

**SKELMORLIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN
SKELMORLIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON MONDAY 26th
May 2025 at 7pm**

Present:

Isy Agnew *Chairperson*

Martin Kaarits *Councillor*

Billie Walker *Minute Secretary*

Eleanor Bell *Councillor*

Helen Boyle *Councillor*

Donald Fisher Community Police Sgt Police Scotland

Councillor Ian Murdoch

Nick Hobson Environmental Group

Members of Public

6 members of the Public attended

Apologies

Janice Rodger

Sarah Freer

Sarah Crookston NAC

Minutes

Minutes from previous meeting were read and adopted as correct

Proposed Helen Boyle Seconded Martin Kaarits

These will now be sent to NAC Council and placed in Library and posted on Skelmorlie Community Council Facebook page

Chairperson Isy Agnew welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Nick Hobson from the Environmental Group. Nick explained to the group that he had been asked about a year ago to take the reins, along with Community Council for the consultation for the Local Place Plan. Nick provided the group with a print out of the area involved and various issues which could be addressed within this. (This will be posted on Community Council Facebook Page) It is vitally important that the people of village and surrounding areas be involved with ideas and suggestions for this and links have been put on all local pages to encourage other groups to put there points across. Important issues being What areas should be protected: What does Skelmorlie need to make it a better place to live and work in: What does the group wish to achieve. It is important to consult with the wider community so possibly the Community Council could run with the Community to organise a working group as more community involvement is needed. Councillor Murdoch indicated that the contaminated land in the area concerns him and it is felt that this is one of the areas to be set out for development opposition. One other serious issue is the amount of Japanese Knotweed in the area from Meigle and throughout Skelmorlie. People seem unaware that this is being disturbed and trailed through other areas including private gardens. Anyone wishing to report this on NAC land should contact planning by calling 01294 310000. Councillor Murdoch also stated that the turning point and crossing area on Shore Road was also on hold due to Japanese Knotweed.

Isy then thanked Nick Hobson for his presentation and agreed we all have to work with the wider community to go forward with this.

Police Report

Sgt Fisher stated the village had been quiet recently with on 2 crimes being reported
One on-line fraud and a van going round the village scamming

A member of the public told the meeting of an incident at the Meigle where a lorry had come round the bend overtaking a bike and almost caused a collision. This had been recorded on camera but apparently this could not be used as evidence to this as it was not admissible in Scotland. Sgt Fisher then explained that this had been the case but as recently as the last few weeks the Ayrshire Division will accept reports and footage can be uploaded.

Councillors Report

Councillor Murdoch reported there had been very little change since the last meeting.

Station Hill is due to be closed from 26th May to enable Virgin Internet to lay cables, anyone who is concerned about closures can call NAC to gain more information on closures.

The situation with the School Crossing Guards is still ongoing with several school areas gaining Freedom of Information as to the survey done to work out when and where the traffic and footfall was as highest. This does not seem to have been done properly at times when the area was quiet. This should have been done over several days and various times to get a true picture of the usage. Councillor Murdoch informed the group that the Councillors had not been made aware that these surveys were taking place.

The solar lighting in the park is still being investigated as although it has been brought up in recent times by Community Council and Local Councillor it has in fact been brought up several times over the past 10-15 years through Community Council. It has been discovered that the area in Skelmorlie Park is owned by Streetscene and NAC so talks will be ongoing with them.

A member of the public questioned the overhanging branches on Station Hill and Castle Road where it is necessary to walk on road to avoid being injured with thorns etc, this is very dangerous.

Councillor Murdoch was asked if the Streetsweeper has been in the village since the last storm as a lot of debris is still lying in places. If the person will email Councillor Murdoch including photographs if possible he will contact Streetscene, he also informed the group that although very low in number the Streetscene Crew are the best in the North Coast area. This was agreed by the Community Council

AOCB

Isy has received an email from the people running the Ayrshire Coastal Path stating that at present many people walk the path for various certificated courses and at present the path ends on Station Hill. When they receive their certificates it is usually at the notice board on the hill. Recently the board was blown over into the gully and the area is not conducive to taking photographs to evidence the completion of the walk. It has been asked if the walk could be taken up into the village at the Community Garden area where some kind of structure could be placed to mark this. It will take a while to come to fruition but it will be looked into and consultation will take place with The Garden Group.

It was also stated that the path at the Meigle which follows the Coastal Path could be made safer and Councillor Murdoch will be meeting with the local landowner to discuss this in the near future.

The possibility of starting a Clean Up Crew was also discussed and seemed to be very positive. Further information will be taken from NAC and this will also be ongoing with further information given later.

Councillor Murdoch asked if the Community Council had appointed a Secretary yet and if not could it not be done tonight as there were people who were willing to do the job. It was then proposed that Billie Walker and Sarah Freer take the job jointly and this was Proposed by Eleanor Bell and Seconded by Martin Kaaris.

This being the end of business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm with the next meeting being on Monday 30th June at 7pm in Skelmorlie Community Centre