<p><u>Community Investment Fund</u></p> <p>At the previous meeting the Partnership had agreed that a proposal to use CIF funding to carry out a feasibility study on a proposed new route for the National Cycle Network (NCN) Route 7 between Dalry and Kilbirnie could advance to a full application.</p> <p>The group had since advised they will be seeking funding through Sustrans and will not submit a full application at this time.</p> <p>The Partnership also received an update on the application for CIF funding submitted by Radio City. The application was being assessed by an internal council process and group members were asked to put their faith in the ongoing process. Radio City will be informed of the outcome first. It was advised that a further update would be provided in due course.</p> <p><u>Garnock Valley Men's Shed</u></p> <p>The Group's Community Asset Transfer application was approved by North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet on 8 December 2020. Councillor Barr confirmed that the Dalry Parish Boundary Trust had paid a grant of £5,000 for roof repairs following the decision.</p> <p>The group was also named the second-best Men's Shed in Scotland at a recent event.</p>	
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Participatory Budgeting Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Pam Crosthwaite on participatory budgeting.</p> <p>The presentation covered a number of areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PB statistics from across North Ayrshire including 367 funded projects to the sum on £445,000;</li> <li>• three events planned for 2021 - nurturing excellence, arts and culture and youth PB; and</li> <li>• adjustments to the process which have been required due to the Covid-19 pandemic.</li> </ul> <p>Members were advised that examples of successful applications are provided on the application form and a full list of funded projects is available on the Community Planning website.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Garnock Valley Young People</b></p> <p>The partnership received an update from Garry Tait on the work which has been carried out with young people in the Garnock Valley. The update covered a number of points including:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Youth Disorder Working Group which had been meeting virtually to discuss methods to reduce antisocial behaviour in Dalry and Beith; and</li> <li>• projects undertaken by the GV Youth Forum including participatory budgeting, a Christmas card project, quiz nights and a school uniform shop.</li> </ul> <p>A wider discussion took place around youth disorder which had been increasing in frequency and severity. A number of hotpot areas were identified and discussed.</p> <p>It was agreed that Garry Tait would continue discussions with Police Scotland out with the meeting and that local Head Teachers would be invited to future meetings of the Locality Partnership.</p>	<p><b>G. Tait/J. McGee</b></p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Community Support</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Angela Morrell on the local response to the Covid-19 pandemic by the community and partner organisations.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Cost of the School Day</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Angela Morrell on the work being done to help reduce the cost of the school day across North Ayrshire. The presentation provided information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the cost of the school day and how reducing this ties in with objectives contained in the Child Poverty Action Plan;</li> <li>• a working group which has been set up to identify initiatives that will reduce the cost of the school day; and</li> <li>• good practice already in place which could be shared across schools/community groups across North Ayrshire.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p><b>7.</b></p>	<p><b>Community Representatives</b></p> <p>The Partnership were advised that a number of expressions of interest had been lodged in terms of filling the role of Community Representative which had become vacant following the resignation of Ian Shaw.</p> <p>Three full applications had been submitted and were presented to the Partnership for consideration.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that the successful candidate would ideally be a Kilbirnie resident to continue to town's representation on the Partnership.</p> <p>It was agreed to appoint Henry Johnstone to the role of Community Representative.</p>	<p><b>J. McGee</b></p>

8.	<p><b>Grants</b></p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider an application for Margaret Archibald Bequest funding from the Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee.</p> <p>Councillor Barr identified a discrepancy in the report, namely that the group had previously received £6,000 for day trips and Christmas Lunches. He advised that the previous grant was awarded to a different group and that the Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee had never received Margaret Archibald Bequest funding.</p> <p>The Partnership noted the discrepancy Angela Morrell agreed to feed this information back to ensure it is not repeated in the future.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to award £2,136 from the Margaret Archibald Bequest to the Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee.</p>	<p><i>A. Morrell</i></p> <p><i>A. Morrell</i></p>
9.	<p><b>Locality Officer Update</b></p> <p>Christina Pieraccini provided an update on the work undertaken throughout the Locality which covered a number of areas including the continued support of at-risk individuals by local community groups, the community food network and Dalry Community Development Hub.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
10.	<p><b>HSCP Locality Forum Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Janet McKay on the work carried out by the HSCP Locality Forum.</p> <p>They were advised that a number of challenges were anticipated over the coming months relating to Covid-19 combined with the busier winter period. Tackling social isolation would remain a priority for the Forum throughout this period.</p> <p>An update on the vaccination process was also provided.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Locality Plan Progress</b></p> <p>An update was provided by each of the Partnership's three working groups.</p> <p><u>Moving Around</u></p> <p>The group were looking into the providing a number of cycle racks across the locality. They had also scheduled a meeting with Active Travel and a further update would be provided in due course.</p>	

	<p><u>Facilities and Amenities</u></p> <p>The group had created a sub-group, titled Garnock 2023. They also met with the Council's Regeneration Manager and were preparing a consultation document which would be circulated in March 2021.</p> <p><u>Work and the Local Community</u></p> <p>An update on the My Community app was provided. The group would be looking for support in 2021 from local community groups, businesses and residents to help populate the app.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
12.	<p><b>Lochshore</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update on the development of Lochshore. They were advised that the minutes of the September meeting had not yet been approved and therefore could not be circulated.</p> <p>It was however possible to confirm that the feasibility study in relation to the circular walk had been completed and that both the NDA and Scottish Government grants had been approved.</p> <p>The next meeting of the group was scheduled to take place in January 2021.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
13.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>The Partnership were advised that the draft Local Police Plan which sets out practices, focuses and outcomes would be circulated for comment. Members were advised to provide any feedback to Derek Frew or the Community Planning Partnership.</p> <p>The Partnership was also advised that discussions were underway with KA Leisure of the future use of Walker Hall. Further details would be provided in due course.</p> <p>Information on the projects detailed in the Garnock Valley Strategic Housing Investment Plan and a consultation document on the Regeneration Delivery Plan were circulated for information.</p>	<b>All</b>

**The meeting ended at 9.15 p.m.**

<b>Stakeholder Engagement Mandate for 2021 Locality Partnership Priorities</b>	
<b>We:</b>	North Ayrshire Locality Partnerships
<b>Need to understand the views of:</b>	North Ayrshire residents, groups, school communities, businesses and partners
<b>Concerning:</b>	Local priorities, which relate to inequalities and are areas in which Locality Partnerships can add value, and associated actions
<b>So that:</b>	Locality Partnerships can, following consideration of the consultation responses, finalise, approve, and adopt the priorities and related actions. These can also inform the Community Learning and Development Plan.
<b>By</b>	June 2021
<b>So as to accomplish:</b>	The completion of a robust comprehensive engagement and consultation process which enabled communities and organisations to genuinely influence the decision-making process resulting in relevant priorities and consequent effective action.
<b>We will do this through/ methodology</b>	<p>Methodology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online feedback via CONSUL</li> <li>• Telephone</li> <li>• Email feedback</li> <li>• Twitter polls</li> <li>• Facebook polls</li> <li>• Surveymonkey polls</li> <li>• Virtual working groups/chit chats</li> <li>• Online meetings</li> </ul> <p>Promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPP website, Twitter and Facebook</li> <li>• CPP partner social media</li> <li>• Via LP members</li> <li>• Via CPP organisations</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Via Community Councils</li> <li>• Email request to PB applicants</li> <li>• NAC staff groups</li> <li>• School communities</li> <li>• Locality officer engagement</li> </ul> <p>Including feedback already given through engagement such as Chit Chats, Peoples Panel and Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan engagement</p> <p><i>The methodologies described are in line with the current Covid19 restrictions.</i></p>
<p><b>Support required and from whom:</b></p>	<p>Locality Partnership members</p> <p>Elected Members</p> <p>Community Planning partners</p> <p>Community organisations</p> <p>School communities</p> <p>Staff from across North Ayrshire Council</p>

## Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

<b>Organisation name</b>	<i>Garnock Valley Men's Shed</i>
<b>Brief details of organisation</b>	Garnock Valley Men's Shed are in the final stages of asset transfer of their building, a former cleansing and grounds maintenance depot in Kilbirnie public park. Since its inception, the shed's membership has grown to over 80, with up to 30 members using the building on any given day. The Trustees have installed a gent's toilet, a kitchen, re-established a previously disconnected water supply, constructed a bespoke scale model-building room, installed double-glazed windows and reception area, kitted out and draught-proofed a workshop area. Additionally, some roof insulation has been added by shedders. Shed members use these facilities to engage in personal and community projects that effectively tackle loneliness and social isolation, resulting in positive mental health and wellbeing.
<b>Locality</b>	Garnock Valley
<b>Amount requested</b>	£20,000
<b>Brief overview of proposal</b>	The shed building formerly had an obsolete oil heating system that is no longer operational and has been removed. Shedders have been temporarily heating the building using portable electric heaters, moving them from room to room when required. The cost this will incur in the longer term is unsustainable. Furthermore, the lack of insulation in the building makes it extremely difficult to heat, meaning that these electric heaters are ineffective, as heat is lost quickly. The Trustees have recently commissioned an analysis for a new heating system and insulation and have decided to install a FAR Infrared system that is electronically controlled, with Genius Hub room sensors and controls. This is a zoned heating system that will enable individual rooms to be remotely controlled, ensuring that rooms are heated as and when required and not any more than is necessary.
<b>Timescale</b>	Installation during Summer 2021
<b>Contact details</b>	David Gardner

*Forms should be returned to your Locality Co-ordinator by post or email.*

For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf> or contact the Community Planning Team on [info@northayrshire.community](mailto:info@northayrshire.community)



**Locality Partnership:** Garnock Valley Locality

**Date:** 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Subject:** To update the Locality Partnership in respect of the Elderly Grants.

**Purpose:** To approve the Elderly Grants 2020/21 Budget and agree proposals in respect of carrying this budget over to 2021/22.

**Background:** The Elderly Grants budget is normally presented to the Locality Partnership for agreement once budget details are received each April. The budget is set according to area elderly population and details are attached at Appendix 1.

The 2020/21 Elderly Grants budget for the Garnock Valley Locality is **£8,474**.

Following agreement of the Elderly Grants budget, historical groups are invited to apply, and details of the groups are also shown at Appendix 1.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has not been possible to hold the activities normally funded by the Elderly Grants budget because of the restrictions in place. Looking at the forthcoming financial year, it is difficult to predict what activities will be permitted and needs have changed. In order to address this, the following proposal is being made.

**Proposal:** The proposal for consideration is for the budget to be carried over from 2020/21 and that Officers convene a meeting with key older people's groups and the current groups who disburse the Elderly Grants, to consider the key issues affecting older people, which have become even more pertinent during the COVID-19 Pandemic. These include, but are not exclusively, social isolation and digital exclusion. This may provide opportunities to consider how the carry forward budget may be spent in ways that best meet the needs identified by the older people of North Ayrshire.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

- The Elderly Grants budget is attached at Appendix 1 of this report for information and approval.
- Consideration to be given to the proposals in respect of carrying over the Elderly Grants budget to 2021/22

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

- To approve the 2020/21 Elderly Grants budget
- To agree the above proposals in respect of carrying over the Elderly Grants budget to 2021/22.

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

**Completed by:** *Pam Crosthwaite, Capacity and Empowerment Officer, Connected Communities (pcrosthwaite@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Date:** 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## APPENDIX 1

