



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Thursday 11 September 2025, 7.00 p.m. in Beith Community Centre

### BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>	-	-	Cllr Bell	
2.	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 4	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	<b>CIF Project Update – Beith Community Association</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update on the impact of CIF Funding.	-	Verbal	Beith Community Association	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
4.	<b>Collaborative for Health Equity in Scotland (CHES)</b>  The Locality Partnership will receive a presentation on the CHES Programme.	-	Presentation	Michelle Sutherland	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					<b>7.45 – 8.00 pm</b>
5.	<b>Grants</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider the below grant applications:  <b>Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</li> </ul> <b>Elderly Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kilbirnie &amp; Glengarnock Age Concern</li> <li>Beith Old People's Welfare</li> <li>Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee</li> </ul>	Pg 9 Pg12	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider applications made to the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund and Elderly Grant Fund.
6.	<b>Street Naming Report</b> The Locality Partnership are asked to consider street naming report for Residential Development site in Beith.	Pg14	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	LP to consider one street name for new development.

LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					8.00 – 8.40 pm
7.	<b>Our Garnock Valley</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an update and discuss working taking place on Our Garnock Valley.	-	Verbal	Nick Wright	Receive update and discuss learning and partnership opportunities.
8.	<b>Locality Plan Progress</b> Receive feedback from the sub-group. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving Around</li> <li>• Facilities and Amenities</li> <li>• Work and the Local Community</li> </ul>	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini  Community Reps	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
9.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b> The Locality Partnership will receive an updated on the work against the priorities of the Garnock Valley Locality.	Pg16	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	Receive update and discuss how LP can further support this work.
PARTNER UPDATES					– 8.30 pm
10.	<b>Partner Report/Updates</b> The Locality Partnership will receive overview from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Scotland</li> <li>• Scottish Fire and Rescue</li> <li>• KA Leisure</li> <li>• Youth, Active Schools &amp; Education</li> </ul>	Pg26	Enclosed	Cllr Bell	Receive update, discuss and consider partnership opportunities.
AOCB					
11.	<b>AOCB</b>	-	Verbal	Cllr Bell	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.

### Distribution List

### **Elected Members**

Councillor John Bell **(Chair)**  
Councillor Anthea Dickson  
Councillor Margaret Johnson  
Councillor Donald L Reid  
Councillor Ronnie Stalker

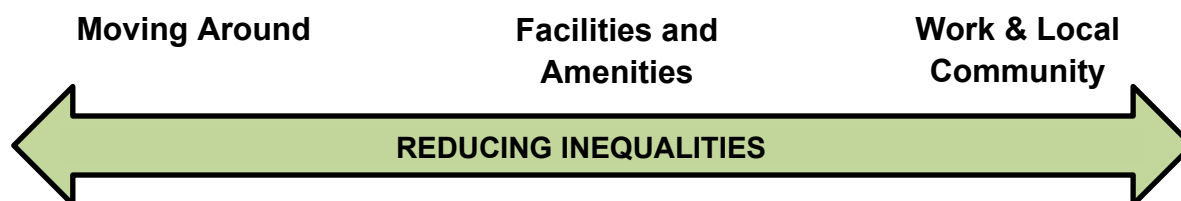
### **Community Representatives**

Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council  
James Waite, Beith & District Community Council **(Vice Chair)**  
David Park, Community Representative  
Jane Lamont, Community Representative

### **CPP/Council Representatives**

Kaileigh Brown, Third Sector Interface  
Michael Cowan, Police Scotland  
Kenny McGuire Scottish Fire and Rescue  
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council  
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer

## **Garnock Locality Partnership Priorities**



Meeting:	Garnock Valley Locality Partnership		
Date/Venue:	12 June 2025 – Lochshore Hub		
Present:	<p>Councillor John Bell (Chair) Councillor Anthea Dickson Councillor Donald L. Reid Councillor Ronnie Stalker Councillor Margaret Johnson James Waite, Beith &amp; District Community Council – Vice Chair Catherine Wigzell, Kilbirnie &amp; Glengarnock Community Council Valerie Provan, Dalry Community Council David Park, Community Representative Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Community Learning &amp; Development, (Lead Officer) Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer Ellie Hannah, Active Schools Co-ordinator Sgt Dougie Clark, Police Scotland Heather McVie- Branley, Community Development Worker</p> <p><b>In Attendance</b></p> <p>Graham Robson, KA Leisure Nick Wright, Nick Wright Planning Sharon Fleming, Performance &amp; Grants Officer David Hilditch, Active Travel &amp; Transport Manager Jennifer McGee, Policy &amp; Community Planning Officer (Notes)</p>		
Apologies:	<p>Kyle Lewis, KA Leisure Andy Watson, Dalry Community Council Jane Lamont, Community Representative Inspector Michael Cowan, Police Scotland James Robson, Beith Community Association</p>		
ACTIONS			
No.	Action	Responsible	
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p>	Noted	
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The action note arising from the meeting held on 20 March 2025 was approved with all actions complete.</p>	Noted	
3	<p><b>CIF Project Update – Beith Community Association</b></p> <p>No representatives from Beith Community Association were present.</p>	Noted	
4.	<p><b>Our Garnock Valley</b></p> <p>N Wright advised the Partnership that a consultation period for residents to provide feedback on the draft plan will begin next week and will close on 20 July 2025. The consultation will be accessible via the Our Garnock Valley website:- <a href="#">Our Garnock Valley</a>.</p>	All	

