



**Minutes of the Meeting of Beith and District Community Council**  
**Held on MS Teams on Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7:00pm**

**In Attendance:**

Helen McNaughton	HM	Chair, Beith & District Community Council
James Waite	JW	Vice Chair, Beith & District Community Council
Janet Barr	JB	Beith & District Community Council
Michael Deadman	MD	Beith & District Community Council
Cllr John Bell	Cllr JB	Ward 2
Cllr Anthea Dickson	Cllr AD	Ward 2
Cllr Margaret Johnson	Cllr MJ	Ward 2
Cllr Donald L Reid	Cllr DLR	Ward 2
Cllr Ronnie Stalker	Cllr RS	Ward 2
Christina Pieraccini	CP	Locality Officer
Samantha Ross	SR	NAC

6 members of the public

		<b><u>Actions</u></b>
<b>1.</b>	The chair welcomed all those in attendance to the first in-person meeting since February 2020. Non-attendees were recorded. All five NAC councillors were present. They were congratulated on their recent electoral success, both the four incumbents and also new councillor, Margaret Johnson.	
	<b>Apologies:</b> Sandy Blackwood, Robert Winning, Sgt Douglas Clark, Patricia Gibson MP	
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>Police Report:</u></b> Sgt Clark is on annual leave so was unable to attend and no report was submitted.	
<b>3.</b>	<b><u>Minutes of the previous meeting:</u></b> The minutes of the previous meeting had previously been circulated and were approved as an accurate record by:  <b><u>Proposer:</u></b> Janet Barr <b><u>Seconded:</u></b> Michael Deadman	
<b>4</b>	<b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b> None	
<b>5.</b>	<b><u>Planning Applications</u></b> None	

6.	<p><b><u>Notification of Public Consultation to build houses in Kings Road</u></b></p> <p>A public meeting was held on 19.04.22. The developers declined to attend despite offers to change date &amp; times. Residents raised concerns. It was agreed that H McN would submit a letter to the developers on behalf of BDCC &amp; residents outlining concerns before pre-planning consultation ended on 25.04.22.</p>	HM
7.	<p><b><u>Accounts</u></b></p> <p><b>Closing Balances:</b></p> <p><b>Admin account</b> £448.49 (no change on previous month)</p> <p><b>Project account</b> £11.274.27</p> <p>We are still in the process of transferring the accounts from Brian Smith to RW. As a result, there were no changes to the accounts as we can't yet authorise payments. There are some pending payments to be made once access is granted.</p>	RW / HM / JW
8.	<p><b><u>Joint Garnock Valley Community Council-led Hustings</u></b></p> <p>Cllr RS put in his apologies due to a personal commitment. Of the 11x candidates, 8 turned up (including 1 that hadn't let us know he was coming), RS put in apologies and 2 did not respond. As only some candidates had publicly shared their addresses, this delayed invitations being sent out as they had to go via NAC. Questions from each of the main Garnock Valley towns were chosen randomly by the audience. JW had used a random name generator so that the order candidates answered was different each time. This was to avoid any advantage to being first or last to answer. Thanks to Sheena Woodside for being our timekeeper. JW chaired the Hustings. Feedback from candidates was that the event had been well organised though audience numbers were not as high as was hoped. It was noted that this was the only Hustings to be held in mainland North Ayrshire (Arran had their own event).</p>	
9.	<p><b><u>Beith Community Association</u></b></p> <p>HM, SB &amp; MD attended. James Robson was retained as chair. There were about a dozen new volunteers enrolled for Lights &amp; Laughter.</p>	
10.	<p><b><u>Reports</u></b></p> <p><b>Queen's Platinum Jubilee</b> – The programme has been finalised. The booklets are at the printers. They are due to arrive at JW's house while this meeting is in progress. The Jubilee Queen has been named as Beth Williams. She will enter the church in a red robe and leave in a purple to symbolise the coronation. Thanks to John Elliott for power washing the chessboard. Finco have agreed to resurface the paths in the garden. The draughts are complete and a small storage space is being investigated to store the draughts and also two chairs for players to sit on.</p> <p><b>GVLP</b> – WLC Update – Neither met last month.</p> <p><b>GVLP</b> – Moving Around meets tomorrow. SB attended last month's meeting. There, they discussed Beith Trust's E-Bike scheme, PAS Project (part of Travel Needs Analysis), Locality Priorities Refresh and Community Transport</p> <p><b>GVLP</b> – Facilities &amp; Amenities – A report was submitted to HM and JW from K&amp;GCC and a summary read out. (see Appendix 1). A lengthy discussion ensued on the Priorities Refresh about tackling poverty through groups such as Café Solace, Food Banks and Food Larders (active in Dalry and Beith. Kilbirnie will be ready soon) As well as helping with tackling the cost of living, food larders also help prevent food waste going to landfill.</p>	