Elderly Grants Budget 2020/21

£59,530

Areas	Population Aged 65+ (MYE 2019)	Areas population aged >65 as % of North Ayrshire's Elderly Population (MYE 2019)	Grant Allocation (£) based on pro-rata allocation	Organisation
Broomlands/Bourtreehill	1,100	3.60	£2,145	Broomlands & Bourtreehill Age Concern
Lawthorn/Girdle Toll etc	1,523	4.99	£2,969	LBLB & Girdle Toll Age Concern
Dreghorn	882	2.89	£1,720	Dreghorn Old Peoples Welfare Committee
Drybridge	89	0.29	£174	Drybridge Hall Management Association
Springside	263	0.86	£513	Springside Community Association
Rest of Irvine	3,832	12.55	£7,471	Irvine Joint Wards Old Peoples Welfare Committee
<b>IRVINE</b>	<b>7,689</b>	<b>25.18</b>	<b>£14,992</b>	
Kilwinning Burgh	1,512	4.95	£2,948	Kilwinning Burgh Old Peoples Welfare Committee
Kilwinning Landward	1,750	5.73	£3,412	Kilwinning Landward Old Peoples Welfare Committee
<b>KILWINNING</b>	<b>3,262</b>	<b>10.68</b>	<b>£6,360</b>	
Arran	1,479	4.84	£2,884	Arran CVS (distributed to groups on Arran on our behalf)
Stevenston	1,885	6.17	£3,675	CLASPS Stevenston
Androssan	2,257	7.39	£4,401	Androssan Old People's Welfare
Saltcoats	2,544	8.33	£4,960	Saltcoats Old People's Welfare
<b>THREE TOWNS &amp; ARRAN</b>	<b>8,165</b>	<b>26.74</b>	<b>£15,920</b>	
Kilbirnie/Glengarnock	1,523	4.99	£2,969	Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern
West Kilbride	1,370	4.49	£2,671	Age Concern West Kilbride
Beith	1,564	5.12	£3,049	Beith Old People's Welfare Committee
Dalry	1,259	4.12	£2,455	Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee
<b>GARNOCK VALLEY &amp; W. KILBRIDE</b>	<b>5,716</b>	<b>18.72</b>	<b>£11,145</b>	
Cumrae	495	1.62	£965	Age Concern Cumrae
Largs	3,760	12.31	£7,331	Age Concern Largs
Fairlie	696	2.28	£1,357	Fairlie Old Folks Welfare Committee
Skelmorlie	749	2.45	£1,460	Skelmorlie Senior Citizens Centre
<b>NORTH COAST</b>	<b>5,700</b>	<b>18.67</b>	<b>£11,114</b>	
<b>NORTH AYRSHIRE</b>	<b>30,532</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>£59,530</b>	



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Garnock Valley Locality Update

March 2021

**Locality Priorities Refresh** – The Community Planning Partnership is currently undertaking an exercise to revisit the locality priorities within each locality. These were previously identified and set out in 2017. This is an opportunity to see if what matters within communities has changed, especially in light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

**Garnock Valley Community Support Hub** – The Hub continues to support vulnerable people within the community. The Hub offers advice, guidance, food parcels and also prescription collections and deliveries for those unable to leave their home due to self-isolating or who are in financial hardship. From 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021, almost 5000 volunteer hours were contributed from local volunteers towards supporting the community through the Hub.

**Garnock Valley Community Food Network** – Local organisations continue to work together to develop the Garnock Valley Food Network. This is a locality wide collaboration to help address food insecurity in the Garnock Valley. The Network met with Tesco on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb to ensure waste is minimised and to discuss collaborative working.

In addition, a North Ayrshire wide Food Systems Network has been developed to bring together several organisations from throughout North Ayrshire who have opened or plan to open a pantry/larder within their community. This will enable groups to support to each other as well as share ideas.

**Dalry Community Garden** - Dalry Community Development Hub have now received planning consent for their community garden and work will start on site soon.

**Beith & District Community Council** – The Community Council were delighted to have been informed that following their suggestions, there will be 6 new cycle parking locations in Beith by May 2021. These will benefit the community and visitors to the town, encouraging users to shop locally. They are also pleased to report that they have purchased a War Memorial Commemorative Bench to be placed in Wilson Street Garden. In addition, they were able to support the community with The Best Dressed Window competition in December. Feedback was very positive with comments such as 'it's good to see the town shops looking so good at Christmas'. The Community Council continue to meet monthly over Zoom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

**Dalry Community Larder** – This was launched on 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 and has operated on a Wednesday evening and Saturday morning from the Community Centre in Dalry. Approx. 110 people are accessing support each week. They provide fresh and date specific products which they receive from various sources including Tesco, Irvine`s Bakery, Café Solace and Co-op. They also distribute a number of toiletries, which have been donated. This is currently all provided free of charge however they are now looking to move towards a minimum and sustainable membership model from March. The feedback is that the people accessing the service are appreciative of the support they are providing for the community.



Locality update



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Garnock Valley Locality Update

March 2021

**Barrmill Jolly Beggars** - Funding of £25,000 was received for community benefit. This provided over 2500 bags of kindness which were distributed to isolated people in the Garnock Valley over the last year.

**Participatory Budgeting** – Applications for the Locality PB closed on 14<sup>th</sup> February. A total of 49 applications were received from local community groups in the Garnock Valley: 11 for Arts & Culture, 17 for Main PB and 21 for Youth PB. Groups have been notified whether they were successful and voting for the Youth PB will commence Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March for 1 week.

## Highlights

**NCN7** – The 3 Garnock Valley Community Councils continue to work with NAC to explore the feasibility of the NCN7 route between Kilbirnie and Dalry. A proposal from Sustrans has been submitted to Transport Scotland and a decision on the proposal is imminent. It is hoped that a successful outcome will lead to work beginning mid-April.

**Lochshore** - Funding has been secured from Sustrans for Phase 2 active travel route at Lochshore. Construction of the route will begin in late summer 2021 and be completed early in 2022. In addition, there is a live online public engagement currently taking place on the features to be incorporated into a circular route on the site. The design should be complete by the end of April and, subject to securing the remaining funding, the route will be constructed prior to the Garnock Hub building opening in 2022.

**Guided walks** – A programme of health and heritage walks have been planned to help aid recovery from the wider impact of covid on mental and physical health. Participants will be identified by working in partnership with Community Link Workers.

**A737 at Beith** – Beith and District Community Council has welcomed Transport Secretary, Michael Matheson MSP's confirmation that the Scottish Government will move to the procurement phase for construction of new roundabouts and a flyover at the junctions of the A737 and B777 and the A737 and B706. This has been an ongoing campaign by the Community Council, supported by Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council, Dalry Community Council, local councillors, and MSP Kenneth Gibson. It is hoped that work will commence late 2021.

## Next Steps

The group will meet next on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 6pm online. Anyone interested is welcome to join in.



**Moving around  
(public transport,  
traffic and parking)**



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Garnock Valley Locality Update

March 2021

## Highlights

**Dalry Skate Park** – A steering group is currently being established to help design a skate park which will be located within Dalry Park, funded by Town Centre Regeneration Fund. If anyone would be interested in finding out more or would like to get involved, please contact Christina on the details provided at the end of this update.

**Review of Halls, Centres and Libraries** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of the consultation into the future of North Ayrshire's Halls, Centres and Libraries went live on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This will be open for the community to have their say until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May. Details of how to get involved can be found on the North Ayrshire Council's website and will be promoted through social media and postal mail outs.

**Green Health Fund** – A funding bid of £4,900 was successful from Green Health Partnership Fund. This will fund the rewilding project at Place Woodland. This programme is being offered as an outdoor learning opportunity for St. Bridget's P7 pupils, working with Place Woodland volunteers. This project will hopefully encourage more involvement at the woodland through issuing bird boxes, wild plants and encouraging wildlife recording.

**Garnock Valley Men's Shed** – The trustees continue to meet online during lockdown. The Asset Transfer of Lease has now been approved and roof repairs and resurfacing were completed during lockdown. The Scale Model Group meets on Monday afternoons and Fred Brown hosts a Facebook Live Model Group on Wednesday evenings. By reaching out in these ways, it has helped to address loneliness and isolation during these difficult days, having a positive impact on mental health and supports some of the more vulnerable members.

**Lochshore** - Plans for the Garnock Hub are progressing well. Construction should begin in May 2021, with the building opening in summer 2022. A consultant will be appointed in the next couple of weeks to develop the detailed masterplan for all phases of development. This will include a public consultation, which it is hoped will run during April/May 2021. Green Action Trust are currently leading on the design of approximately 10ha of new woodland at the north of the site which should be planted over the winter of 2021-22.

## Next steps

The working group will next meet on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 6pm online. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.

## Highlights

**My community app** – Led by Beith Community Development Trust, this project is progressing well. The project will build an app which can be used by the whole community, including businesses, to highlight activity happening in the Garnock



## Facilities and amenities



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Garnock Valley Locality Update

March 2021



Work and the  
local community

Valley. Cailley from Beith Trust has been attending the Community Council meetings to help spread the word to populate the app ahead of a formal launch.

**Garnock Valley Youth Forum** – The group continues to meet weekly online via ZOOM. Activities have included quiz nights and supporting the North Ayrshire wide LGBTQI+ charter. The group also recognised and celebrated Burns' Night with a Scottish themed event. In addition, the group assisted with the PB Shortlisting and are currently planning an environmental project working in partnership with Dalry Community Development Hub.

**Youth Work Education Recovery Fund** – NAC, working with Beith Community Development Trust, have commenced delivery of an employability programme for young people identified through Garnock Campus.

**Dalry Community Chit Chat** - A weekly community chit chat has started via ZOOM and takes place every Tuesday. During the sessions everyone engages in conversation, shares ideas and stories about the Dalry area. Project will help to tackle social isolation, boredom, and support people through the recovery of COVID. So far, 13 people have registered to date.

**Beith Skate Park** – Positive progress has been made to bring together like minded individuals keen to develop a skate park for Beith. Working with the Beith Park Action Group will allow the group the opportunity to access the existing knowledge, skills, and experience and to support the new group in their transition to their committee.

**Youth Engagement** - Detached youth work had been on hold since January due to covid restrictions however was able to restart on 5<sup>th</sup> March. The Youth Engagement Working Group met in January, including representatives from Police Scotland, Garnock Community Campus and Young Persons Support Team. The group will meet again on 23<sup>rd</sup> March and aims to reduce anti-social behaviour through positive and meaningful engagement.

**The Ayrshire Community Trust** - TACT Staff have been organising and facilitating monthly 'networking' Forum meetings for all 3rd Sector groups and organisations that wish to attend. The next online Forum Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16th March. If you are a 3rd Sector organisation and you are interested in attending, please email: [info@tact.scot](mailto:info@tact.scot)

TACT have a small supply of PPE for local volunteers / groups to access. This includes gloves, sanitiser, aprons, and face masks. If you know of any groups that could benefit from this, please telephone the office on 01294 443044.

Positive Steps with Partners is our Employability Project focusing on working with local individuals to access quality work placements, training, and personal development opportunities. If you have anyone that may be interested in finding out more, please contact Cheryl Newall via: [cheryl@tact.scot](mailto:cheryl@tact.scot)

SLACK – The Ayrshire Community Trust and Arran CVS are currently trialling an engagement platform known as SLACK. This will have a wide range of information and





North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

# Garnock Valley Locality Update

March 2021

resources for 3rd Sector Organisations to access. If you would like access to this platform, please contact: [info@tact.scot](mailto:info@tact.scot)

TACT is working closely with the British Red Cross, through the national vaccination centres, to provide suitable volunteers who can help in the roll out of Covid vaccinations.

TACT and Arran CVS staff will offer at least 100 individuals from different groups and organisations the opportunity to attend Mental Health Improvement Training to support the ongoing needs of service users and staff throughout this pandemic and importantly there on after.

## Next steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.

### For further information contact:

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## Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club



### “Jolly Bags of Kindness” Project March 2020 March 2021

#### Report for Garnock Valley Locality Planning Partnership March 2021

*Now, sir, if ye hae friends anow,  
Tho real friends I b'lieve are few;  
Yet, ikf you catalogue be fow,  
I'se no insisit:  
But, gif ye want ae friend that's true.  
I'm on your list.*

Epistle to J Lapraik  
Robert Burns

#### **Identifying a Need**

Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club realised in February 2020 in the build up to the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent 'community lockdowns' that this would pose issues for our own club members, mainly in the age 70+ age group. Accordingly, we decided that as a club we would endeavour to support our members and if grant funding was available, the wider community in the Garnock Valley.

As it would have impossible to help those in need in a general sense with our limited resources, we decided to try to specifically support club members, disabled people, and widows/widowers over 70 years of age.

Receiving grant funding was of the essence if our objective was to be reached, so we began searching out potential grantees and applying for funding, which in itself was time-consuming and lengthy exercise.

#### **Our Funders**

However, over the 12 months period we were successful in gaining grant funding for our project from a variety of funders: Bring Joy Foundation (twice); Beith Trust; Tesco (Twice); National Lottery Community Fund; Impact Funding Scotland; Dalry Parish Boundary Trust; Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club; The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT); Age Scotland (twice); North Ayrshire Council and Foundation Scotland.

Funding of £25,000 was the total received which is a quite remarkable sum of money to raise for community benefit distribution over a one year period.

Importantly, a comprehensive end of grant report together with photographs and all relevant receipts was forwarded to the grant funders. This resulted in three of the funders quickly offering us further grants to continue the project. This allowed the project to continue until March 2021, making it a year-long project.

### **Safety Issues and Content of Jolly Bags of kindness**

The 'Jolly bags of kindness' were delivered to each recipients door whilst social distancing and wearing face-masks and disposable gloves. We were extremely conscious that we did not wish to be responsible for spreading Covid-19 or indeed catching it during the important delivery runs. Each monthly delivery contained a variety of tinned foods (soup, rice, beans etc), tea bags, coffee, hand gel, tissues, biscuits, sweets, local books and magazines.

### **Buying Local**

All items were purchased locally in North Ayrshire in support of our commitment to the Garnock Valley in particular and in line with NAC Community Wealth Building Strategy. The value of the contents of each bag ranged from £7.50 to £10 and was boosted considerably by bulk buying, money off coupons, discounts as well as donations of additional supplies by large stores, particularly Tesco, Kilbirnie, at no cost.

### **Wider Community Benefit**

In addition during the project we were also able to deliver smaller 'Jolly Bags of Kindness' to Garnock Valley Disability Group; 4 GP surgeries in the Garnock Valley; NAC Care at Home Teams in the Garnock Valley; two residential Care Homes in Beith; Police Station, Kilbirnie; Ambulance Station, Kilbirnie; Residential homes in Beith, Kilbirnie and Dalry; Sheltered Housing Complexes in Beith, Kilbirnie and Dalry; Post Office, Beith; nominated members of Garnock Valley Men's Shed.

### **Response from recipients**

The grant funding was very helpful indeed and greatly appreciated by Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club and all those who specifically benefited from the 'Jolly Bags of Kindness' project.

Although the recipients were mainly in the Garnock Valley, the club have members who reside in West Kilbride, Ardrossan, Saltcoats, Kilwinning, Irvine, rural farms in Burnhouse and Barrmill; Johnstone, Paisley and Erskine.

As far as we are aware Barrmill Jolly Beggars BC was the only totally voluntary club/ group in the Garnock Valley providing this special service.

### **Newsletters**

During the project the club also produced five newsletters for members and recipients and these, too, were well received.

### **Social Isolation**

A large number of recipients were also shielding because of infirmities and age. So the opportunity was taken during delivery of bags to spent time catch up whilst maintaining strict social distancing and the deliverer wearing mask/gloves. Feedback was excellent and

what shone through consistently was the sheer joy of recipients that our wee club had remembered them at this time of difficulty.

Taking on such a project is a huge amount of work viz: applying for grant funding; starting to purchase suitable items for inclusion in the Jolly bags of kindness; storing the items; bagging the items prior to delivery and being restricted in help because of social distancing during Covid; loading the packed deliveries into a vehicle and delivering them to the doors of recipients – always social distancing.

Because of the covid-19 and other restrictions the bulk of the entire work was carried out by two people for this one year period). Without any shadow of doubt worthy of special mention for her dedication to the project was Kathleen Reid. She single-handedly (because of Covid-19 restrictions) did all the purchasing for the bags; filling the car; unloading items at home and placed in the house or hut/garage; filled the bags prior to delivery; made up the delivery run list; delivering each bag personally; spoke to recipients whilst social distanced; and importantly carried out the administration of the project

During the project we also came across young families who were clearly struggling and they, too, were provided with Jolly bags of kindness. What shone through strongly is that many people are finding life difficult because of sudden unemployment, health issues and drink/drug issues. It was not possible to help everyone, but by targeting those with disabilities, widows/widowers and older people, we did reach out to a specific part of the community who were suffering from loneliness and social isolation and they were very appreciative of the service provided. We have many letters of thanks, cards and emails acknowledging the service provided.

### **Thanks from Recipients**

The following is a brief sample of replies received giving an insight into some of the reactions of recipients in their own words.

Hello Donald and Kathleen, a quick note to let you know that I got the parcel that you kindly left for Elizabeth and myself, also to say thank you for the hard work put in to making up and delivering the parcels, the two of you do a great job, the generosity and kindness shown is very much appreciated. My thanks for all that you do, God Bless

Just a short note to say “thank you” for thinking about us and delivering that lovely wee parcel to our door. It was such a nice surprise and we will definitely be able to use all the items especially during this COVID period when we are not out and about much to do our own shopping.

Harry was at Crosshouse Hospital today having his second chemotherapy treatment and tomorrow he is going to the Beatson for a shot of radiotherapy to see if will ease the pain in his back. Our daughter Julie is very attentive and helps us a lot. Thanks for the bags of messages which was very kind and thoughtful and much appreciated.

Sandy and I would like you to pass on our sincere thanks to all involved with the lovely food parcel we received. It was a very big surprise, and was so kind of you to think of us. Thanking you all,

I would like to thank you and the Jolly Beggars Burns Club for the gift which I received, this was a lovely gesture and was much appreciated. Thank you to all concerned and of course Kathleen for her help also.

Thank you very much for the gift you gave us. Kathleen and you have taken on a herculean task which most people would think impossible. I have seen you delivering and never thought for a minute that we would benefit - a first time for everything.

Amazing Donald. Lovely to see you both today. What a gift from Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club and delivered in person. Thank you both.

May thanks to JBBC and Donald for the pressies. Absolutely amazing. I nearly cried.

My dad Joe Clifford was very touched when I told him about our Jolly Beggars treat, especially in the circumstances when our home and business had been flooded. Thanks again.

Mr Reid, on behalf of my mum I am sending this email to thank yourself and fellow members of the Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club for the kind gifts of the Valley of Garnock book and the large food parcel. Both are greatly appreciated. The book is full of fascinating reading brining memories for my mother who is Annie Murphy. Many thanks and kind regards. Russell Murphy

Thank you so much for the parcel. This is a wonderful surprise and a well done effort by yourself and Kathleen. Hope you are both well please keep safe and hopefully see you soon

Thank-you yet again for delivering the Jolly Beggars welfare pack. They are very much appreciated. Again, many thanks for your efforts and kindness.

Sorry we missed you this morning, Betty and me were on the randan. Thanks to you, we won't starve waiting on the pension!

A great BIG thank you from both of us for the goodie bag. What a lovely thought, take good care of each other.

Hope you are both well, as we begin to see some light at the end of the tunnel now. Julie and I would again like to extent our appreciation for the gifts received from Barrmill Jolly Beggars BC, and to Robert Barr, doing his "delivery boy" duties. We`ve had great enjoyment reading through the books, helping to expand our knowledge of what has been, and is around us. Catch up soon.

Donald and Kathleen once again thank you very much , I don't know how you both do it but so glad you do. I've never known people like you but again so glad I have the pleasure of knowing you both . Two amazing people! Regards from John and Liz fae over the road Oh and PS Jesus only had a loaf and 5 fish but you both have surpassed that!

Thank you once again for delivering that delightful bag of goodies from the Jolly Beggars club. It was a great surprise and filled with many very useful and tempting things.(like sweeties that I am a pushover for! I have enjoyed too looking through your book and was surprised to see so many people I recognise. What a lot of work has gone into compiling it. Finding out all those names and dates etc. It is very impressive and a really good historical record. Well done! I hope that you and Kathleen and all your family have stayed well during this lockdown; it doesn't look as if it might be coming to an end in the foreseeable future.

Once again, sincere thanks for your "happy bag" very much appreciated. By the end of the day you both must be pretty bushed and deserve a well-earned rest. I'm sure what you are doing is well appreciated by all.

Hi guys, What can we say, a big thanks yet again for the goodies and congratulations to Kathleen for her excellent service in securing yet more grants. Thank you both for your time and efforts. All the best.

Cannot thank you enough for the parcel left for me. I do not know if you realise how much folk appreciate you both delivering these. Everything in the parcel was really perfect and again the thought to me was the main thing. Thank you both once again. Brought a big lump to my throat xxx

### **Summary**

This project has been apt for a difficult year for everyone. Being able to give this target group a little boost in terms of morale has been our aim and has clearly worked well.

Accessing funding has been easier and speedier than normal because they was a realisation that the pandemic would present problems for many folk.

Put simply, one person (Kathleen Reid) driving this project has been a quite amazing achievement. Just think of dealing with 3,000 tins of soup, beans, rice, ravioli and many others! We were also supported by Cllr Robert Barr who assisted with some deliveries.

Again we are grateful to the many funders who valued our objective and gave support.

*And man, whose heav'n-erected face  
The smile of love adorn,  
Man's inhumanity to man  
Makes countless thousands mourn!*

Man was Made to Mourn  
Robert Burns

Cllr Donald L Reid  
Hon President and Secretary  
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