

Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Thursday 16 December 2021 at 7.00 pm via Microsoft Teams Business

14			D. (Off:	-
Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	NO		Cllr 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.	Garnock Valley Young People Receive update on recent work.	-	Verbal	Garry Tait	7.10 – 7.20
4.	Grants Update Receive presentation from Rosemary Ramsay.	-	Presentation	Rosemary Ramsay	7.20 – 7.30
5.	B714 Update Receive update from Louise Kirk.	-	Verbal	Louise Kirk	7.30 – 7.45
6.	Joint Health & Social Care Locality Planning Forum and LP on Mental Health and wellbeing Receive update from Michelle Sutherland	-	Verbal	Michelle Sutherland	7.45 – 7.55
7.	Community Investment Fund – Expression of Interest • Geilsland Courtyard	Pg 11	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	7.55 – 8.05
STAN	IDING ITEMS				
8.	Learning Update Receive update.	-`	Verbal	Head Teachers	8.05– 8.20
9.	HSCP Update Receive update from Janet McKay	Pg 14	Enclosed	Dr Janet McKay	8.20 – 8.35
10.	Locality Officer Update Receive update from Christina Pieraccini.	Pg 19	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	8.35 – 8.45
11.	Locality Plan Progress Receive feedback from sub-groups Moving Around Facilities and Amenities Work and the Local Community	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps	8.45 – 8.55
OTHE	ER BUSINESS - TO INFORM LOCALITY P	LANNING	G		
12.	AOCB	_		Cllr Bell	8.55– 9.00

Locality Membership Report for Information		Verbal	E Young	
Remembering Together - Scotland's Covid Community Memorial Programme	Pg 24			

Distribution

Elected Members

Councillor John Bell (Chair)
Councillor Robert Barr
Councillor Anthea Dickson
Councillor Todd Ferguson
Councillor Donald L Reid
Councillor Ronnie Stalker

Community Representatives

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

Meetir	ng:	g: Garnock Valley Locality Partnership					
Date/V	/enue:	21 September 2021 - Microsoft Teams					
Present: Councillor John Bell (Chair); Councillor Robert Barr; Councillor Anthea Dickson; Councillor Ponald L. Reid; Councillor Ronnie Stalker; Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer); Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC; Garry Tait, Community Development Worker, NAC; James Waite, Beith Community Council; Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council; Allan Wright, Secretary, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Councily Audrey Mason, Community Representative Henry Johnson, Community Representative; Dr Janet McKay, NAHSCP Locality Forum; Christina Pieraccini Scott McMillan, Depute Head (Garnock Academy/Campus); Alison Allan, Senior Manager (Education), NAC (observing);							
Apologies: Councillor Todd Ferguson; Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council; an Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service;							
		ACTIONS					
No.	Action		Responsible				
		e, Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Responsib				

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted. At the invitation of the Chair, and for the benefit of any new attendees, those present introduced themselves. The Partnership was advised of Trish Wallace's intention to resign as Jennifer a Community Representative and Ms Wallace's contribution to the **McGee** work of the Locality Partnership was noted. <u>Declarations of Interest</u> Agenda Item 4 – Councillor Dickson as volunteer at Café Solace Agenda Item 4 – Henry Johnson as a volunteer at Café Solace 2. **Action Note** The Action Note from the previous meeting, held on 15 June 2021, was approved and the following points raised as matters arising: HSCP Update (Item 5) – Health Needs Assessment data had been shared with the Partnership, as agreed, and work was ongoing in

terms of pulling together information on achievements;

- Community Investment Fund (Item 8) CIF grant funding of £20k for the Garnock Valley Men's Shed had been approved by the Council's Cabinet, and a CIF application from Café Solace would be considered later on the Agenda; and
- Locality Officer Update (Item 10) the three community councils had held a Participatory Budgeting session, details of which would be provided later on the Agenda

The Partnership was advised that Christina Pieraccini's apologies had been omitted in error from the last Action Note.

Noted.

3. Garnock Valley Young People

The Partnership received an update from Garry Tait, Community Development Worker on the work carried out with young people in the Garnock Valley. The update covered a number of points including:

- eight events held during the summer programme (including a Lochshore fun day, BBQs and the Dalry Tea Party) which had resulted in engagement with some 360 people;
- arrangements for LGBT awareness training to take place at the end of October-beginning of November 2021;
- detached youth work activity which had taken place over the summer and a planned meeting with the Police to discuss joint patrols to address youth disorder at the Red Brae in Beith, using good practice developed by Irvine Youth Forum;
- proposals for a youth group to start meeting in Dalry library;
- work by the Youth Forum on the creation of a uniform shop, the group having secured a £500 donation from Tesco;
- the potential for Beith Youth Group to use Beith Community Centre as drop-in venue;
- a wide variety of events taking place over the coming weeks, including the Joint Cabinet, National Youth Week and the Scottish Youth Parliament elections; and
- a meeting with elderly welfare groups to discuss an intergenerational Christmas event as part of work to tackle social isolation.

The Partnership welcomed the ongoing work and discussed:

- the need for improved communications next year around summer events, particularly in Beith;
- ongoing disorder and anti-social behaviour around the Red Brae in Beith, the impact of this on local residents, and some of the measures, including joint patrols, which might help to address this long-standing problem;
- the proposal for a youth group to meet in Dalry library and the potential for tie-in with the Community Garden;
- an offer of support from Café Solace for the inter-generational Christmas event; and

	 a grant of £1,250 by Dalry Parish Boundary Trust to allow P7 pupils from Dalry Primary School to attend Arran Outdoor Centre. 	
	Noted.	
4.	Community Investment Fund	
4.1	Full application – Café Solace	
	The Partnership considered an application by Café Solace for funding towards the costs of employing a full-time Food Development Worker for a period of three years.	
	The Partnership discussed:	
	avoiding duplication of effort by the various larders in the Garnock Valley;	
	 the excellent work done by committed and organised volunteers at Café Solace; use of Dalry Community Centre as a community larder and the possible displacement of other, long-standing community groups from this venue; 	
	 the use of containers to address storage issues at other venues; the importance of taking into account public transport timetables when considering larder opening times; and the future sustainability of the CIF project. 	
	Arising from discussion about the use of Dalry Community Centre, the Locality Officer undertook to liaise with Dalry Sports Club to discuss any logistical issues around equipment storage at Dalry Community Centre.	Christina Pieraccini Garry Tait
	The Lead Officer also undertook to look at the letting system for Dalry Community Centre to establish whether any support could be provided to groups which may have been displaced by the larder, and to report back to the Locality Partnership on the outcome.	Angela Morrell
	The Partnership agreed (a) to submit the project's CIF application to the Cabinet with a recommendation that it be approved in the amount of £49,723.00 and (b) to note that match-funding of £30,000 would be sought from North Ayrshire Ventures Trust, with the outstanding sum of £20,000 to be sought with assistance from the North Ayrshire Council Funding Officer.	
5.	Grants	
	The Partnership considered a report on applications for grant funding from the Margaret Archibald Bequest and the Elderly Grants Fund.	
	The Partnership noted that Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Age Concern had not responded to an invitation to apply for Elderly Grants funding and considered whether this may be due to the need for updated contact information or the group having secured alternative funding.	

	T. D. (1: 14 1 4 6 H :		
	The Partnership agreed to make the following		
	Margaret Archibald Bequest		
	Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	£6,000.00	
	Eldouby Charata Errad		Rosemary
	Elderly Grants Fund Beith Old People's Welfare Committee	£3,049.00	Fotheringham
	Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	£2,455.00	
	,		
6.	Cost of the School Day		
	 The Partnership received a verbal update fro Officer on activity in respect of the Cost of the work, including: the background to development of the Oworking Group; the development of a COSD toolkit for 	he School Day (COSD) Cost of the School Day	
	 the development of a COSD toolkit for years centre; the introduction of COSD Champions; a conference which had taken place on 11 plans to develop a network to share best p 	June 2021; and	
	The Partnership discussed:		
	 the 'dignity' ethos of the COSD work, when vironmental work and recycling; and the success of the uniform shop within the benefits which would come from extending community. 		
	At the invitation of the Chair, Scott McMillan, D Academy/Campus provided his input on the shop.		
	Noted.		
7.	Learning Update		
	The Partnership received an update from Scott of Garnock Academy/Campus on the progres faced around the education of school pupils including:	s made and challenges	
	 the return of staff and pupils to school predethe the challenges associated with the high and work to ensure that digital platforms of for pupils to continue to learn during self-is logistical issues in respect of teaching and self-isolate; support being provided to help pupils defined to the school predether than the challenges as a school predether than the challenges associated with the high and work to ensure that digital platforms of the challenges as a school predether than the challenges as a school pred	number of Covid cases ould offer an opportunity solation; d support staff having to	
	around socialising; and		

• the focus on health and wellbeing and the emotional needs of pupils.

