

Fairlie Community Council – Monday 01/12/2025, h. 07:30pm, Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd, Fairlie

The meeting is declared open at **07:31pm**

Attending:

FCC: Rita Holmes (chair), Marco Piva (minutes secretary), Alan Holden, Jackie Pearson, Arran Hewlett, Ian Hunter

NAC: *none*

Police: *none*

Press: Calum Corral (*Largs and Millport Weekly News*)

3 MoP

Apologies: Mairi Wyatt, Malcolm Milne, Gaye Nelson (FCC); Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Tom Marshall, Cllr Eleanor Collier, Cllr Todd Ferguson (NAC); Mr. John Riddell (MoP, chair of the Hunterston Parc Liaison Committee)

Approval of November minutes: proposed by JP, seconded by RH

Police report for November:

No Police present

NA Cllr's Report:

No NA Cllrs present

1. Northern Ireland (Kilroot) to Hunterston interconnector update

A meeting was held this morning (Dec 1st). Attending for the proposers (Transmission Investment) were: Mr. Chris Jenner; Mr. Alan Davenport; Mr. Barry Turley; Mr. Tim Daldry. Attending for the community were: RH; JP; MW; MM; Mr. John Riddell; Mr. Hugh MacLean; Ms. Joyce Wilson (Mr. MacLean and Ms. Wilson are present at this meeting as MoP).

The presentation was considered to be thorough, and the proposers did listen to concerns and observations. The slides used during the presentation will be shared.

The company has been bought by a UAE company.

Capital cost was not mentioned.

The company has managed interconnector projects in the past, with a proven track record.

The interconnector is expected to be laid below the SSSI.

JP: they accepted that an EIA will very likely be needed due to the proximity to the SSSI.

It was asked if this project will bring jobs to the area; the only local jobs expected are in building/construction and annual maintenance, as the project will need virtually no regular staff.

JP: all the cables will be sheathed in lead for waterproofing. Lead will be in turn covered in PVC, but if the reason for the presence of lead is waterproofing, we can logically expect that the lead is likely to come in contact with the water. Lead is highly toxic, and an approximate calculation suggests that about 3,000 tons of lead will be used along the whole length of the interconnector.

The proposer took note of JP's observation and will look into the matter.

The application is expected to be filed in Q4 of 2026, for a decision to be reached in Q1 or Q2 of 2027.

2. Highview Power update

No update. A virtual meeting is scheduled for Wed 3rd Dec, but no links have been sent. RH will keep FCC updated on the situation. Attendees will be RH, AlHold, JP, Mr. Hugh MacLean

and possibly Mr. John Riddell as the chair of HPLC.

JP: Please keep in mind that, according to this project, a very high amount of cryogenes would be stored in tanks about 50 mt high, which is likely to be hazardous.

3. **Crosbie Wind Farm public enquiry**

The public enquiry will open on 23rd Feb 2026. FCC will take part.

Personal statements and technical observations have been submitted.

Dalry CC also filed an objection

JP observed that Dalry CC stated that all the turbines would fall within Dalry Parish area, but he thinks that 2 or 3 should be under Fairlie; this needs to be checked.

RH will attend a Dalry CC meeting.

Skelmorlie CC and Cumbrae CC have officially stated that Fairlie CC “are speaking for them”.

4. **Hunterston SSG update**

Next meeting is on Thu 4th Dec; it is virtual.

RH visited the power stations last week with the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM). Their feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

The directors of both stations gave excellent presentations and the (CoRWM) were very interested in the tour of the A site and being able to speak to the different teams on site. It also helped that the weather was cold and sunny, and CoRWM members were admiring of the local seascape and landscape views.

5. **XLCC**

No updates

6. **Flooding**

Flooding on A78 has been signalled to Amey

7. **Coastal path**

Thanks have been sent to Ron, who is taking care of keeping the path clean

AOB

+ IH will deliver the cheque for the Young Citizen of the Year to the organisers in the next days, as soon as its recipient is confirmed

+ MoP: the N side of the wall that has just been rebuilt along the A78 seems incomplete, the wall lacks coping that has been added to the remaining stretch. Admittedly, that part never had coping, but it would make sense to add it

+ MoP has spotted workers cleaning the grounds of the old school

RH will try to find out who had it done and, if possible, for what reasons

+ MoP: the fallen trees on the Mound have been cleared

ACTIONS:

+ RH to try to find out who had the grounds of the old school cleared and why

The meeting closed at **08:28pm**.

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 5th of January 2026 at 0730 pm at the Seemple Centre, 45 Main Rd.