	<p>Community events will be held on Monday 23rd June in Garnock Campus at 3pm and 6pm. They will be an opportunity to see and discuss the draft Plan, including how to turn the Plan into reality.</p> <p>Once the consultation period has ended, the plan will be reviewed and finalised before going back to the working group. The groups involved will then submit the plan to North Ayrshire Council as the Local Place Plan. Councillors will receive formal notification of the consultation period next week.</p> <p>N Wright emphasised that the Plan is shaped by community responses and is organised around eight key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action and decision making</li> <li>• Town centres</li> <li>• Getting about</li> <li>• Community life</li> <li>• Parks and outdoor space</li> <li>• Home</li> <li>• Young people</li> <li>• Jobs and business</li> </ul> <p>N Wright provided a summary of each of the eight themes, outlining the community's aspirations, proposed actions, and examples of similar projects being implemented elsewhere.</p> <p>Each town will have its own section where the survey responses are presented in detail.</p> <p>N Wright asked how the Locality Partnership could adopt this plan, and could the Partnership use it as a model and monitor progress? C Pieraccini noted that this would form part of the discussion relating to the review of Locality Planning.</p> <p>C Pieraccini acknowledged the two years of work involved and commended the community organisations for their contributions, attending meetings, discussing the plan, and shaping the consultation process.</p> <p>N Wright encouraged the Partnership to help promote the opportunity for residents to provide their comments.</p> <p>The Chair thanked N Wright for his input.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Community Transport</b></p> <p>D Hilditch attended the meeting to discuss Community Transport and highlighted that the Council issued a response to SPT Regional Bus Strategy Consultation. C Pieraccini advised that the working group also submitted a response to the Consultation.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving public transport in Garnock Valley is a priority, focusing on better linking towns and improving access to rail, education, and hospital services, which remain challenging</li> <li>• Current bus services, especially in the evenings, are inadequate and while a full solution may be costly and not immediate community transport has helped fill gaps elsewhere</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D Hilditch highlighted that a £200,000 grant has been allocated for Garnock Valley and North Coast to improve bus stop signage and make minor route enhancements. Partnership members were invited to share suggestions</li> <li>• SPT are exploring franchise models for bus services</li> <li>• C Pieraccini is keen to engage with the Johnston Bus Company to explore their business model</li> <li>• N Wright noted that these issues link closely to the responses to Local Place Plan, and how this would be a key resource for ongoing transport and connectivity information.</li> </ul> <p>A Morrell highlighted that Coalfields has prepared proposal that has been sent to Chief Officers within the Council. A Morrell undertook to prepare a summary of this proposal and update the Partnership at the September meeting.</p> <p>The Chair thanked D Hilditch for attending.</p>	<p><b>D Hilditch</b></p> <p><b>A Morrell</b></p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Youth &amp; Education Overview</b></p> <p><b>Youth Work</b></p> <p>H McVie-Branley advised that a full report was included as part of the Locality Report submitted with the meeting papers.</p> <p>H McVie-Branley also advised the Partnership that since the last meeting (March 2025), over 1200 hours of youth work has taken place in Garnock Valley with 855 young people being engaged in activities.</p> <p>122 young people engaged in P7 transition from across the primary schools in the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>The Garnock Valley Locality Team were finalists at the Youth Link Scotland Awards for the Community Based Youth Work Award.</p> <p><b>Active Schools</b></p> <p>E Hannah advised that a full report was included as part of the Locality Report submitted with the meeting papers.</p> <p>E Hannah also advised the Partnership that full year stats would be shared at the September meeting and recruitment for next year's Sports Leaders will begin soon. To date, 11 young people have already enrolled in the sports academy ahead of the engagement process.</p> <p>The Chair thanked both H McVie-Branley and E Hannah for their updates and congratulated the Garnock Valley Locality Team on becoming finalists at the award ceremony.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>KA Leisure</b></p> <p>G Robson provided the Partnership with an update of the work of KA Leisure across the Locality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended opening of Beith Skatepark providing first aid support and balance bike sessions for children aged 2–4.</li> <li>• Support Parklives every Friday evening.</li> <li>• Supporting Community Sports Day at Dalry Community Sports Hub for individuals with additional support needs on 12 July</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting free fun event for the Garnock P7 group during the holidays to support their transition</li> <li>• ASN swimming lessons are being added to the timetable to encourage participation and ensure accessibility for all</li> <li>• Open day provisionally scheduled for 31 August to showcase the offerings of KA Leisure and other local organisations. Keen to increase participation in the area.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked G Robson for his update.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Police and SFRS – Wellbeing and Partnerships</b></p> <p>Sgt Clark provided the Partnership with an update on the work of Police Scotland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The team has been continuing to work with Trading Standards on scam prevention work.</li> <li>• Commended the efforts of PC Duffy, Campus Officer and the work she does to support young people within the Campus.</li> <li>• New Local Authority Liaison Officer recently appointed, Sgt Caroline Mowbray</li> <li>• The team is actively addressing drug-related issues and is keen to encourage greater community involvement to help tackle these issues.</li> <li>• Police will be present at some upcoming local events to engage with the community.</li> <li>• Since the last meeting there have been 14 ASBO incidents and 17 active cases currently ongoing in the area.</li> <li>• Sgt Clark also highlighted the significant amount of positive work that is being carried out in the area by the Locality Policing Team.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Bell thanked Sgt Clark for his update.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Locality Plan Progress</b></p> <p>C Pieraccini highlighted that the working group has been reviewing the Plan, its implementation, and the next steps. Some ideas from the Plan are currently being tested, and it is hoped that a few CIF proposals will be submitted over the summer in addition to the plan.</p> <p>The group will meet again at the start of September.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Pieraccini for her input.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Locality Officer Update</b></p> <p>C Pieraccini advised that a full report was included as part of the meeting papers.</p> <p>The Chair thanked C Pieraccini for her detailed report.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Review of Locality Planning</b></p> <p>J McGee advised the Partnership that a report went to the Council's Cabinet in May 2025 on the review of Locality Planning. The recommendations of the report were shaped by the survey responses issued to all Locality Partnership members over summer/autumn 2024, where the majority of respondents were community reps. J McGee also highlighted that there was also an</p>	

