

**Fairlie Community Council – Monday 03/02/2025, h. 07:30pm, Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd, Fairlie**

The meeting is declared open at **07:30pm**

*Attending:*

FCC: Rita Holmes (chair), Marco Piva (minutes secretary), Alan Holden, Gaye Nelson

NAC: none

Police: Sgt. Donald Fisher

5 MoP

*Apologies:* Mairi Wyatt, Jackie Pearson, Malcolm Milne, Arran Hewlett (FCC); Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Tom Marshall, Cllr Eleanor Collier, Cllr Todd Ferguson (NAC)

**Approval of January minutes:** proposed by RH, seconded by GN

**Communications from the Chair:**

+ Ian Dippie (Largs CC) sent a note as NAC are withdrawing funding from the Rangers Service at Eglinton Park. RH will share the petition for those who wish to reply as individuals (not as FCC)  
+ (*this was initially set to be dealt with as AOB, but it is brought forward as the representative of the Police is present and he may have advice on this*) the daughter of a resident tragically passed away recently; said resident wishes to donate a defibrillator to the village. Two are present, one inside the bowling club (and therefore not accessible if the bowling club is closed) and one on the outer wall of the church. The train station seems to be a suitable location for the proposed new one, as it is on the South side of the village (the church is on the North side) and there is power supply in case it needs to be powered. Also, it has CCTV, which should prevent potential vandalism

Sgt DF: the wall-mounted defibrillators are powered to maintain charge, especially in the colder months. Scotrail and/or Network Rail should be contacted

MoP: If there is an issue with the train station, the Station Pets shop could be contacted

Sgt DF: as far as I know, there should be no restrictions about mounting one in the train station. The defibrillators carried on Police cars are supported by Largs Resilience Team

MoP (Mr Hugh MacLean) to contact Network Rail and Largs Resilience Team for further information

**Police Report:**

In January, 3 crimes were reported:

+ a van with no insurance has been parked in the village for a number of days; this has been dealt with

+ a resident has received threatening text messages on their phone (this is being dealt with as a case that took place in Fairlie as the person receiving the message resides in Fairlie, but it is unknown at the moment where the person sending them resides)

+ one drive off at the petrol station

A low number of traffic issues, for instance recently a vehicle hit and damages a lamp post near the Southannan roundabout and drove off (investigation ongoing)

AlHold: how long was the A78 closed on January 24<sup>th</sup>, when Storm Éowyn hit?

Sgt DF: some hours due to fallen or dangerous trees, no exact data available to him at the moment

As there are no further questions for the local Police, Sgt DF leaves the meeting due to personal commitments, reminding everyone that he can easily be contacted via e-mail if any issues requiring Police attention arose.

1. **Local Place Plan update**

RH has received numerous photos and communication. The bowling club asks for more parking spaces, especially as the works on the planned garden centre next to it have started. Mairi Wyatt has contacted numerous local couples with young children; they all seem to be satisfied by the level of safety in Fairlie, and don't think that more amenities or shops are needed. A NAC-organised Mother & Toddler group was suggested. 1 individual suggested the reinstatement of a public toilet facility, now that the coastal path has been completed. There is time until the end of March to submit the plan; the general public need to be aware of it and to agree on it.

2. **Crosbie Wind Farm application**

The application is now with Energy Consent Unit

AlHold: Largs & Millport News talks about the planned wind farm being "by Largs", ignoring Fairlie and WK which are much closer

RH will make the point that Fairlie is being surrounded by industrial developments (a wind farm is an industrial development) when submitting FCC's objection

MoP: The ECU website shows a summary of recent applications that have been determined. There is one in Sutherland (Strath Oykel) which is very similar to the Crosbie proposal; it has been approved by ScotGovt despite 291 objections and a negative opinion from Highland Council

MoP: In Q4 of 2024, a turbine caught fire in Shetland (Vidlin) and the debris was flung at quite a distance, which could potentially be extremely hazardous.

3. **RAS Recycled Aquaculture System (Bakkafrost)**

The application has not been filed yet. Mr. David Nairn (formerly of FCC) told RH that Bakkafrost are alleged to have berthed at Fairlie Quay an amount of foodstuff that has been banned at Grangemouth due to its excessive heavy metal contents.

4. **Hunterston SSG**

Mr. Daniel Smith, new A Station director (and a resident in the area), held an online meeting to which RH took part to update re. the damage brought by Storm Éowyn (Jan 24<sup>th</sup>). The pond building was damaged, and the cladding that was damaged/blown away contains asbestos. They are being taken care of by a specialised firm. Works at the pond have been suspended until the building is repaired. The reactor building weather shields were undamaged.

The Govt is putting restrictions on spending for decommissioning. However, as 80 million GBP have already been spent for encapsulation, this will not be impacted.

The radioactivity lab is not open; samples are being sent to Warrington for testing. HNA have appointed a new radiochemist, and 2 more employees will be hired

Next SSG meeting on Thur 6<sup>th</sup> of March at the Waterside Inn.

5. **Hunterston Parc (XLCC)**

No news. Works at XLCC are supposed to start in Q1 of 2025.

MoP (Mr. John Riddell, independent chair of the Hunterston Liaison Committee): the next proposed meeting is supposed to be held in April, trying to identify a date that is suitable for all parties

6. **Coastal Path**

Lots of debris has been blown on the path by Storm Éowyn (Jan 24<sup>th</sup>); it will be cleaned soon.

## **AOB**

+ MoP: the amount of dog excrement found around the village seems to be increasing, especially on the coastal path and in shaded areas. Best option is to personally confront the dog owners who don't collect it

+ Graffiti: MP reports that Sgt DF, prior to the beginning of this meeting, mentioned that they seem to be fewer (possibly due to the inclement weather). The one on the railway bridge, however, has been wiped off and has reappeared in more than one occasion. The Police are keeping their eyes open, but there are no concrete updates.

+ MoP: brown bins in Montgomerie Drive, Montgomerie Crescent, Southannan Road, Semple Crescent and Miller Avenue are very seldom emptied. The bin lorries appear to be too full to empty those bins. This has been happening since, after Summer 2024, the collection date was changed. Several complaints have been filed with NAC. Suggestion to phone the Waste Department.

### **ACTIONS:**

+ RH to share the petition re. Eglinton Park Rangers Service

+ Mr Hugh MacLean to contact Network Rail and Largs Resilience Team re potential defibrillator at train station

The meeting closed at **08:22pm**.

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025 at 0730 pm at the Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd.