

DALRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of Dalry Community Council Meeting

Monday 31st May 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), Julie Wales (Treasurer), Peter Stevenson (Secretary), John Higgins, Myra Sim

Other attendees – Robert Barr (Councillor for Dalry), John Smith (Dalry Parish Boundary Trust), Christina Pieraccini (North Ayrshire Council), Scott Robertson (KA Leisure), Gary Caulfield, Valerie Provan, Mhairi Reid

Apologies were received from:

Carrie Borland (Community Councillor), Patricia Gibson (MP), Sergeant Douglas Clark (Police Scotland), Allan Wright (Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council), Siobhan Lidington, Audrey Mason,

3. Minutes of Meeting on 26th April 2021

The Secretary explained that the draft minutes had been circulated by email and online and asked for any corrections or clarifications. Two clarifications were noted, including correcting an attendee's name and details of roadworks at the Timber Scheme. Subject to these amendments, the minutes were proposed as an accurate record by Myra Sim and seconded by John Higgins.

4. Matters Arising

The Secretary provided the meeting with sight of the outstanding actions from previous meetings.

He noted the long-standing action, delayed by Covid-19, to hold a community litterpick and that other communities appeared to be holding similar events. He suggested this be added to the agenda for the next meeting. **Action carried forward.**

Councillor Barr noted that works proposed to widen the pavement on New Street were unlikely to go ahead. The Community Council agreed to close this action. **Action closed.**

Councillor Barr advised he had not been provided with an update on the old Loans Road. It was noted that traffic cones had been placed at the most damaged sections **Action carried forward.**

The Secretary asked Councillor Ferguson if the lifespan of Dalry Community Centre could be added to discussions with North Ayrshire Council about the Health Centre. It was noted that the Community Centre was slated for re-opening on August 14th 2021 but this was subject to change. It was also noted that with the use of the Centre for the community larder and playgroup, there was no available space for any other use. Mhairi Reid confirmed that Dalry Community Social Care have enquired about taking the Community Centre over, but have no plans to stop anyone using it who had previously made bookings for events.

Action carried forward.

The Secretary noted that Councillor Brahim had asked Police Scotland to include Dalry Train Station in their overnight patrols, and that they had agreed to move on any parked lorries. Councillor Barr advised that any vehicles for Reid's warehouse arrived after 7am. It was noted that some HGVs are also using Blair Road as a 'rat-run' rather than using the bypass.

Action carried forward.

The Secretary advised that a meeting about the public park had not yet been arranged. Some discussion took place, noting that remedying the drainage was the priority before agreeing further uses for the space.

Action carried forward.

The Secretary confirmed he had written to Sergeant Clark at Police Scotland asking for more traffic enforcement within the town. No response had been received in time for the meeting. **Action carried forward.**

The Secretary confirmed he had written to Scouts Scotland to get an update on the Scout Hall. Quotes were being obtained for internal decorating and other small jobs to be completed. **Action carried forward.**

Councillor Barr confirmed he had not had a response from DSM relating to patrolling the footpath and rail bridge at the rear of their property. The Chair advised that James McCosh had spoken with DSM about this and would get an update on this. **Action carried forward.**

The Secretary noted that he had not yet written to North Ayrshire Council about proposals to bring silage tractors over Courthill Street. John Smith advised that Police Scotland were unhappy with the proposal but North Ayrshire Council had approved the route. John Smith confirmed that the contractor's liaison officer was to contact him the following day and if there wasn't a satisfactory outcome the letter from the Community Council might be required. **Action carried forward.**

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer noted that income and expenditure since April 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 £2080.67, with a credit of £0.06 in interest.

6. Updates

6a. Police Report

The Secretary noted that no report had been received.

6b. Councillor Updates

Councillor Ferguson advised he had asked North Ayrshire Council officers to inspect the wall between the Health Centre and the lane to Townend Street. This had been deemed safe for the time being however if the condition becomes worse the community should make the Council aware.

He updated that he was trying to obtain information about the Health Centre per the Community Council's request and would update further in due course.

Councillor Barr advised that he and Councillor Ferguson had organised another walk around Dalry with the Town Centre Regeneration officers.

He noted reports that a bus shelter on Douglas Avenue had started being used as something akin to a gang hut.