	<p>Information Session held late May 2025 where all Locality Partnership Members were invited to attend.</p> <p>J McGee asked the Partnership how they felt about the format and structure of the meeting and what changes to the meeting format, or any other aspects would members like to see going forward.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update reports being included with meeting papers and circulated in advance rather than presenting on the night.</li> <li>• Having a flexible approach</li> <li>• The current meeting structure seems effective. It was suggested that it may be useful to have a workshop format to focus on thematic action points under each theme rather than by organisation, to make meetings more action oriented.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for more partners to get involved.</li> <li>• The group agreed not to commit to a single structure but to trial a themed approach based on the Plan</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked the Partnership for their input.</p>	<b>J McGee</b>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>Cllr Stalker expressed his disappointed that Beith Community Association did not attend to provide their update tonight. A Morrell advised the Partnership that communication would be sent to the Group, and they will be invited to attend the September meeting.</p> <p>The Chair thanked everyone for attending and advised that the Roads, Structures and Street Lighting Maintenance Programme 2025/26 report was enclosed for information.</p>	<p><b>A Morrell/J McGee</b></p> <p><b>All</b></p>

**The meeting ended at 8.35 pm**



**Locality Partnership:** Garnock Valley Locality

**Date:** 11 September 2025

**Subject:** To update the Locality Partnership on the 2025/26 budget and to advise the meeting of an application received in respect of the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund.

**Purpose:** To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**Background:** Application have been received in respect of the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

- The Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund has a balance of **£17,423.00** available for disbursement.

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

- To consider the application for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**For more information please contact:** *Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Communities & Housing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*  
*Email - amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk*

**Completed by:** *Sharon Fleming, Communities & Housing (sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Date:** 26 August 2025

## MARGARET ARCHIBALD BEQUEST

### APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2025/26

#### Margaret Archibald Bequest Criteria:

**The application should benefit all those aged 65 and over and in poverty**

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Awards
Dalry Old Folks Welfare Committee	<p>The voluntary group constitution is to provide facilities for the old folks in the town. To bring in revenue to carry out this purpose, the hall is let out to about 20 groups in the town, including North Ayrshire Council, also have local high speed Broadband installed would allow means the heating to be controlled remotely.</p> <p>As it is now over 20 years since the building has been decorated, second hand chairs and tables have been used which are now past their best. The external gates are rusting, the window blinds are also past their best these improvements would be beneficial to all for many years to come.</p> <p>Repair and Re-decorate.....£3520.00  New Blinds.....£ 670.00  Gates.....£1200.00  Tables and Chairs.....£2879.52  <b>TOTAL.....£8269.52</b></p>	£8,000	20/21 – £2,136 13/14 - £1,000 11/12 - £1,000 10/11 - £1,000 09/10 - £1,670 06/07 - £5,000 06/05 - £35,922

#### **Communities & Housing, Finance and Legal Services have been consulted, and their comments are as follows:**

**Finance:** Requested documentation has been provided and quotes for the above works totalling £8,269.52 have been received and verified. The balance as per the May bank statement would suggest the applicant has sufficient funds to cover the cost of the internal works however it is noted that this balance includes the grant from the Dalry Parish Boundary Trust for cladding works. The balance in the Margaret Archibald Bequest should this application be successful would be £9,423.

**Legal:** The application detail submitted on behalf of this Applicant appears to satisfy the criteria of the Trust. So long as the Trustees are satisfied that the applicant group is "in need" financially, I am of the view that any financial assistance will be within the powers of the Trustees to award.

**Communities & Housing:** The application details show the award will benefit those 65 and over who are in need. Communities & Housing have confirmed the application meets the Trust's criteria.

## MARGARET ARCHIBALD BEQUEST

### APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2025/26

#### Margaret Archibald Bequest Criteria:

**The application should benefit all those aged 65 and over and in poverty.**

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Awards
Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	Christmas Meal and Summer Trips which are open to anyone living within Dalry Parish and aged 65 and over. If any of our elderly require the assistance of a family members or carer, that person is welcome to attend but must pay the full cost of the transport and meal.	£6,000	14/15 - £6000 15/16 - £4000 16/17 - £4000 17/18 - £6000 18/19 - £6000 19/20 - £6000 20/21 - £6000 21/22 - £6000 22/23 - £4000 23/24 - £5000 25/26 - £5000

Communities & Housing, Finance and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

**Finance:** Requested documentation has been provided including quotes and cost estimates covering the amount of the grant requested. Should the application be successful, £3,423 would remain available for disbursement from the Margaret Archibald Bequest for the financial year 2025-26.

**Legal:** The application detail submitted on behalf of this Applicant appears to satisfy the criteria of the Trust. So long as the Trustees are satisfied that the applicant group is "in need" financially, I am of the view that any financial assistance will be within the powers of the Trustees to award.

**Communities & Housing:** Historically twice annually Dalry Old Folks Committee are committed to ensure their elderly residence with the Parish of Dalry as well as continuous fundraising will benefit from this fund. A successful application ensures these two large events can be fully subsidised by the Committee bringing the elderly community together allowing all to enjoy these social events at no additional cost to them.



**Locality Partnership:** Garnock Valley Locality

**Date:** 11 September 2025

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2025/26 Elderly Grants Fund.

**Purpose:** To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**Background:** Applications have been received in respect of the 2025/26 Elderly Grants Fund.

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

- The 2025/26 Garnock Valley Elderly Grants Fund has a balance of **£8,431**.

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

- To consider the applications for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**For more information please contact:** *Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*  
*Email - [amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Completed by: Sharon Fleming**  
Grants & Performance Officer  
Email: [sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:sharonfleming@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Date:** 29 July 2025

**ELDERLY GRANTS FUND  
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2025/26**

**Grant Allocation for the Garnock Valley LPP Area                    £    8,431**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Grant Allocated to Group</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern	Award will contribute towards cost of meals, transport, gratuities and entertainment. Costs are approximate based on last year, Meal £3445 Coaches £640 Gratuities £225	£    2,964	£            2,964
Beith Old People's Welfare Committee	Contribution towards annual bus trip to Callander. Christmas Lunch Rosebank House, Beith. Bus hire for both events.	£    3,053	£            3,053
Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	The main activity of our organisation (since 1945) has been to provide a Christmas Meal and organise a Summer Trip for the senior citizens. Entertainment from singer or band is also provided at the Christmas Meal. Christmas Meal: Friday, 5th December 2025 Coach Hire; 4 buses at £375.00 £1,500.00 Christmas Meal; 210 meals at £24.95 £5,239.50 Entertainer fee £200.00 Cheques for over 90s; 25 at £25.00 £600.00 Small gifts for over 90s; 25 at £1.00 £25.00 £7,564.50 Summer Trip: Thursday, 2nd July 2026 Coach Hire; 3 buses at £750.00 £2,250.00 Summer Trip Meal; 140 at £20.00 £2,800.00 £5,050.00 Estimated Total Costs for DOFTC Activities 2025/2026 £12,614.50	£    2,414	£            2,414
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£            8,431</b>



**Locality Partnership:** *Garnock Valley Locality Partnership*

**Date:** *September 2025*

**Subject:** *Residential Development at Glebe Road, Beith*

**Purpose:** *Decide Street Name for the new development.*

**Background**

*Miller Homes has contacted Planning Services requesting a street name for the development of 44 houses on land at Glebe Road, Beith (also known as the Manse Field).*

*The Council has a statutory obligation under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 to give a name to each new street built within the Council area, and this name, along with street numbers, becomes the postal addresses.*

*An outline plan of the development is available as an appendix.*

*The development requires 1 new street name.*

**Key Points for Locality Partnership**

*A proposed street naming and numbering plan is available along with a proposed name suggestion.*

**Action Required by Locality Partnership**

*Choose 1 new street name for the development.*

**For more information please contact:** *Lisa Dempster or Kirsty Gee, Planning Technicians, 01294 324319, [snn@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:snn@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Completed by:** *Lisa Dempster and Kirsty Gee*

**Date:** *August 2025*

Street Name Suggestions	Background
Manse Field, Old Manse Field or Mansfield (with suffix to be determined)	The site is known locally as the Manse Field. The Old Manse is a category B listed building located adjacent to the site.
Minnie's Field (with suffix to be determined)	The field is also known locally as Minnie's Field
Hamilton's Way	In recognition of the Hamilton family who have carried out many roles in the town since the 1930s, making many positive contributions to life in Beith over several generations. The original Hamilton family home was located in Boghead, within a short distance of the new development.

Appendix 1



Rev.	Description	Drawn	Date

**miller homes**  
Miller Homes Ltd  
Clydesdale House  
390 Springhill Parkway  
Ballieston, Glasgow, G69 6GA  
Telephone 0870 336 4000  
Fax 0870 336 4001  
www.millerhomes.co.uk

Project Title  
Beith

Drawing Title  
Postal Addresses Plan

Scale	Drawn By	Checked By	Authorised By
1:500	BM		
	Date April 25	Date	Date

Job No. Drawing No. Revision

BH-SL-014

Original Sheet Size A1



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Update

### September 2025

**Lochshore Highland Games** - The Lochshore Highland Games were part of North Ayrshire's Youth Work Summer Programme, organised by the Garnock Valley Locality Team. The event was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August and had a fantastic atmosphere, which attracted over 100 children and young people who participated in a series of Highland Games activities. There were six stations featuring archery, caber tossing, the farmer's dash, 'throw your welly,' and their very own Haggis mascot for the Haggis Hurl. Participants could join in as small teams or individually and were invited to compete in a Tug o' War final. Everyone had a great time and gave it their all, with medals and certificates awarded to all who participated.

The event was hosted outside in green space with a fun Scottish theme, which was open primarily to young people and children, if accompanied by adults. The event was free and encouraged people to be active, to visit Lochshore to engage with other services, to have access to free food and smoothies and to reduce the cost of the expense of family-friendly day out in the local community.



Locality update



The day was a great example of the positive partnerships seen in the Garnock Valley, as the organisation and day itself involved a range of partners including community groups who supported and contributed on the day. Café Solace volunteers providing a festival-style food stall with scrumptious hot dogs and burgers for all. Friends of Lochshore were giving nature walks and RNLI were within the Lochshore Hub providing advice and information on water safety.

The Garnock Valley Youth Forum members hosted a smoothie bike and youth work games, which helped them be more active in their community. Coastwatch provided first aid for the day and the North Ayrshire Mobile Youth Centre had virtual games on board. NAC Sustainability team were on hand to provide free pollinator packs to local, green-fingered residents who want to plant for biodiversity at home.



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Update

### September 2025

The action-packed day was attended by North Ayrshire Provost Anthea Dickson and a highlight was having our own piper with one of North Ayrshire Youth Work Modern Apprentice's Conal piping before the tug-o-war and before the medal presentation.



The day saw the community coming together as one. People of different ages all being active through their participation in the Highland games-themed activities, team tug-a-war with staff and the community, along with sports activities with Active Schools. For many, this was their first time being at Lochshore, so this also highlighted the asset this space is.

**Paint and a Pie** - This project was developed to brighten up a colourless corner at 2 Main Street, Kilbirnie and hopefully help increase pride in the town. Workshops were delivered over 6 weeks during the summer to create a conversation around active citizenship and civic pride through the creation of a community mural. The project has been a massive success averaging around 20 attending each workshop with more passers by stopping to chat about what's going on. The Paint and Pie mural project for Number 2 Main Street has been very well received by the town's residents and has sparked discussions about how people perceive Kilbirnie, both within the community and outside it. Support for this project comes from NAC Regeneration Team, with an unveiling planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

**Kilbirnie Planters** - Inspired by work in Dalry and Beith last year, which reached out to local organisations, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Council were successful in their Locality PB bid for funding to try a similar approach with the planters at Kilbirnie Cross. The Community Council are grateful to Locality Community Development Worker Gavin Ferguson for his efforts in pulling this project together. The Community Council were delighted to have the support of the Garnock Valley Allotment Association, Priory school, Radio City Association as well as local residents. Thanks to their hard work, rather than tired, empty or weed filled planters, Kilbirnie Cross was looking blooming lovely! The Programme has exceeded expectations and has worked well laying a solid foundation of aspiration across the town for more of the same next



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Update

### September 2025

year. The activities have received considerable community support and encouragement.



The project has stimulated a lot of conversation around the town about the role of community members in looking after their town. Conversations within the Facebook group, where one of the volunteers has been posting the weekly progress has been encouraging residents to get out and look after their own roads or local space. A sentiment it is hoped can be built on over the next year. This will be a 2-to-3-year project until a group is fully established to widen the scope and look at enhancing their Greenspaces. Local volunteers are making a significant impact on Kilbirnie town centre.

**Participatory Budgeting** – PB in North Ayrshire is now open! In the Garnock Valley, there are 6 Community reviewers, including 4 new volunteers this year coming from a range of groups across the Garnock Valley to help with the process. Launch events were held on 21<sup>st</sup> August, with further drop-in support sessions available for any group interested in applying. The closing date for applications is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**Our Garnock Valley** – Two final consultation events were held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. This provided an opportunity to comment on the draft plan. 30 people from the community + 22 S1 pupils attended the afternoon session, with 16 people attending in the evening. 98 people passing by were also provided with a leaflet with details on how they could have their say. A final opportunity to comment online was available for 4 weeks also. The plan has now been finalised and individual community organisations will look to endorse the plan before it is officially submitted to NAC Planning. Work will soon be underway to implement the plan, including working together and with partners.

**Dalry Community Sports Club** - The larder continues to provide a vital lifeline for many families and individuals in the town and attendance has remained steady over the past three months. On Saturday mornings, the Sports Club continues to provide a place where people can meet and have a cup of tea and a chat in a warm space, and they are also able to do referrals to help families with energy costs.



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Park Lives has moved to Sunday afternoons for the remainder of the summer, and they continue to provide free outdoor sports with free food and drinks.

In July, the Sports Club supported Dalry Community Development Hub, K:A Leisure, and Neighbourhood Networks with sporting events for local people with additional support needs. This is the second of four events scheduled to be held this year with the remainder planned for October and around Christmas time.

The rescheduled Party at the Park is planned to be held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September. In the event of poor weather, a scaled-down event will take place in Dalry Primary School.

The Sports Club held a free family Community Cinema evening in July in Dalry Community Centre with a showing of Paddington in Peru, with complimentary snacks and drinks. The next event will be in September with others planned each month following.

Dalry Public Park now has new solar-powered lighting, a project made possible through months of dedicated work by Dalry Community Sports Club volunteers, supporters, and residents. The environmentally friendly solar lighting now illuminates key areas of the park, increasing safety, extending usable hours for local sports and recreational activities, and making the park more accessible during evenings. Ten new lighting columns are now in place and provide a safe walkway from the Regal Court car park down to the Pavilion. The initiative was supported through a combination of NAC grants, fundraising events, donations, and sponsorship. The solar lighting not only provides a greener alternative to traditional lights but also reduces long-term energy costs and the park's environmental footprint.

Dalry Community Sports Club have also raised funds for additional benches in Dalry Public Park and they are currently consulting with the public on the preferred locations.

**Kilbirnie Library** – The Library have had a fantastic response to their Summer Children's Events. From Pop-Up Puppets to Learn to Crochet, they have had it all. They have had lots of fun at our Drop in and Play Sessions, which were busy every Thursday. There was no waste in Kilbirnie with their free lunches. The kids were munching away and loving them.

The Flower Bed outside the Branch is a ray of colours thanks to their readers and the Gardening Group for making it beautiful. Their readers are continually giving compliments as to how pretty it is. The Good Ol' Days Group and our Poetry Group are really starting to grow as well with lots of laughs and chatter.



Facilities and amenities



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**Café Solace** - Customer numbers remained steady over the holiday period with just under/over 100 meals served each week for lunch and dinner. From September, the price for the 3-course meal in the evening will increase by 50p to £3.50 and lunch items will also increase by 50p. This is necessary due to the increase in food costs.

They have provided catering for six external functions since May, which both helps their funds and helps raise their profile. The volunteers also served hot dogs and hamburgers at the GV Locality Team Highland Games fun day held in August.

Café Solace still have four young people with them as part of their volunteering requirements for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. One starting on their gold award, two are on silver and one is due to complete their bronze. With the new school term starting, they are hopeful that they will have some new recruits. Several of the Café Solace volunteers have reduced the hours they are available due to health reasons and other commitments, and café Solace continue to try and recruit more willing volunteers to help.

Their garden has been challenging over the summer period with the extreme heat or strong winds/rain. Some disasters, but overall, they are pleased with how their first year of planting has gone and they have been able to use their home-grown herbs in meals and tomatoes, lettuce and cucumber in their salads. It is proving to be a bit more work than they originally anticipated however remain hopeful that they will find someone willing to help them look after it.

Iain continues to support the two recovery groups in the centre and with one of the cafe volunteers leading the Solace Hub, which is now operating on a Tuesday afternoon for anyone impacted by drug or alcohol addiction, including family members. They have had some success in getting support from other agencies/providers with Turning Point and NODA attending meetings. Mindfulness, Acudetox and other support provision is being explored for future meetings.

