Meeting:		Garnock Valley Locality Partnership				
Date/Venue:		11 December 2024 – Bridgend Community Centre				
Apologies:		Councillor John Bell (Chair) Councillor Anthea Dickson Councillor Donald L. Reid Councillor Ronnie Stalker James Waite, Beith & District Community Council – Vice Chair Jane Lamont, Community Representative Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire & Arran (Snr Lead Officer) Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Community Learning & Development, NAC (Lead Officer) Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, NAC Martyn Rae, Active Schools, NAC Inspector Michael Cowan, Police Scotland Neil Shearer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Kyle Lewis KA Leisure Heather McVie Branley, Community Development Worker  Councillor Margaret Johnson				
		David Park, Community Representative Kaileigh Brown, The Ayrshire Community Trust				
	ACTIONS					
No.	Action		Responsible			
1.	Welcor	ne, Apologies and Declarations of Interest				
		nair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for e were noted.				
2.	Action	Note				
	The act					
	Beat the Garnoc to the P	J McGee				
	Dalry (Partner November Communication Maintenance Partner Partner November	Noted				

A Morrell provided the Partnership with an update in relation to the Community Investment Fund Application from Radio City Association which was heard at the September meeting.

A Morrell advised that she and the Senior Manager for Finance met with the organisation on 27 September to review and provide background to the actions which were raised at the Partnership Meeting in September. The Group were also provided with timeline for when information would need to be returned in order for it to be reviewed by Finance and shared with the Partnership in advance of the December meeting for final sign off.

A Morrell advised that the projected income paperwork was received earlier today and that she is still awaiting the remaining documentation. Once received this will be reviewed by Finance and shared with the Partnership by email.

The Partnership agreed that once the paperwork is received, reviewed by Finance, and shared with the Partnership, they would be happy for the application to move forward to Cabinet for final approval, provided everything is satisfactory.

A Morrell

J Waite commented that there is there is a possibility that the project cost may have changed, as it has been 9 months since the Group submitted their Expression of Interest.

### 4 Street Naming Report

The Locality Partnership were asked to consider street naming report for the development of 192 houses on land to the West of Auldlea Gardens and East of Kings Road, Beith. The development requires six street names.

A Morrell advised the Partnership that Beith Community Council consulted the community via social media for suggestions and these were included within the report.

Discussion took place in relation to the names, and it was noted that:

- Beith Trust owned the trademark of Beithcraft
- Tawny was in relation to the Tanyards in Beith historically associated with the tanning industry, which processes animal hides into leather and not the local chip shop as noted by Planning on the report.
- The Chair suggested that other furniture companies that were previously in the area should be considered for future sites also.

The Partnership agreed the following Street Names for the development:

- Faulds
- Old Station
- Willowbank (Gardens)

**Lisa Dempster** 

- Birch
- Kerse
- Dubbs

J McGee undertook to liaise with Planning to ensure that the use of Gardens as a suffix would be suitable.

J McGee

A Morrell also advised re the contact from member of public who did not use social media, and the team would look at ways to engage with the community out with social media. They also put forward some suggestions which would be included on the street name bank being produced for 2025.

Noted

### 4. CIF Project Scope Amendment Proposals

#### **GV 2023**

The Partnership received an update from J Lamont and C Pieraccini regarding a proposal to adjust the scope of the GV 2023 Development Worker post. They emphasised the synergy between the GV 2023 work and the "Our Garnock Valley" Local Place Plan work, leading to a request for slight modifications to the Community Development Worker post funded by the CIF. This proposal has been agreed at the Working Group meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December, before coming to the Locality Partnership.

The proposed changes include:

- broadening the remit of the original post to support the outcome of the Place Plan work, which will help keep the momentum going and;
- seeking match funding to expand the role to full-time and for a longer duration.

This revised scope would maintain the same type of work while incorporating Place Plan activities, thereby enhancing the overall focus.

C Pieraccini highlighted that if match funding is not secured, the position would still be advertised as part-time.

The Partnership confirmed that they were happy with this approach.

