

Dreghorn Community Council

Minutes of Meeting 29/09/2025

7pm, Dreghorn Bowling Club

Present: Jim McHarg (Chair), John Goldie, Harry Harvie, Jessie Mackie, Maxine Blane, Martin Kay

In Attendance: Elaine Walker, Meg McWilliams, Mita, Linda Haswell, Ann Oakes, John Logan, Marion, Margaret Blaen, Sophie McLeish, David Mitchell, Peter Butchard, Robert

Welcome, Apologies & Approval of Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the May meeting was proposed by Harry and seconded by John.

Introductions

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted the increased attendance and those present from the local council and other groups introduced themselves.

Item - Community Development Worker Update

Elaine shared an updated on the scheme of delegation review, which is related to the boundaries of current North Ayrshire community councils, including Dreghorn Community Council. Cllr McLean has proposed a number of amendments that will be considered in the council report, and these were shared with the meeting, including amalgamating Dreghorn and Springside Community Councils and removing Drybridge from Dreghorn Community Council. Those in attendance were not in favour of a joint Dreghorn/Springside Community Council, and would be happy for Drybridge to be separate. This will be fed back into the council review.

Item - Treasurer's Report

Harry and Jim are now both signatories on the account. We need a bank statement before we can set up PVG certification for community councillors. Community council funds are being held by the Council until the account is fully up and running.

Action: Elaine will share the information community councillors need to provide for PVG certification.

Item - Other group representatives: Dreghorn Gala

Sophie shared that the Gala had a good turnout at their recent fundraising event, and that there was a 'Galaween' Disco fundraising event for children and adults happening on 31st October. The committee is provisionally considering 16 May 2026 as the date for next years gala.

Item - Other group representatives: PTA

Lee is now the chair person of the PTA, and sent thanks to the bowling club for their support with recent events.

Item - Other group representatives: Knutty Knitters

Members of the knitting group from Dreghorn Library were in attendance and keen to raise concerns that the library may be threatened by future budget cuts. Elaine noted that there would be engagement around North Ayrshire Councils upcoming budget, and the community council will engage with this.

Action: Community council to engage with relevant budget proposals from NAC

Item: Matters Arising

Pelican Crossing

The pelican crossing has been repainted, and Cllr Larssen has shared via email that the poles are to be replaced in October.

Crossing Patrol Cuts

Both crossing patrollers are still working at the moment, but this may not remain the case. If the position outside the Brae is still to be eliminated, the community council were keen to speak to the school to see if they are aware of proposed cuts.

Action: Community council will speak to school.

Perceton Row Speeding

In attendance were residents of nearby Perceton Row cottages, where the speed limit is 20mph. This is regularly exceeded by passing traffic, causing danger for residents who are concerned about walking around the area outside their homes. The community council offered to pass on the police locality reporting email to flag their concerns.

Action: Community Council will provide locality police email, and will write to NAC to note local concerns around speeding. (unanimous)

Old School Building

Local resident in attendance noted the sorry state of the Old School building, still owned by Arran Breweries. The community council has yet to receive contact details for personnel at Arran Breweries. The possibility of putting in an official complaint was raised, but as the building is privately owned it is unclear who this should be made to. Residents noted that they have previously complained but got nowhere.

War Memorial

Cllr McLean was not in attendance to supply an accurate costing. The community council will attempt to clarify what funding, if any is available. Local residents were unsure that the current

proposed figure of £20,000 would cover the cost potential relocation, as moving the memorial outside the Portal in Irvine cost substantially more. Local residents involved in the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens around the memorial at the moment have been told by the council that there are no funds for lighting or CCTV at the top of the mound. Community councils recently had a meeting with representatives from Streetscene to visit the memorial and potential relocation sites outside the library. Local residents noted historic issues with vandalism of previous Dreghorn Christmas trees and decorations outside the library. The community council proposed holding a public meeting with the wider community of Dreghorn and possibly Springside in the new year to gauge support for potentially relocating the memorial.

Action: (heldover) Cllr McLean will find out what the breakdown of the proposed £20,000 cost of relocation is.

Item - Correspondences

Considered as part of relevant matters arising

Item - Community Councillors

Community councillors noted the overgrown length of the grass at the field beside the primary school, which is preventing local children from playing football. There has not been a game of football there since 2021. Streetscene are apparently responsible for grass cutting, which runs on a schedule, with potentially up to 12 weeks between cuts, which is not sufficient. In addition, when cut, the grass is left and blocks nearby drains, contributing to the flooding of the field and further unsuitability for playing sports.

Action: Community council will write to council regarding grass cutting locally (unanimous)

Item: Elected Members Input

No elected members were present.

Item: Community Involvement/Events

Nothing was noted.

Item: AOB

The bowling club is keen to undergo refresher training for using their defibrillator - several possibilities were mentioned, including Coastwatch, KA Leisure, and St Johns Ambulance, and the Fire Station. Elaine will check on these.

Action: Elaine will look into defib training.

Community councillors noted the possibility of inviting specific members of related council teams to relevant meetings, i.e., Streetscene, in the future.

Date of next meeting: 27th October, 7pm.