Noted.

8. HSCP Update

The Partnership received an update from Dr Janet McKay on the work carried out by the HSCP Locality Forum. The following points were highlighted:

- ongoing work on the development of priorities, which were likely to comprise (i) improvement mental health for all ages across the Garnock Valley, (ii) social isolation, (iii) drug and alcohol present, early intervention and recovery and (iv) recovering from Covid (both in terms of services and individuals); and
- the challenges faced by Health and Social Care, with services under significant pressure due to Covid cases and staff selfisolation

The Partnership discussed:

- stretched resources to support drug and alcohol recovery;
- community concern regarding the limited availability of face-toface appointments with GPs and the reasons for this in terms of both Covid and longer-term changes to the service delivery model;
- the significant impact of self-isolation of staffing resources; and
- the impact on GP recruitment of different GP practice models, with mortgaged practices more problematic than those with rented premises

Noted.

9. Community Council Elections and Participatory Budgeting

The Partnership received a verbal report by the Locality Officer on the forthcoming community council elections and the importance of promoting membership. The Senior Manager (Committee and Member Services) provided some further information on arrangements for voting in contested community council elections during the pandemic.

The Partnership discussed ways in which appointments to office bearer positions might be refreshed and noted the difficulties sometimes experienced in attracting nominations for office bearer roles.

James Waite of Beith and District Community Council then provided a verbal update on the "Vall£y Voic£s for Vall£y Mon£y" Participatory Budgeting (PB) project, including the following:

 background on the three Garnock Valley community councils' application for Scottish Government funding for Participatory Budgeting and the provision of match-funding by North Ayrshire Council;

- the alternative delivery method used for the PB event, to take account of Covid restrictions;
- receipt of a total of 59 applications for PB funding, which had been scored and ranked and then the available funding awarded;
- plans for an 'in person' presentation event on 22 October 2021;
 and
- the important role of the PB activity in promoting and raising the profile of community councils in the Garnock Valley

The Partnership discussed:

- the ground-breaking nature of the joint working done by the three community councils;
- whether applications for funding had come from new or established groups;
- the diverse nature of the applications received;
- whether community council membership was being promoted in Barrmill and Gateside; and
- plans to retain the contact information of unsuccessful applicants to facilitate their applications for any future funding.

The Partnership recognised and welcomed the impressive work carried out by the three Garnock Valley community councils.

Noted.

10. Locality Officer Update

The Partnership received a report by the Locality Officer, who highlighted the following:

- the Garnock Valley Carves event on 11 September 2021, which had attracted attendance from all over Scotland;
- the success of St Bridget's in being named Scotland's top performing primary school;
- the Café Solace community BBQ event on 7 August 2021 and summer events in the park organised by Dalry Community Sports Club; and
- forthcoming Brass in the Valley free concerts

The Partnership discussed the forthcoming Stoneyholm Mill Trust treasure hunt.

Noted.

11. Locality Plan Progress

The Partnership received an update report on progress in respect of the Locality Plan.

The Locality Officer highlighted a number of achievements and successes, including NCN7, youth engagement, the My Community app, asset and community mapping and the Travel Needs Analysis work, and noted the broader, positive impact of the locality planning in terms community engagement and influence.

At the request of the Partnership, the Locality Officer undertook to capture the main achievements more formally, for circulation to the Locality Partnership.

Christina Pieraccini

Moving Around

Allan Wright provided a short verbal update on the Moving Around Sub-Group, highlighting continuing work to develop a new path through Kilbirnie Park, notwithstanding that Sustrans funding had not been secured in the current year.

Work and the Local Community

James Waite, provided a short verbal update on the Work and Local Community sub-group, including the input received from the Garnock Valley Helping Hands project which recycled high-quality second-hand baby goods within the community.

Facilities and Amenities

Audrey Mason provided a short verbal update on the Facilities and Amenities sub-group, including work in preparing the consultant brief for Garnock Valley 2020

Community representative, Henry Johnson added some information on the establishment of the Community Garden in Dalry, the return of some members to the Men's Shed following its reopening, and the recent demolition of a derelict building in the Main Street.

Community Councillor Sheena Woodside provided an update on the completion of food hygiene training by 13 volunteers, allowing them to serve produce from the Community Garden.

Noted.

12.	Lochshore	
	The Partnership received a verbal report by Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, on developments in terms of Lochshore, including:	
	 a report to be presented to the next Stakeholders Reference Group at the end of September 2021 and, thereafter, to the December 2021 meeting of the Locality Partnership; progress in respect of building works; positive response rates in respect of online and in-person consultation activity; and the role of the Lochshore Development Group as the overarching body, the Stakeholder Reference Group as a sub-group working on engagement and consultation; and the Loch Management Group Noted. 	
13.	AOCB	
13.1	Barrmill Jolly Beggars	
	Councillor DL Reid provided a short verbal update on the success of Barrmill Jolly Beggars in securing a place as recipients of Tesco funding for their 'jolly bags of kindness' project.	
	Councillor Reid advised that the group would receive funding in the amount of £500, £1,000 or £1,500 depending on how shoppers voted using tokens in the store.	
	Noted.	

The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.



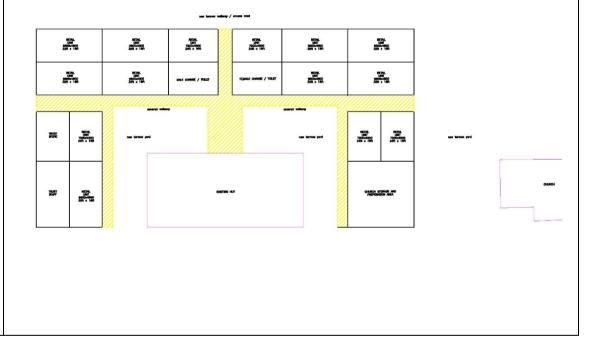
Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form

	Beith Community Development Trust
Org name	Geilsland Courtyard
Brief details of org	Beith Community Development Trust (Beith Trust) is a community anchor organisation operating in Beith but also reaches the wider communities and satellite villages of the Garnock Valley. The board of Beith Trust is made up of local people who are elected from and by our members. Beith Trust supports 100 individuals on an annual basis to volunteer over 5000 hours within Beith Trust projects and activity, wherever possible we match volunteering activity with opportunities for accreditation, learning, skills development and personal growth Since we were established in 2012 we have delivered a diverse range of community projects and regeneration initiatives aimed at improving community condition and the overall experience of living, working and raising a family within Beith. We are funded by a range of public and trust funders including Scottish Government, Robertson Trust, Big Lottery and many others and 30% of our income is from generated income. Beith Trust work is centred around 3 themes, Play, Progression and Place, we view the potential of the people and places within our community as, as yet unrealised assets which, given the right conditions, will flourish and thrive. Our work aims to create those conditions.
Locality	Garnock Valley
Amount requested	£15000
Brief overview of proposal	The next stage of development on the Geilsland Site is the replacement of the existing 'packing shed' building. The existing building is inefficient and unsightly and does not lend itself well to re-purposing or renovation. We want to create an attractive, welcoming and efficient building which provides additional site amenity, workshops, offices and storage spaces which can accommodate the needs of the local community, community projects and enterprise and better serves the operational requirements of the Geilsland Estate site. We currently have a waiting list of individuals / community projects and small enterprises who need spaces and many of the projects based at Geilsland have already outgrown the rooms and spaces that they occupy – eg GV Helping Hands, North Ayrshire Music Project, Beith Trust Band Factory. There are many capital funding projects who could fund the project, and many of these require swift responses and timescales. To get the project to a 'shovel ready' stage – ie where Beith Trust are in a position to take advantage of capital funding opportunities, Courtyard project requires a feasibility study conducted by professionals and coordinated by a lead architect. This will equip Beith Trust with the information and costs required to secure capital funding and take the project to the next stage.

The completed Geilsland Courtyard will be an all-electric building, energy will be produced by a solar array on the building which will work in conjunction with the 50kwh system on Geilsland Hall roof. The completed facility will offer alternatives to commuting by car by providing more remote workspaces including short term desk hire, workshop, production unit, office and room hire. The completed project, in conjunction with the other Geilsland enterprises will encourage walking & cycling between Beith and local satellite villages via attractive rural back roads

Geilsland Courtyard Objectives

- To attract enterprise, business, consumers, tourists and visitors to the Garnock Valley
- To create and sustain quality sustainable job opportunities for local people
- to create and sustain meaningful work experience, training and development opportunities in and around the operational requirements.
- To improve amenity community amenity and conditions