C Pieraccini

#### **Garnock Valley Mens Shed**

The Partnership received an update from A Morrell in relation to Garnock Valley Mens Shed who were previously successful in obtaining funding from CIF to replace their heating system.

Since receiving funding, the premises has undergone some construction work, additional building regulations and insulation installation. Upon reassessment, it was determined that a full heating system upgrade, as originally proposed, is no longer necessary.

	The Mens Shed requested permission to reallocate some the funds for alternative improvements:	
	<ul><li>Insulation enhancement to one wall</li><li>Ventilation improvements</li></ul>	
	Additionally, they have been in talks with the sustainability team to explore the feasibility of installing solar panels to help with reducing energy costs.	
	The Locality Partnership approved of these proposed modifications to the project scope.	C Pieraccini
5.	Place Plan and Travel Needs Analysis	
	The Partnership received an update from C Pieraccini on the work taking place around the "Our Garnock Valley" Place Plan and Travel Needs Analysis.	
	Place Plan	
	Community engagement efforts have been successful, with 744 responses to the survey and three well-attended events in November held in Beith, Dalry and Kilbirnie.	
	Additional events are scheduled for January 2025 in :  • Gateside: 20 January from 3.00 – 7.00 pm  • Barrmill: 22 January from 3.00 – 7.00 pm  • Glengarnock: 23 January from 3.00 – 7.00 pm	
	A full report with recommendations is expected to be brought to the June Partnership meeting, where the Partnership will discuss implementing actions.	Noted
	Travel Needs Analysis	
	548 responses were received to the Travel Needs Analysis survey.	
	Preliminary findings will be available in January 2025, with an update being brough to the Partnership meeting in March 2025. Discussions with Stagecoach and SPT are already being planned.	
	C Pieraccini conveyed her thanks Working Group and to Gavin on her team for helping to shape the plan to where it is at.	
6.	Education and Youth Overview	
	The Partnership received updates from H McVie-Branley, Community Development Worker and M Rae, Active Schools Co-ordinator.	
	H McVie-Branley highlighted that:	

- since the summer, the Locality Team have actively engaged with young people in our community to gain insights into their needs and perspectives regarding current youth services in the area. Over 200 responses have been received.
- Two youth forums continue to meet twice per week. They took part in the Kilbirnie Christmas Light Switch On.
- The Community Leaders Programme is going from strength to strength. Eight young people previously disengaged from school are now participating in the programme daily.
- Further updates are provided within the Locality Officer Report.

C Pieraccini commended the work H McVie- Branley has done since coming in to post 9 months ago.

M Rae circulated an update on the work of the Active Schools Team in the Garnock Valley. The update highlighted that:

- 48 clubs which all schools in the area have been a part of during Terms 1&2.
- 17 Higher and 10 North Ayrshire Sport Academy students have been placed across the cluster. They will gain valuable experience putting their coaching skills to practise.
- Team continues to collaborate with partners to deliver clubs and utilise facilities in the area.

#### 7. KA Leisure

The Partnership received an update from K Lewis on the work of KA Leisure:

- The team has been working with the Dalry Community Sport Club and planning an ASN sports day for next year.
- Portable pitches are being utilised for events throughout the local area.
- A new wellbeing subscription service is set to launch in January 2025 across North Ayrshire. This has been designed to enhance existing memberships with:
  - Comprehensive health checks to evaluate essential metrics like BMI, body composition, and blood pressure.
  - Personalised support combining human expertise with Aldriven insights.
  - Tailored fitness plans, nutrition advice, and mental wellness support.
  - A state-of-the-art app empowering member to take charge of their health journey.

E Young commented that it is great to hear this preventative work is taking place.

Noted

The Chair asked K Lewis if KA Leisure are experiencing staff shortages. K Lewis highlighted that this seems to be an issue from Leisure settings across the UK and the Team are keen to continue to look at pathways to create opportunities.

Noted

### 8. Police and SFRS – Wellbeing and Partnerships

#### **Police Scotland**

M Cowan introduced himself to the Partnership and advised that he is new Locality Inspector for the area and covers Irvine and Kilwinning.

