

DALRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Dalry Community Council Meeting
Monday 28th June 2021, held via Zoom

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming all present and asking the community councillors and other attendees to introduce themselves.

2. Present / Apologies

Present:

Community Councillors:

Sheena Woodside (Chair),
Peter Stevenson (Secretary),
John Higgins

Julie Wales (Treasurer),
Myra Sim,

Community Attendees:

Robert Barr (Councillor Ward 6),
Audrey Mason (Community Rep.),
Mhairi Reid,

Todd Ferguson (Councillor Ward 6),
David Park,
John Smith (Dalry Parish Boundary Trust),

Guests:

Sgt. Douglas Clark (Police Scotland), PC John Scott (Locality Officer for Dalry),
Allan Wright (Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Comm. Council),
Helen McNaughton (Beith & District Comm. Council)

Apologies:

Christina Pieraccini (North Ayrshire Council)

3. Minutes of Meeting on 28th May 2021

The Secretary went through the minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes were proposed as an accurate record by Julie Wales and seconded by Sheena Woodside.

4. Matters Arising

Outstanding actions from previous meetings.

Raised	Action / Update	Action By
09/12/2019	Review of groups / clubs operating in the town.	DCC When covid restrictions ease
10/02/2020	Organise a community litter pick.	DCC When covid restrictions ease.
	28/06/2021 Update: It was noted that there are a number of individuals currently carrying out litter picks. A vote of thanks to these community spirited individuals was proposed.	DCC When covid restrictions ease
30/11/2020	Councillor Barr to find out if the “creepies” section of road is to be repaired as part of bypass reparations.	
	28/06/2021 Update: Councillor Barr advised he had not been provided with an update. No work has been carried out.	Councillor Barr September meeting.
30/11/2020	Councillor Ferguson was asked to discuss the lifespan of Dalry Community Centre with North Ayrshire Council	
	28/06/2021 Update: Councillor Ferguson deferred to Councillor Barr. Councillor Barr raised his concerns over the future of the Community Centre and that there appeared to be issues with accommodating all the groups who currently want to use it. It was suggested that some groups are being asked to find alternative accommodation or change meeting times. Questions were raised over what would happen to all of the groups, when the aging building needs a major repair. Historically, this has resulted in closures e.g. Town Hall. NAC previously advised that the life expectancy of the building was 40 years. It opened 52 years ago. Councillor Barr advised that the recent NAC review of halls and libraries did not consider the fabric of the buildings. There was no update provided on the condition of Dalry Community Centre. The action remains open.	Councillors Barr/Ferguson September meeting.

Raised	Action	Action By
25/01/2021	To arrange for Dalry Parish Boundary Trust to give an update to the Community Council.	DCC First in-person meeting
22/02/2021	Issue with HGVs parking overnight near the train station. This should be raised with councillors	June meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: Councillor Brahim raised this with Police Scotland, asking them to include the area in their patrols. Sgt Clark advised that patrols had checked the area, and no HGVs had been found to be parking overnight.	Action closed
22/02/2021	Arrange a meeting to create a strategy for the Public Park	Peter Stevenson June meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: It has not been possible to arrange for all interested parties to meet at this time.	Peter Stevenson September meeting.
22/02/2021	More frequent traffic enforcement in the town could be requested	June meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: Peter Stevenson made a request to Police Scotland (Sgt. Clark) Parking has been monitored by Sgt. Clarks officers, as much as resources will allow. Sgt Clark advised that the road policing unit have increased the amount of time spent in the area.	Action closed
22/02/2021	Scouts Scotland to be asked if they have a plan for the completion of the Scout Hall building.	June meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: No change from the previous update. Scouts Scotland are awaiting quotes for the small interior jobs which need to be completed.	Peter Stevenson September meeting.
26/04/2021	Speak with DSM about patrolling the bridge at the rear of DSM's land.	Councillor Barr June meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: Councillor Barr attempted to contact DSM. DSM did not respond. It is thought that the same request from a member of the community, and DSM are patrolling the area. This will be confirmed by Sheena Woodside. Sgt Clark advised that there have been no incidents in the area recently. The youth are currently assembling in Beith.	Sheena Woodside September meeting.

Raised	Action	Action By
31/05/2021	Councillor Barr to raise disturbances at the bus stop in Douglas Avenue with Police Scotland.	Councillor Barr June Meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: Councillor Barr arranged to contact Sgt. Clark in the next few days.	Councillor Barr September Meeting
31/05/2021	Peter Stevenson to enquire when (day / time of day) the Sharon Street line of sight inspection was carried out.	Peter Stevenson June Meeting
	No update available	Peter Stevenson September Meeting
31/05/2021	Councillor Barr to raise the condition of the Townend / Roche Way junction with North Ayrshire Council.	Councillor Barr June Meeting
	Councillor Barr contacted NAC, and the road was repaired soon after.	Action closed
31/05/2021	Julie Wales to respond to the NAC planning consultation comments collated by the Community Council	Julie Wales June Meeting
	28/06/2021 Update: Comments submitted on: (1) Site to east of 1 Kirkland Crescent (2) Proposed housing development on site of former Bridgend Mill. It was considered that points raised in relation to traffic safety and flood prevention were not properly addressed in the response from NAC planning. Julie will take these points up with Planning.	Julie Wales September Meeting

5. Chair's Update

The Garnock Valley Community Councils have secured funding for a Participatory Budgeting type event. Funding of £17,500 is available in each of the three Community Council areas. Community groups can apply to the relevant Community Council for up to £1500 of funding.

17 applications have been received to date. 15 from Beith, 2 from Kilbirnie and 0 from Dalry.

The fund has been advertised on social media, and will be highlighted at events.

Councillor Ferguson asked if he could provide his update earlier in the agenda as he had another engagement to attend. The Chair agreed to this.

Flashwood Farm:

Councillor Ferguson had spoken with the Planning Department at NAC about concerns regarding an agricultural development near Flashwood Farm. The response from the planning dept. was that there were no issues with any aspect of the development at Flashwood Farm on the following grounds:-

1. *Response: Currently, permitted development rights (PDR) for agricultural buildings are in place for erecting buildings up to 1000 square metres in floor area and a maximum of 12m in height. The maximum figure was 465 square metres until 1st April this year, and the shed you are referring to is approximately 32 square metres (9m x 3.65m) in size and 3m in height. Therefore, when the shed was built in 2020, the maximum figure of 465 square metres was in place. Therefore, erecting a 32 square metre farm shed on farm land was well within the PDR size limits at the time. Please note that PDR are statutory instruments enacted by the Scottish Government, not the local authority.*

An agricultural building benefits from PDR when it is used for a general purpose related to farming on agricultural land within an agricultural unit. These rights are subject to a number of conditions and limitations eg. it excludes erecting a building, structure or erection used or to be used for housing pigs, poultry, rabbits or animals bred for their skin or fur or for the storage of slurry or sewage sludge, and the building, structure or works is or would be within 400 metres of the curtilage of any protected building (none of which apply in this case). Buildings used for storage or other livestock (such as cows and sheep) can be sited within 400m of the curtilage of a protected building. (A protected building essentially means a house that is not within an agricultural unit – and not necessarily within the same farm holding as the development).

If there is another farm building which a member of the public believes needed planning permission in the same vicinity at some point in the past, we can check that out if more information is provided.

2. *Response: Having now had to investigate this at least three times since last year, we are satisfied that this particular building is being used for an agricultural purpose on an agricultural unit. Clearly, if that changes, we could investigate again.*
3. *Response: There is a change which came into law on 1st April 2021 that allows farm buildings erected before November 2019 to be converted to dwelling houses without the need for planning permission (Class 18B of the PDR). This PDR would not apply here since the building was not erected until 2020. As such, this is not of relevance to this case.*

Removal of rubbish from outside Scout Hall / Abids takeaway:

Councillor Ferguson had raised issues over fly-tipping on Courthill and Smith Streets. Council officers had responded advising as follows:-

“Waste in Smith Street belongs to Scout Hall, they have been carded and asked to remove all waste by Saturday 12th of June, If Not removed they will receive a fixed penalty note for flytipping and invoice for removal costs. No sign of any flytipping at Courthill street at Abids, but did leave card at their door requesting them to remove the Chest freezer and wooden chair from bin area. If not removed by Saturday 12th of June fixed penalty note will be issued to them as well.”

Status of Dalry Health Centre:

Background:

In 2013, a review of Dalry Health Centre declared it a high priority for replacement. In 2017, Dalry Health Centre was considered to be adequate. No evidence has been provided to date, explaining the

change of status. Conflicting statements about the current status of the Health Centre have been made.

In November 2020, Councillor Ferguson was asked to obtain the evidence on which the change of status in 2017 was based, from NAC.

Update June 2021:

Councillor Ferguson has been in contact with Craig Hatton, CEO of North Ayrshire Council. Councillor Ferguson is awaiting a response from Caroline Cameron (Head of NAC Health and Social Care Partnership) and will provide an update when available.

Councillor Ferguson left the meeting.

6. Police Report

Sgt. Clark apologised for his absence from the previous meeting, this was due to injury.

Reported crime levels in Dalry have been very low during the month. The Police Report for Dalry has been attached (Appendix A).

Youths from the area are currently congregating in Beith.

The police are considering ways in which they can engage with the youth, to try find the root cause of the problems and develop a long term solution.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer noted that income and expenditure since May 2021 had been as follows:-

The Administration Account had a balance of £190.30, with no income or expenditure.

The Project Account had a balance of £2080.76, with a credit of £0.09 in interest.

8. Updates

Councillor Barr:

No additional updates.

Public Park

Sheena Woodside has spoken to Arthur Cowley (NAC) regarding the drainage work which was carried out.

Arthur Cowley reported that it appears that the new drainage system is effective. The area near the burn was still "a bit boggy", the areas behind the Bowling Club and where the pond used to be were completely dry.

It was noted that there had been a prolonged dry spell, and that time would tell.

Traffic Management

A speed assessment was carried out on James Street. 3% of drivers were found to be exceeding the limit. This was considered to be good compliance. The road will continue to receive attention via routine patrols.

Mini roundabout on detrunked A737 – no update.

Traffic lights between New St / Townend St and Townend St / Roche Way have been re-phased.

Town Centre Regeneration Funding

Dalry Park Pavilion.

Was due to be completed w/c 21st June 2021. Has been delayed to mid July due to availability of materials.

NAC Roads Team will construct the paths immediately after the completion of the refurbishment

Skatepark

Update from Rachel Graham (NAC Regeneration Officer).

Initial steering group has taken place via Zoom. There was a low level of attendance from the community.

A wider consultation will be carried out in July.

Building Improvement

Includes external building improvements in Main St and to the Royal Hotel.

Once on site, it is expected that the works will take approximately 12 weeks to complete.

CCTV

Upgrade and installation are progressing as planned.

Marketing

Targeting Innovation have been working on marketing the town of Dalry.

This will be achieved through the Ayrshire Connects website, created by Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce. Dalry businesses will be promoted through inclusion in the website.

The site is not yet live.

It was mentioned that this site may not have been well received within the business community in Dalry.

It was also noted that this was a duplication of the Garnock Valley Life application which was commissioned by Beith Trust at no cost to the community. The Garnock Valley Life application had additional features and functions, including promotion of community groups, which made it more appealing.

Questions were raised over the value for money this expenditure will provide. There was a feeling that two competing applications may result in both being ineffective.

North St. Car Park

The lining and railings have still to be completed. The railing will be replaced by kerbs, and this is dependent on materials and contractor availability.

9. Planning Applications

Validated Applications

Lintseedridge Farm

Erection of a timber stable block containing 3 stables. A corner box and a tack room.

There were no comments.

76 – 80 New St.

Change of use of a vacant retail unit to a hot food takeaway, the erection of a ventilation flue at the rear, and the formation of two duplex flats.

Due to the timing of the application, community feedback was required prior to this meeting. Community opinion was gathered through social media and forwarded to NAC.

Opinions included:

It would be good to see the building back in productive use.

The retail units contained in the proposal could create local employment.

Is there a need for another hot food takeaway in the town?

The proposal could create nuisance problems for nearby residents.

The takeaway could cause parking problems and safety issues due to the location of the building on a blind bend.

Decided Applications

82 St Andrews Gardens

Erection of a 2 storey extension. Approved with no conditions.

Burnside Cottage

Erection of an extension to the dwelling house and replacement of the out building.

Approved with conditions:

The out building should only be used for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the existing dwelling house, and cannot be separately occupied, let or sold for commercial or other the purposes.

33 Blairlands Drive

Erection of an extension to the front of the house.

Refused as the proposal would restrict the amount of sunlight and daylight entering neighbouring properties, and would look out of place with the surrounding properties.

Bridgend Mill site

Amendment to existing 2005 planning permission. Substitution of house types and increase from 23 to 26 houses.

Approved with conditions related to:

Site preparation, drainage, carbon emissions, suitable landscaping plans, boundary and screening treatments, details of external house finishes.

Action	Action By
The Community Council requires more than two weeks to respond appropriately to planning applications. This should be fed back to the planning department.	Julie Wales

10. Licensing Applications

Norman James Usher of 1 Houston Crescent

Amendment to taxi and private hire operators licence.

Derek Horn of 52 Westpark Wynd

Grant of taxi driver's license.

11. Correspondence

The Secretary noted that there had been no correspondence

12. Any Other Business

Pot holes

Sheena Woodside reported that numerous reports by a Smith St. resident regarding pot holes have been ignored.

Action	Action By
Councillor Barr advised that he would report the issue tomorrow.	Councillor Barr

Poppy Appeal

David Park highlighted that this year will be the centenary of the Poppy Appeal.

There were a number of challenges to overcome last year due to Covid.

David covers the collection for the whole of the Garnock Valley. David appealed to individuals and groups to assist with the collection this year.

New car park in Public Park

The car park will have 56 spaces, with an electric charge point. The footpath into the park will be upgraded to be wheelchair compliant.

It was highlighted that the money used to establish the car park was Vacant and Derelict Land Funding, which was obtained to decontaminate the former gas works and create a green space.

The provision of a car park resulted in neither. Further, there were a significant number of mature trees removed to develop the car park. NAC policy is currently to plant 108,000 trees to help with their declared climate emergency.

Nobody appeared to know why the car park was needed.

Dalry Community Centre

David Park asked what the Community Council were doing about the Community Centre. It was considered that the Community Centre is becoming more and more monopolised by a private nursery group.

There is a concern that other community groups and individuals are being deprived of the use of the Community Centre.

The Community Council had previously decided to wait on the response to Dalry Burns Club on their inquiry on the use of the Community Centre.

Should this indicate that the community are being deprived of the facility, then the Community Council will take the matter up with the Council.

Community Council Vacancies

There are two vacancies. Due to the summer shut down to the end of September, and the Community Council elections scheduled in November, it was considered that there would be no value in filling the vacancies at this time.

Council Elections

The Community Council will organise an online hustings for the Council by-election.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Zoom on Monday 27th September.

**POLICING IN AYRSHIRE
JUNE 2021
COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT FOR
DALRY**



POLICING PRIORITIES IN NORTH AYRSHIRE

1. Drug Dealing and Drug Misuse
2. Violence and Antisocial Behaviour
3. Dishonesty
4. Road Safety/Road Crime

Your Community Policing Officers

Our team covers **Kilbirnie, Beith and Dalry**. Inspector **Andy Dolan** leads the community policing team for your area.

<u>Sergeants</u>	<u>Police Officers</u>
Sgt Douglas Clark	PC Scott McLay PC Karen Baillie PC John Scott PC Caroline Duffy PC Lynne Prout

Sub-Divisional Update

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Contact us

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OFFICIAL

In an emergency always dial 999

For non-urgent crime, you can contact your local police office by telephoning 101.

Our Twitter and Facebook sites are not for reporting crime and they are not monitored 24/7.

Facebook – Ayrshire Police

Twitter - @AyrshireNPolice

Email – AyrshireLPSTGarnockValley@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Other relevant Information

Data collated between 28/05/2021 and 28/06/2021

199 calls to police resulting in 42 crime reports being raised.

Same time period - Last year calls: 201 Last month calls: 211

1. Drug Dealing and Drug Misuse – 2
2. **Violence and Antisocial Behaviour** –
Assaults: 6 Noise: 4 Disturb: 8 Damage: 5
Public nuisance 13 of which 2 were youth related.
3. **Dishonesty – Thefts - Inc. Housebreakings**
Theft: 8 H/B: 2 Vehicle crime: 0
4. **Road Safety/Road Crime** –
Road traffic matters: 22 Road Traffic Collisions: 3
Road Traffic offences: 2

Immediate calls: 11

Missing Persons calls: 3

Concern for Person calls: 3

Crime Statistics : Monthly Report

Crime Type	Offences	Detected	Issues
Theft	3	1	
Vandalism	6	1	
Assault	3	1	

OFFICIAL

Road Traffic	3	2	
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Concerns Raised by Community Council / Residents	
1	
2	
3	
4	

1	
2	
3	
4	