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

North Ayrshire Strategic Planning Group Locality Planning Forum

Update pro-form

SPG Meeting Date:	23/11/2021
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Locality Planning Forum:	Garnock Valley
Chair:	Janet McKay
Forum Meeting Date:	12/10/2021
Location:	Microsoft Teams
	Alana Black – Evaluation Officer
Pro-forma approved by:	

Current Locality Priorities

1	Improving mental health and well-being
2	Reducing social isolation and loneliness (all ages)
3	Prevention, early intervention and recovery from drug & alcohol related harms and deaths
4	Recovering from covid experience/backlog

Forum Discussion

LPF Discussion 1

Discussion Heading:	Participant Numbers				
Situation / Context:	LPF members discussed participants involvement and numbers and feel they have lost some community reps.				
Next Steps:	Christina/Michael will talk separately to discuss who they can target and who may wish to be involved to ensure people from the community can lead into the discussion.				
Support required:	None at this stage.				
Meets priority	1.□	2.□	3.□	4.□	N/A.⊠

LPF Discussion 2

Discussion Heading:	Review of firm priorities				
Situation / Context:	A brief review of new firm priorities was discussed, and all participants agree that the development session helped lead to the chosen outcome and that the priorities were correct moving forward.				
Next Steps:	NA				
Support required:	NA				
Meets priority	1.⊠	2.⊠	3.⊠	4.⊠	N/A.□

LPF Discussion 3

Discussion Hooding	Stratogic Plan Undata		
Discussion Heading:	Strategic Plan Update		
Situation / Context:	Scott gave a brief update on the development of the Strategic Plan.		
	The presentation confirmed the new Strategic Plan 22-30 will be building on from the bridging plan 2021-22 and stated the development work will validate and confirm the priorities and ambitions highlighted and identify further priority areas for action.		
	The presentation gave information on the service engagement that had took place with MH&LD and C,F&J, where a review of the short and medium term priorities were identified and draft priorities to 2030 were discussed. Tailored actions to support the LPF priorities were also discussed and will be fed back through future meeting.		
	H&CC session has been planned for November.		
Next Steps:	The first draft of the Strategic Plan document will be developed through October with the support from the Strategic Plan Sub-Group. The first draft will go to PSMT early November for feedback and approval.		

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

	Engagement for the Strategic Plan will then take place for 6 weeks between November and December including face to face engagement sessions, online sessions, and surveys. Engaging with existing networks and community groups and engaging the care improvement network will also take place.				
	Scott will work with Christina and share information on locality actions.				
Support required:	NA				
Meets priority	1.⊠	2.⊠	3.⊠	4.⊠	N/A.□

LPF Discussion 4

Discussion Heading:	Capacity				
Situation / Context:	LPF members stressed that future discussions will need to be had around premises and capacity concerns. LPF members were advised the issues had been well recognised and were highlighted in the Caring for Ayrshire ongoing project and discussion.				
Next Steps:	NA				
Support required:	NA				
Meets priority	1.□	2.□	3.□	4.□	N/A.⊠

LPF Discussion 5

Discussion Heading:	Election of New Chair
Situation / Context:	Janet McKay will be retiring on 7 th of January – however, will be continuing to work 3 days a week in clinical duties.
Next Steps:	Email will be sent to current members for any nominations that will also include the process and expectations of role.
Support required:	Election of New Chair should no nominations come forward.

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Meets priority	1.□	2.□] 3.□	4.□	N/A.⊠

LPF Discussion 6

	Schedule of LPF Meetings				
Situation / Context:	IT was agreed by all members that Garnock Valley LPF meetings will be held quarterly.				
Next Steps:	NA				
Support required:	NA				
Meets priority	1.□	2.□	3.□	4.□	N/A.⊠

Engagement Activity

Please use this section to highlight any recent engagement activity undertaken by the Forum and its members.

National Care Service Consultation

Michael gave a brief update on the National Care Service sessions. Michael confirmed turnout wasn't as high as expected in other sessions (Three Towns, Irvine & IJB), however, there was still a good quality of conversation and a lot of commonalities and themes.

Garnock Valley consultation will be on the 28th of October. Michael reminded members of the importance of giving their views and hoped more members would sign up and be involved.

Once all sessions have completed, responses will be collated into a report to be sent directly to the Scottish Government.

Care Improvement Network

Michael confirmed the development for the Care Improvement Network has started. A survey had been sent out about what the future of engagement could look like for North Ayrshire.

Online meetings, online surveys, one-to-one phone calls and some one-to-one meetings have started – 80 responses so far.

Christina spoke briefly about the CPP – and will link in with Michael to ensure there is some partnership engagement working, potentially using the care

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

improvement network as a bridge. Michael and Christina will link up separately.

Items for escalation

Please use this section to highlight any areas for escalation to full SPG discussion or to IJB

1	N/A
2	N/A
3	N/A
4	N/A



December 2021

Vall£y Voic£s for Vall£y Mon£y – The 3 Garnock Valley Community Councils have successfully completed their Valley Voices for Valley Money Project. In total, 43 groups have benefitted from this funding and were celebrated at an awards event on Friday 22nd October. Each group was presented with a cheque by their respective Community Council for the funds requested. There was a wide range of applications with very good ideas, many of which were supportive of COVID Recovery. The event was also an opportunity for networking amongst the groups and it was delightful to see so many smiling faces. All the hard work paid off and the 3 Community Councils are very happy with the outcomes achieved in meeting the Garnock Valley Locality Priorities.

Garnock Valley Youth Forum - The Garnock Valley Youth Forum's Uniform Swap Shop was officially opened by the Provost on Wednesday 3rd November. This swap shop is based within the Kilbirnie Youth Project; 35 – 37 Main Street Kilbirnie. KA25 7BX. Free provisions, including uniforms and school equipment, will help support individuals and families attending school or have school aged children. Contact Garry Tait at gtait@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or call 01505 683874 for more information and opening times.



Locality update

Provost visits the Garnock Valley – The Provost for North Ayrshire, Ian Clarkson, visited the Garnock Valley during November to meet and thank local volunteers for their hard work and contribution to the local community. He visited: Café Solace, Garnock Valley Men's Shed, Dalry Community Larder, Garnock Valley Youth Forum and Dalry Community Garden.

Café Solace Food Development Worker - A local organisation fighting food poverty in the Garnock Valley has received a £49,000 funding boost. Awarded via the Council's Community Investment Fund (CIF), the funding for Cafe Solace Kilbirnie was agreed after the proposal was presented to the Council Cabinet by the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership. Located at Bridgend Community Centre, Café Solace is a community-based café providing local access to low-cost food, while helping people recovering from addiction to get back into work by gaining transferable skills through volunteering. The successful CIF funding bid will help Café Solace to recruit a full-time Food Development Worker for a period of 3 years.

Beith and District Community Council — The Community Council were finally able to unveil and dedicate a commemorative cairn to The Battles Over 100 years; VE Day 75 years and VJ Day 75 years on 13 November. The cairn is sited on the original site of the war memorial on the Bigholm Hill, which many of the community residents remember. The cairn was built by a local man, Dan Fulton, who used his expertise as a drystone builder — a craft that is rare to find nowadays. There was a good turnout and it was well received when it was shared on their Facebook page. The next step is to gain landowners consent to create a more accessible circular path leading up to and around the cairn.

Dalry Community Garden — Volunteers at the garden hosted their Christmas Garden Party on Saturday 4th December 2021. People who went along enjoyed free activities, mulled wine and meeting Sant Clause.



December 2021

Online Christmas Party – The Garnock Valley Locality Team and Community Link Workers are hosting a free online Christmas Party on Tuesday 21st December for anyone from the Garnock Valley aged 50+. All participants will receive a Christmas Goodie bag and the opportunity to receive a free Christmas Tea and Treats delivered to their door. Contact Garry Tait at gtait@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or call 01505 683874 for more information and to register.

Locality and Youth PB – The Youth Participatory Budgeting was voted on during November and 15 groups which support young people in the Garnock Valley were successful, sharing a pot of £14,250. The Locality PB opened for applications on 22nd November and groups can apply for up to £1200 for the Locality fund and up to £400 from the Arts and Culture Fund. The application process will close 22nd January 2022.

Dalry Community Sports Club – The community larder celebrated its first anniversary of opening on 18th November. Over the past year, they have helped many families and individuals with their budgeting by providing affordable food items.

Stoneyholm Mill Trust – The Trust held a successful community Treasure Hunt in September, supported by Participatory Budgeting and Valley Voices funding. A map of Kilbirnie was created and Trustees and young actors told the story of six of the landmarks in the form of storytelling, poetry and drama. A visit from the Trust's mascot, Knox the Fox, delighted the younger visitors and the Trustees would like to thank North Ayrshire Council and the Garnock Valley Community Councils for their support.

Highlights

NCN7 – Work has now started to explore the feasibility of a National Cycle Network 7 route between Kilbirnie and Dalry. Consultants recently met community members on site to walk and discuss the proposed route.

"Stroll With It" - After a successful pilot through Spring/Summer and at the request of group members, Garnock Valley Health Walks have continued into the Winter season. All members report increased wellbeing as a result of the walks, not only from a physical point of view, but also new relationships and friendships have been established and developed as a result of the walks.

Bike maintenance - As a result of a new bike project, operating from Dalry Community Sports Club's new Pavilion facility in Dalry Public Park, three participants have gained the Velotech Bronze Level Bike Maintenance Award, a nationally recognised qualification in the bike industry. Plans are in place to run the course again at the end of January 2022. It is hoped that these skills will help participants find employment in the industry or to volunteer within their community.

E-Bike Scheme – 3 local organisations from the Garnock Valley have held initial meetings with a view to setting up and piloting an E-Bike scheme within the Garnock Valley. It is hoped that this scheme could be launched early spring 2022.



Moving around (public transport, traffic and parking)



December 2021

Garnock Valley Walks - The working group for Moving Around recently met with staff from NAC Active Travel Team and are looking to create and publish a Garnock Valley walks leaflet, which will showcase some local walks, as well as link to more routes online.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Wednesday 9th February 2022. Please get in touch if you would be interested in getting involved.

Highlights

Dalry Community Garden - Volunteers at the garden have been overwhelmed by the generosity of contractors working locally, Damm Environmental and McLauchlin and Harvey through Community Benefit. The garden now has amazing paths which will allow easier access for all. The group wish to thank Laura and Nicola from North Ayrshire Council for their support in securing the community benefit.



Facilities and amenities

Barrmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club – The Club are grateful to NAC for financial support which helped them organise "Brass in the Valley", which went ahead on 3rd and 31st October in the Concert Hall, Geisland Estate, Beith. Both events were excellent and had a full house. The playing by the bands and guest singers was very well received. Brass in the Valley was such that if they can identify funding, they would like to hold this event again in 2022 perhaps engaging different brass bands. It was decided that the audience, who entered for free, would be invited to make a donation. The Club are delighted to say that the Garnock Valley Disability Forum have benefited by £1,200 from these donations.

History Talks - A series of four 'pilot' local history talks started in the atmospheric setting of the old boardroom in Walker Hall. Response has been very good, with the room near to capacity at the sessions so far (within covid regulations). The aim has been to encourage socially isolated people out the house and also gauge interest in this topic, with a view to establishing something longer term in 2022.

Next steps

The working group will next meet on Wednesday 12th January 2022 in Bridgend Community Centre. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in.

Highlights

Youth Engagement - A new youth drop in has started in Beith Community Centre on Tuesday evenings. The group has been slow to attract young people, but staff are hopeful word can get out and more young people will attend in 2022.

Garnock Valley Men's Shed - Members of Garnock Valley Men's Shed 'Task Force' were honoured for their volunteering work at the recent Barrmill Conservation Group Ten Year Anniversary celebration at the Roebank Hotel. Six shedders participated in the establishment of a tiered of barrmill Park.



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Garnock Valley Life – A new, free community information app will soon be launched by Beith Community Development Trust, who worked in partnership with the working group for Work and Local Community. Details on how to download and use the app will be circulated soon.

Community Council elections – The elections for all 3 Garnock Valley Community Councils took place during October and November and, in addition to existing members being re-elected, resulted in 7 new community councillors being elected to serve the Garnock Valley Community.

The Ayrshire Community Trust – The Third Sector Interface (both TACT & Arran CVS) have been involved in providing a number of information sessions (one in each locality) for the Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund. The applications are now live with a closing date of Thursday 6th January 2022, for more information please visit: https://www.arrancvs.org.uk/homepage/funding-new-funding-opportunity/

Positive Steps with Partners is their Employability Project, focusing on working with local individuals to access quality work placements, training and personal development opportunities. The team have adapted the programme to a virtual setting offering a variety of short, fun and interactive zoom sessions covering topics such as, Personal Skills and Strength's, Comfort Zones, Goal Setting and Cooking on a Budget. The project is involved at the Eglinton Community Garden and work with a variety of partners in offering work placement and training opportunities. If you know anyone that may be interested in finding out more, please contact Cheryl Newall via: cheryl@tact.scot

The Volunteer Friendly Award is available for community groups who engage with volunteers. This award shows the commitment of groups to embed volunteers at the heart of their work. If anyone is would like more information, please contact: ann@tact.scot

New Scots - A New Scot has been volunteering with their local church, supporting the weekly coffee morning. A ladies group for New Scots has been established, with a local resident currently coming in weekly to do sewing lessons. Links have also been made with Tesco to support more halal products in their store.

Liaising with Café Solace has resulted in parcels of surplus food being distributed to New Scots who attend Bridgend on Fridays. Margaret from Café Solace also joins the ladies group when she can for some Syrian coffee and sweets! In addition, a local resident has offered to volunteer to run a 12-week photography skills course to support young male New Scots with their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Finally, a homework helper scheme has been developed and has advertised for volunteers. It will pilot in Moorpark Primary School and will hopefully start in January 2022.

Family Learning Team - Currently within the locality, the Family Learning Team have two workers, Daniele McIntyre and Cheryl Wilson, offering family learning in the



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following schools: Moorpark Primary, Beith Primary, Dalry Primary, Gateside Primary, St Bridget's Primary, St Palladius Primary and Garnock Community Campus.

Read, Write, Count and Bookbug sessions have been delivered in primary schools, providing each child in P1-P3 with a gift bag to take home which includes story books, resources to support their learning, and information for their Parent/Carer on how to utilise the contents of the bag.

Families Connect has been delivered virtually to 6 Primary 1 parents/carers from Dalry Primary. Resources were provided and weekly workshops explored eight topics to support young children's learning including:

- · Play Learn through play
- · Feelings Recognise and name feelings, develop empathy and talk about feelings.
- Praise and Listening Develop confidence in themselves and their ability to learn and achieve, self-expression, language and communication.
- · Book Talk and Storytelling Develop an interest and enjoyment of books, reading, storytelling and imagination.
- · Counting Talk about numbers, develop estimation and grouping skills.
- Number Talk Order numbers, use a number line and increase awareness of numbers in the environment.

Finally, the Family Learning Workers plan to deliver the following programmes in term 3 & 4; Young STEM Leader, John Muir Award, Outdoor Learning and Homework club (depending on covid restrictions).

Next steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 20th January 2022. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.

For further information contact:

Christina Pieraccini - Locality Officer cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Remembering Together

Update for Locality Planning Partnerships

December 2021

On the first anniversary of the March 2020 'lockdown', the First Minister announced that the time was right to work together and develop a programme of reflection and commemoration. It was announced that Remembering Together, Scotland's Covid Community Memorial Programme will be delivered by Greenspace Scotland.

The aim is to work with communities to create a fitting tribute which offers local people a connection and opportunity to respectfully reflect on the pandemic whilst also recognising the work of many who supported our communities in a variety of ways.

Greenspace Scotland are working with all 32 Scottish Local Authorities and will lead on what will result in local communities coming together with artists to co create a commemorative piece of art that best reflects local feelings and emotions. The form of the finished piece is not prescriptive and could be anything from creative writing, visual art, commemorative garden, dance, drama/ performance, musical, digital - the scope is wide open and will be part of the co creation process.

The work is fully funded by Scottish Government with allocations made for the 2 stage process – 20k for stage 1 followed by 100k for stage 2.

As suggested, this will be a 2 stage process -

Stage 1 will see an artist / creative practitioner appointed via a commissioning process to deliver community engagement in order to gather ideas, suggestions and to gauge feelings and emotions to help shape the work. The output of this stage will be a brief ready to commission an appropriately skilled artist (in the relevant discipline) to deliver the final piece of work as per the co-created brief.

Stage 2 will be the creation of the final piece - in whatever form is agreed.

The very first step of this journey is to establish a commissioning group. The numbers on the group need to be manageable but have a breadth of representation. This is the key group who will guide the work as we progress on the journey. It is suggested that the group be made up of a blend of representatives from the Local Authority, Key Partners, Community Organisations and Artistic / Creative Groups or individuals.

Officers have reached out to several groups and key partners to seek expressions of interest to be involved in the commissioning group. The first meeting will be in early December with an aim of having the call out to artists early in 2022. Once an artist has been appointed, they will start off the exciting process of community engagement.

Further updates on progress towards this will be shared at future meetings and, although there is only basic information shown at the moment, progress can be followed on the national web site. Remembering Together | Co-creating Covid Community Memorials

If you have any question or would like to be involved in the engagement sessions with the artists please contact Lesley Forsyth on lesleyforsyth@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or Lindsay Robbins on lindsayrobbins@north-ayrshire.gov.uk