Funding wise, they are still maintaining a sustainable position to meet their food and overhead costs without having to seek support from elsewhere. Efforts have been continuing to source fund for a full time post covering Café Solace, larder support and for the recovery hub. Without this funding the future delivery of Café Solace will be at risk. They have had the go ahead from the National Lottery to apply for funding from the Fairer Life Chances fund, which they hope will be successful.



Work and the local  
community



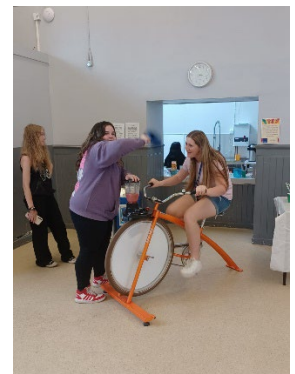
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## Garnock Valley Locality Update

### September 2025

**Garnock Valley Youth Forum** - The Youth Forum have continued to fund snacks and drinks for young people attending groups and events. Two of the members of the youth forum continue to volunteer at the Wee School Pantry and their help is very much appreciated by the committee.

Following feedback from local young people that there isn't much to do in the towns during the summer, the youth forum aimed to provide an exciting variety of free activities to local young people in each town. By organising and delivering their Summer Tour, the Youth Forum not only provided access to health and wellbeing activities to others but also for themselves. The whole process boosted their morale and gave them a sense of ownership and renewed confidence in their work.



Their tour started at the beginning of July in Dalry Community Centre, then onto Bridgend Community Centre in Kilbirnie and ending in Beith Community Centre at the end of July. They achieved this by using their organisational skills to plan, source and deliver activities. These included, a Smoothie Making Bike, Origami, Boomwhackers, Blaze Pods, boards games and arts and crafts. All of these were suggested by the youth forum members as activities they wanted to provide and thought would be engaging for other young people. They also wished to use these events as an opportunity to raise money for SHOUT - a mental health texting service that some of the youth forum members have used.

This project was significant as it demonstrated the youth forums development as an autonomous group that can deliver youth work opportunities in their local community.

The Summer Tour worked well as it was an example of a program developed by young people, for young people. They took ownership of the activities and delivered them to the community with support from the locality team staff. The Summer Tour made a difference to the young people of the Garnock



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Valley as it opened access to activities that the young people may not have participated in elsewhere due to costs. For example, it provided young people with access to fresh fruit that they themselves could make into a smoothie by using the smoothie bike. This promoted healthy eating and the opportunity to try a variety of different fruits.

It also made a difference to the youth forum members in building and strengthening their relationships as they had to work together to come up with the Tour and this involved a lot of communication and negotiating.

**Youth Synergy** - The group continued to meet over the summer and have participated in Green Space volunteering, which involved tidying existing planters and planting sunflowers in public areas in Kilbirnie. They hope this will increase a sense of pride in the town and encourage others to help too. By visiting Lochshore, and participating in Net Sweeping and Nature walks, Youth Synergy have boosted their own wellbeing and have enjoyed being out and about in nature.

Following on from their climate change workshops in June, the Youth Synergy group have been busy working towards their John Muir and Dynamic Youth Awards. By creating and displaying poster boards around the town planters, they have been raising awareness of climate change. They have also been encouraging other young people to act through the creation of their Pledge Tree, which has been displayed at various summer events.

**Older People's Voice** - Late June saw three community meetings to engage in conversation with older residents. This helped promote the NAC's older people's strategy and to gather ideas and suggestions on widening the reach and encouraging older people to be involved in the future planning of services. This includes advocating for the needs of older people in our community. Work is now underway to identify key challenges in each locality to discuss at a meeting to be held in November.

**Digital literacy** - These essential sessions will restart during September. Digital literacy affects all ages and, as an increasing number of services are only accessible through an online device, it is very easy for those who are not familiar with the systems and may have literacy needs to become isolated and miss out on much-needed support.

**S3 Community Leadership programme** - As a result of the positive partnership with Kilbirnie library, and a local sewing tutor, young people completed their 4-week block at Lend & Mend. They developed their sewing skills through completing their mobile phone holders/tote bags. The programme ended in June with all 7 young people evaluating their experiences and highlighting they



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would like the programme to continue in to S4. A new S3 class will be identified in partnership with Garnock Academy, KA Leisure and the Locality team through partnership meetings and discussions with interested young people.

**S1 Youth Group** - Due to the positive engagement with S1 youth group, new members joined in June and have continued to engage throughout the summer holidays, including via WhatsApp chat and announcements. Seven members of the group attended a summer trip to Bounce Station and continued to engage in the Locality team's summer programme, including Paint and a Pie, Youth Synergy and the Highland Games Fun Day. All the group are interested in continuing with a youth group for S2 in September. One young person attended an introductory meeting about the Ocean Youth Trust project starting in September. There are 38 registered in the group, with 15 attending regularly.