11.	<p><b>General Correspondence</b></p> <p>21.04.22 – Kaye Robertson TSI - Invite to attend ASP training on 03.05.22 - shared</p> <p>25.04.22 – Remembering Together – Artists Expression of Interest – 4 artists applied, and scoring returned</p> <p>28.04.22 – Kaye Robertson – introducing Sarah Watts Choose Life Manager for North Ayrshire who would like to touch base – H McN has responded</p>	
12.	<p><b>Councillors' Reports</b></p> <p>As all 5x NAC councillors were present, they were invited to share any items with the group. We were advised that at the election, no party achieved a majority. Instead, the SNP won 12 seats, the Conservatives won 10 and Labour won 7. There are 2x independent (DLR and Ian Murdoch (North Coast)). Robert Barr lost his seat. The decision on who should lead the council will be made on 18 May and then committee membership will be arranged. By the end of June, the council should be back to dealing with normal business. Induction training is ongoing, both for new councillors and incumbents.</p>	
	<p><b>A.O.C.B.:</b></p> <p><b>BT Open Reach</b> - Unfortunately, unlike when Virgin were upgrading their network, BT has no point of contact to raise concerns from the community or council. In some areas, the new superfast broadband is reverting to old tech using telegraph poles instead of burying cables underground.</p> <p><b>Gateside traffic issues</b> – there were two main issues raised. Firstly, the speed bumps are causing problems with vibration, especially when heavy vehicles are passing. It has been requested that these be removed. There was also a lengthy discussion about parking outside the school as some parents are parking too close to the school, which puts other pupils at risk. Parking is still considered a police matter as it has not (yet!) been decriminalised to councils and parking wardens.</p> <p><b>Action Point: B&amp;DCC to write to parents via Gateside PS asking them to be more considerate in their parking. This will take place in August, rather than just now.</b></p> <p>It was also noted that for the new intake, parents have already received their welcome packs.</p> <p><b>WH Malcolms</b> – JW received an email from David Balmer to say that the floor has now been replaced</p> <p><b>Youth Disorder</b> – JW was asked to re-form the youth engagement group that last met about a year ago. There has been a change in head teacher at the campus since then. This follows a number of acts of vandalism in Kilbirnie. It was noted that the Red Brae has been quiet of late. Problems with the 101 phone service has caused problems for people trying to report issues to the police. It was also pointed out that some young people make a positive impact in their communities through volunteering as part of Duke of Edinburgh and other awards.</p>	<p>JW</p> <p>JW</p>
	<p>With no further public business to discuss, the meeting was brought to a close by the Chair. Due to team availability issues, it was suggested that June's meeting be cancelled. The Community Council will be in recess during July.</p>	
13.	<p><b>The next meeting of Beith and District Community Council will take place on Tuesday 9 August 2022 in Beith Community Centre.</b></p>	

## **Appendix 1: GVLP - Facilities & Amenities**

- **Introductions**

Christina has a new team member. Samantha Ross started working with her on Tuesday 03 May. Her background is as a community development worker in Glasgow and Stirling. We were also joined by Kathryn Young of Beith Playpark Action Group and Alan Jones of Alan Jones Associates (consultants). Usual team members present were Allan Wright, Christina Pieraccini, Garry Brown, Jeeni Lamont, John Higgins, and Henry Johnson.

- **Beith Skate Park**

Alan Jones gave a short presentation about the process they have used so far. This includes 250 surveys, of which 96% support concrete skate park in Orr Park, 89% support new floodlights (though this won't be first phase), 89% support a new zip wire and 93% support an outdoor gym. There were also 13 letters of support, including B&DCC. The proposed cost of these works is £206k for the skate park and £44k for the zip wire. BPAG intend to make a CIF application for some of these costs as their other funders require match funding. These funders include Scottish Landfill Trust, EB, Suez Trust, Viridor and Sport Scotland.

- **Parks Proposal**

At the last meeting, Audrey Mason had described some ideas for Dalry public park, including the regeneration of the tennis courts. This led to a discussion about having a point person for the public parks in the three Garnock Valley towns. Audrey has plans to regenerate the tennis court but another group has plans to put an additional path through the same site in the park. Having a point person would then allow groups to be co-ordinated as both projects can't succeed in the same space. We were disappointed with Dress for the Weather's plans for stones in a circle. Unfortunately, Audrey was not able to attend but will share her ideas with the group via email later.

- **GV2023**

This was to be a cultural heritage consultation which has been CIF funded for £15k. The project went to tender and there were two bidders – Ice Cream Architecture and Lateral North. Lateral North was the preferred bidder from the scoring team. Both bidders were over budget at £33k and £39k respectively. The proposal started before the pandemic and some felt that between the pandemic and the procurement process, the project had been killed off. Jeeni will seek alternative suppliers. At the next meeting, we will discuss whether we want to continue, change the focus or cancel the project altogether. With the discussions about Place Plans and other consultations, there was concern that this project would be duplication.

- **Localities Refresh**

More discussion on the 9x CPP priorities. Jeeni pointed out that since NAC has declared a Climate Emergency, perhaps tackling climate change should have been considered a 10<sup>th</sup> option. The list of priorities are to be seen as a checklist rather than a task list. These were: Access to services, Employability, Relationships within communities, Well maintained open spaces, Financial inclusion, Healthy lifestyles, Mental health and wellbeing, Child poverty and Drug and alcohol dependence