ACTION: The Chair and Councillor Barr to raise this with Police Scotland.

Councillor Barr noted that a first-past-the-post by-election would be held on 12th August to fill the vacancy created by Councillor Brahim's resignation.

6c. Public Park / Traffic Management / Lynn Glen Update

It was noted that work was taking place to repair the drainage within the park, with contractors installing vertical pipes at several locations.

Christina Pieraccini advised that the first meeting of the Skate Park steering group had taken place the previous week. The plan is to have the Skate Park installed by September. The group are considering two locations.

North Ayrshire Council had carried out an inspection of sightlines at the junction of Sharon Street with Dalry Primary School. This had found that the existing sightlines at the junction are satisfactory. Attendees at the meeting disagreed with this inspection on the basis that when people walk along Sharon Street towards the school it affects the sightlines more. The Chair noted that one of the bus drivers servicing Bessie Dunlop Court had commented on the difficulty exiting that junction.

ACTION: The Secretary to find out when the sightline inspection was carried out.

The condition of the road junction at Townend Street and Roche Way was commented upon.

ACTION: Councillor Barr to raise the Townend Street / Roche Way junction with North Ayrshire Council Roads.

The Secretary confirmed that the Roads team had noted the Community Council's request to resurface Main Street, Garnock Street and Douglas Avenue. They have not included these streets in the current programme of works but would bear them in mind for future resurfacing programmes.

It was noted that the next resurfacing assessment would likely take place in early 2022.

6d. KA Leisure Update

Scott Robertson introduced himself and the work KA Leisure are doing within the Garnock Valley locality. They are looking to use sport as a tool to help combat youth disorder issues within the area.

It was suggested that KA Leisure might want to advise on areas such as the skatepark, the locality Youth Engagement Group and the Community Garden. Councillor Ferguson commented that the skatepark and garden are ideal places to get young people involved in the community as it gives them a sense of ownership of spaces.

Scott noted that funding was available to start projects within the area. He advised he'd be happy to attend future meetings of the Community Council.

7. Planning Applications

The Treasurer advised that the following planning applications had been validated:-

- 4 terraced houses at Craig Avenue (timber scheme). This had received several interactions on social media, with people noting that a shop would be more desirable than more housing. It was noted that this was not a valid reason to object under planning law

but should be communicated to the Council anyway. Councillor Barr noted that a sewer runs through the ground which could be problematic. The Secretary noted the application would greatly change the visual approach to the housing scheme.

- A variation to an existing permission at the site of Bridgend Mill to include a change to the type and number of houses. Comments from the meeting included the impact of widening the river at this location and surges downstream, the loss of heritage in removing the bridges over the Garnock, the impact on school populations and health centre capacity.

ACTION: The Treasurer to respond to NAC Planning with the comments from the Community Council.

Councillor Barr left the meeting.

8. Licensing Applications

The Treasurer noted that there had been two relevant applications under licensing in the previous month. One for a renewal of a licence for a cattery at Holmbyre and the other for renewal of a licence for second-hand vehicle sales at Drakemyre.

9. Correspondence

The Secretary noted that Catherine Borland had written to the Community Council resigning as a Community Councillor.

10. Any Other Business

Gary Caulfield advised that a building had been put up near his property at Flashwood without planning permission. He had asked North Ayrshire Council about this and been advised that it was an agricultural building and did not require permission. Mr Caulfield noted his concern that this could result in future to it being converted to a domestic property without going through the proper planning processes. Councillor Ferguson offered to raise the matter with NAC planning and revert to Gary Caulfield and the Community Council.

The Chair noted that there had been an accumulation of rubbish on Smith Street next to the Scout Hall and on Courthill Street next to Abids takeaway. Councillor Ferguson offered to raise this with North Ayrshire Council Streetscene.

Mhairi Reid advised that the Community Larder was running well and had been put forward for an award. She noted that the Larder is for everyone in the community as it is aimed at reducing food waste.

Councillor Ferguson asked if issues at the Lynn Glen had resurfaced with lockdown easing. The Chair advised that she had not been made aware of any problems but if it starts being discussed again on social media the Community Council would make Councillor Ferguson aware.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Zoom on Monday 28th June.