**Detached Youth Work/mobile nights** – The Garnock Valley Locality Team have continued to engage with young people across the Garnock Valley through detached youth work. The team altered the days in line with the summer holidays and busier days, Friday and Saturday, covering hot spot areas where young people have told the team they are going. This included Tianna falls, Main Street and Blair Estate in Dalry. From June until the end of August, the team conducted 9 sessions, engaging with a total of 99 young people from the Garnock Valley.

**The Wee School Pantry** - The Pantry is supported by Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Community Association and continues to be very busy with over 50 customers per week. The Pantry provides much needed access to affordable fresh produce and nonperishable foods. They are still in need of volunteers and have been actively promoting this online and at events. The Wee School Pantry volunteers engaged with members of the wider public at the Lochshore Highland Games event on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, taking the opportunity to speak with people about the work they do and trying to recruit more volunteers.

**She Shed Dalry** – The She Shed continues to deliver sessions that are benefiting local people in the Garnock Valley. A move to Dalry Scout Hall has seen even more involvement as the space is much more open and accessible. The women who attend enjoy the relaxed atmosphere and sense of community the group provides. They held their first AGM at the end of August, where 19 people attended and a new committee was elected to help with the delivery of the project going forward.

**Umbrella club** - This group continues to grow in popularity with an average of 16 every week. This group allows young people a safe and nurturing environment where they can come and explore their identity in an



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environment that they will receive support through specialist knowledge and sign posting.

**Barmill Jolly Beggars Burns Club** - The Jolly Beggars headed off on their annual jolly charabanc outing on Saturday 9 August to Oban. The 51 lads and lasses enjoyed morning coffee and scones at the Crianlarich Hotel before heading on. There was some light rain, but everyone enjoyed the shops as well as the annual duck race held by Rotary Club of Oban. Mind you, it nearly drove everyone quackers! The return journey took in Inverary and onwards to the Garnock Valley via the scenic Rest and Be Thankful. All in all, it was another successful away day for the ageing but fun-loving Garnockians. This was the 15<sup>th</sup> consecutive charabanc outing and already plans are in the offing for a tour of Galloway in August 2026. Special thanks to their tour organiser, Kathleen Reid

The annual syllabus for the Barmill Jolly Beggars has been distributed to over 100 members and honorary members of the club. The club is also holding a fundraising concert for church funds on Sunday 7 December at 2pm in Kilbirnie New Parish Church featuring our good friends from Irvine and Dreghorn Band and the choir of Kilbirnie New Parish Church. Tickets £7 from Councillor Donald L Reid e: [donaldleesreid@hotmail.com](mailto:donaldleesreid@hotmail.com) or M: 07976654833.

In 2026, the club hope to organise several concerts in support of local groups and organisations provided funding is found to support this venture.

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North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

# Active Schools Locality Partnership Meeting - Garnock Valley Locality



## Priority 1

### Moving Around (Public Transport, Traffic and Parking)

- Within our cluster we've worked closely with multiple partners including schools and will continue this partnership to provide new and equal opportunities for all in sport and leadership. These clubs will provide a wide range of sport and physical activity opportunities delivered before, during lunchtime and afterschool which will allow us to remove the barriers to access the above within their own school which in turn will reduce transport costs.

#### Active Schools & Communities Partnership Officer (ASCPO)

- Gowanbank Activity Day - In partnership with the Young Carers Team several young people took part in a summer opportunity at Gowanbank, which involved Abseiling, Tree Climbing and Archery. As well as trying new activities this gave them an opportunity to meet peers from other localities creating new friendships.
- Craufurdland Activity Day - Several young people from the Health and Social Care Partnership attended a day visit to Craufurdland Estate where they took part in a High Wire Course, Crate Stacking and Archery. These activities were well received and will continue to support individuals into more frequent activity beyond this opportunity.



## Priority 2

### Work and Local Community

- All leadership recruitment has now taken place for the next academic year and assemblies, posters and social media promotion within the secondary. Young people are supporting this promotion too.

#### Full Year 2024/25 Stats:

- Beith Primary - 54%
- Dalry Primary - 77%
- Garnock Primary - 75%
- Gateside Primary - 93%
- Moorpark Primary - 74%
- St Bridget's Primary - 66%
- Garnock Campus - 37%

#### School Sport Awards:

- Beith - Gold Awarded
- Dalry - Gold Awarded
- Gateside - Gold Awarded
- St Bridget's - Silver Awarded
- Moorpark - Silver Awarded
- Garnock Primary - Take assessment Term 1
- Garnock Campus - Working on Gold application



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## Priority 3

### Facilities and Amenities

- Collaboration between various partners such as schools and the Leisure Trust will continue to deliver multiple clubs before, during and after school.
- Both Active Schools and KA Leisure continue to utilise these facilities during any holiday provision allowing the young people to carry on with these opportunities within their own community.