M Cowan provided the Partnership with the following update:

- The Community Wellbeing Unit is actively involved in various initiatives in the Garnock Valley, including working with children's houses
- Mental health continues to be a significant concern for the Police. They are working closely with regular contacts to ensure appropriate support and pathways are provided. Collaborations with Turning Point, CHAP, and other partners are ongoing.
- Operation Moonbeam, focused on bonfire night safety, reported no injuries to Police or Fire service personnel this year. Preparations for the Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act implementation are underway for bonfire night 2025.
- The local police station in Kilbirnie has four officers, including a wildlife crime officer who maintains contact with farmers. The team also have access to a quad bike for rural patrols.
- Campus officers are conducting extensive work in schools, providing inputs on internet safety, drugs, knife crime, hate crimes, antisocial behaviour, and domestic abuse. Vaping, especially with its increasing association with drugs, is a major concern. Officers are offering guidance to teachers and working with Guy Jenner on shop visits and Challenge 25 initiatives to target shops selling vaping products to young people.
- The team have also been involved in work experience programs, helping young people explore career options and build relationships
- For the festive season, there are plans to increase police presence in town centres across North Ayrshire

Noted

#### Scottish Fire and Rescue:

N Shearer provided the Partnership with the following update:

- Since the last Partnership meeting 41 visits were conducted in the locality. Out of these, 12 visits targeted the most vulnerable community members classified as high-risk. Being High risk means that we will reconnect with the occupant in 12 months' time and offer to re-visit and provide further advice if required.
- Over the past few months, the team has submitted 12 Adult Protection (AP1) referrals in the Garnock Valley.
- The team are currently looking for On-Call firefighters at Dalry Community Fire Station. Applicants must live within 5mins of the station, be over 18, physically fit and be able to provide 90hours cover spread over the week. Further details can be found on the My Job Scotland website - <u>Scottish Fire and Rescue Service</u>

	Jobs   myjobscotland or by visiting the station on Monday evening speak with the On-Call personnel.	
	N Shearer advised that a full report was provided within the papers and was happy for the Partnership to contact him if they had any queries.	Noted
9.	Locality Plan Progress	
	C Pieraccini advised the Locality Partnership that:	
	<ul> <li>The working group have an active role in the Our Garnock Valley and Travel Needs Analysis work.</li> <li>Employment, skills, and National Cycle Network Route 7 (NCN7) will be ongoing focus areas for the group also.</li> <li>Meetings with DTAS and KA Leisure are planned for early 2025.</li> <li>A new agenda format will be implemented to maintain meeting section focus.</li> </ul>	
	C Pieraccini conveyed her thanks to the Working Group for their contributions and hard work this year.	Noted
10.	Locality Officer Update	
	The Locality Report was enclosed as part of the agenda pack.	
	The report highlighted the areas work being undertook by the locality team in relation to the locality priorities, Our Garnock Valley and youth work.	
11.	AOCB	
	J Lamont highlighted that the working group is preparing a report for the Scottish Government on community benefits including the windfarm and solar developments. J Lamont noted that communities across Scotland with greater capacity are actively negotiating community benefits with developers. Establishing a community wealth fund could enhance negotiating power with developers, but potential leaders in the Garnock Valley are currently at full capacity with existing commitments.  A Morrell undertook to discussing this matter with the Council's Regeneration Team and raising it at the next Community Wealth Building Board meeting.	A Morrell
	Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan	
	A Morrell advised the Partnership that the CLD Strategic Plan was recently approved by the Council's Cabinet. The Plan can be viewed on the Community Planning Website - Community Learning and Development Strategic Plan 2024-2027 - Northayrshire Community	

#### Valedictory

The Chair extended his best wishes on behalf of the Partnership to E Young, who will be retiring as Assistant Director of Public Health with NHS Ayrshire and Arran in early 2025. E Young has served as the Senior Lead Officer of the Partnership since the inception of Locality Planning in North Ayrshire in 2016.

### **Reports for Information**

The Chair reminded the Partnership that CLD Strategic Quarterly Update report was submitted as part of the meeting paperwork for information and sharing, as appropriate.

The Chair also conveyed his best wishes to the Partnership for the festive season.

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm