

**BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2025**  
**Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm.**

No	Item	Action
	<p><b>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council:</b> Jamie Burgess (JB) (Vice-Chair), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), John Heath (JH), Robert Houstin (RH), Pearl McGibbon (PMcG), Martin Rennie (MR); Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary &amp; Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p><b>In Attendance:</b> Alec Clark (ACk) (SAC Councillor), Lee Kirkwood (LK) (SAC Link Officer), PCs Paul McKinlay (PMcK) &amp; Andrew Thorne (AT) (Ayrshire LPST) (for part).          6 Members of the public.</p>	
1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
	Kenneth McLaren (KMCL)	
3	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>	
	<i>(In the absence of the Police, and no report available at present, this item brought forward on the agenda.)</i> The minutes were approved: proposed by JS, seconded by JB.	
4	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes</b> <b>Incl. Mark Hill Sub-Station Extension</b>	
	<p><b>Mark Hill Sub-Station Extension:</b> The latest update informed that the materials leaving the site to go to Dalfad are almost complete, with numbers of wagon movements reduced. There is currently an average of 5 per day making return trips removing unsuitable material then returning with stone. The enabling works contract should complete on 03/10/25 and the civils contract due to commence on 06/10/25.</p> <p><b>Item 2: Police Report:</b> Cllr Lamont had sent a report for the meeting, covering matters he actioned after the last meeting. He informed that the Data Traffic Survey had now concluded and he is chasing this up. He had requested traffic patrols in the area.</p> <p><b>Item 12: AOB: Grass Strimming of verges:</b> AL had been informed that problems would be rectified – due to shortage of staff. Confirmed that the verges etc had now been strimmed.</p> <p><b>Stagecoach Contract:</b> See below at Item 5. <b>Dog Mess in Old Cemetery:</b> AL had passed this on and CS confirmed a notice and a dog litter bin are now in place.</p> <p><b>Item 5: Matters Arising: New Luce Hill Road/Knowe Road/Raised Manhole at Doctors' Surgery:</b> CS had emailed Kevin Braidwood, whose staff passed on to ARA's Jane Corrie. To date, nothing has been heard - ACk will chase this up.</p> <p><b>OHL Works – Knowe Road/A714:</b> CS had emailed Colin Wylie who looked into this and contacted the resident. He apologised for lack of notification – due to recent changes in the site team, who had failed to give his section advance notice, as they should have.</p> <p><b>Item 8: Action Plan/Place Planning:</b> See below at Item 8. <b>Item 12: AOB: Free TV Licences for Over 75s:</b> AC had raised this with BDT but it is a matter for the BCIC. as it is not within its remit. JT informed the BCIC had yet to discuss this.</p> <p><b>Community Skips:</b> BDT now provides monthly skips. ACk confirmed SAC had cancelled its skips due to prohibited items being placed in them, which proved costly.</p> <p><b>Overflowing Litter Bin:</b> CS informed that the second bin is now in place outside the shop.</p> <p><i>Other matters covered by agenda</i></p>	<p>AL</p> <p>ACK</p>
5	<b>New Bus Timetable</b>	
	<p>The new bus timetable, following the refusal of Stagecoach to renew its contract with Dumfries &amp; Galloway Council, had caused great disappointment within Barrhill, with a resident raising the matter with the CC. When Girvan Academy is on holiday, there are now only 2 buses a day in each direction. Timings are inconvenient, with in one case only 5 minutes in Newton Stewart for shopping etc. Cancellation of the 5.30pm bus from Girvan in particular, which is used by pupils attending after-school activities, is causing distress. ACk and AL had raised this with both SAC's Education Director and the Portfolio for Education Councillor responsible for school transport.</p> <p>ACk queried if Stinchard Connections could help and JB will look into this. ACk will also pursue the matter. <i>The Police entered the room at 7.25pm.</i></p>	JB/ ACK
2	<b>Police Report</b>	

	<p>PCs McKinlay and Thorne were in attendance and gave the report for the period from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 27<sup>th</sup> August. There were 8 incidents during this period with details as follows: False Call: 1; Assist Members of the Public: 1; Road Traffic Matters: 2; Drones: 1 (Forestry Officers); Abandoned Vehicles: 1; Police Info: 1; and Suspected Persons: 1.</p> <p>There were no crime reports from these calls.</p> <p>During questions JT referred to a stolen digger up the Knowe Road. CS asked about delays for turbine deliveries - the previous week delays of 45/60 minutes had been experienced when the community was led to believe delays should be roughly 20 mins. Traffic management depends on when Police Scotland have the manpower to do this.</p> <p>CS enquired if there had been any reports of sheep rustling. She had been informed of 3 farms – one in D &amp; G - where sheep had been stolen. No complaints received to date.</p>	
6	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
	<p>AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank now show a total of £20,365.97, following the receipt of almost £5K funding from SPEN's Biodiversity CVP Fund, for MR's Red Squirrel project. Expenditure included web hosting costs and consumables. The CF balance is now at £9,773.03, resulting in an overall bank balance of £30,139.00.</p> <p><i>AC was thanked for his report.</i></p>	
7	<b>Updates</b>	
	<p>a) <b>BCIC:</b> JT informed that work continues to progress with the <b>Net Zero/Barrhill Greener Homes</b> project, with funding available for eighteen months. Interviews have been held to appoint a Development Officer to undertake the work, paid for by SPR, which Hubbub will oversee. There will be an information sheet to fill in for residents, with reports being made on individual houses</p> <p>b) <b>BDT:</b> AC informed that the search for a tenant for the <b>Cross Water</b> continues. Four individuals had now visited to look round. Two were not suitable and while the other two were possible, no further contact from them had been received.</p> <p>The arrival of someone who had undertaken to fit the cooker had been delayed.</p> <p>c) <b>Carrick Futures:</b> JB had attended his first meeting in July as a director on behalf of the CC. He informed that Dailly is now part of the communities represented on the Board. The meeting was a funding round with over £860K being available to allocate. There had been 15 applications for funding and over £227,000 was awarded, with 2 applications not awarded and 3 deferred.</p> <p>d) <b>South Ayrshire Health &amp; Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP):</b> CS reported there was no meeting in July and the main items from the minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> August meeting were as follows:</p> <p><b>Promoting Good Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing:</b> Presentation on <b>Adult Carers' Strategy Engagement</b> - this is being refreshed, with the draft out for consultation - result hopefully out in October; <b>Locality Plan:</b> Stuart Marshall informed that this needs refreshing, with a bridging plan in place for 12 to 18 months while work to create the new plan progresses over the next 2-3 years – SM 'wants to create synergy between the Locality Plan and Community-led Action Plans to impact on Health &amp; Well-being'; <b>Funding/Mentors:</b> 13 applicants so far for Small Grants Funding, with the deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> August to be discussed on 10<sup>th</sup> September: agreed to provide mentors to assist successful groups;</p> <p><b>Health Event</b> – to take place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October at Girvan Hospital between 10am &amp; 3pm - provision of transport from the villages being looked at; <b>Girvan Hospital Review:</b> to be presented shortly to the SPAG meeting; <b>Community Transport</b> - another 6 months funding received, with a new timetable scheduled for September; <b>Updates – VASA</b> – there will be a <b>Social Fit Event</b> in Barrhill on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1-3pm; <b>First Responders</b> – received 2 call - outs and now have a new training programme.</p> <p>e) <b>Kilgallioch Community Fund:</b> MR had nothing to report as there had not been a meeting. JT informed, as did CS, that regretfully Ann Robertson, the non-CC director on this Board, had decided to resign at the forthcoming AGM, after 8 years. JT asked if any of the members of the public present would be willing to take up this position. Gillian Young volunteered and was thanked by JT, who will inform Foundation Scotland. Noted.</p> <p>f) <b>Kilgallioch &amp; Arecleoch Extensions Community Benefit:</b> JT informed that SPR anticipate completion of the turbine deliveries by the second week in September. He and AC had attended a meeting immediately prior to the CC meeting to discuss the contract between the communities involved in the draft Community Benefit agreement, which</p>	JT

	reflects the amount agreed between the communities. To be finalised. <b>g) Barrhill Events Group:</b> PMcG informed that the windowbox competition 'Barrhill in Bloom' takes place on Friday, with the Car Treasure Hunt on Saturday evening. The reformed Gardening Club meets on 17 <sup>th</sup> September and PMcG also reported that the recent McDonald Bros concert had been a great success.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Action Plan/Place Planning</b>	
	Following the last meeting, the CC's decisions reported to AG, who informed that the Academy Head Teacher had agreed to help find a pupil to assist once school returned in August. No further information received until a phone call from AG that afternoon. She was willing to attend that night but due to a very full CC agenda did not. PMcG informed she was unable to attend the Fun Day last month to distribute questionnaire forms and will now distribute through letterboxes. JB had continued to obtain tenders for the Action Plan but after discussion and input from ACK it was agreed to continue with AG's help, while keeping the tenders on file. CS had not received the letter drafted by AG for consulting residents. CS to update AG and JB will contact her too.	PMcG  CS/ JB
<b>9</b>	<b>Planning Applications Incl. Whiteminwhill Energy Park request for Scoping Opinion</b>	
	<b>Whiteminwhill Energy Park request for Scoping Opinion</b> for proposed Section 36 application by Voltalia: (windfarm/solar farm/battery energy storage system (BESS)). JT declared an interest in this item, vacated the Chair and left the meeting, taking no part in the discussions. The Vice-Chair, JB, then took the Chair for this item. He commenced by giving the background to this item, explaining that the CC had reached a decision on this by email, having to submit comments by 18 <sup>th</sup> July. He then read out the CC's submitted comments, which stated that the CC was following its usual stance and not commenting on scoping, preferring to wait for the actual planning application. Several members of the public were present for this item and JB invited each to address the meeting and to give their names prior to speaking. The first resident expressed her serious concerns as to how this proposed development would affect her, already suffering detrimental effects from the existing windfarms, which have greatly affected her health and well-being. Should this go ahead, she will be completely surrounded by turbines but was not a consultee and had difficulty in obtaining the information. She eventually received help to pass on her objections. Amongst these was the fact that the information in the document was completely out of date. She recalled the struggles involved 10 years ago in opposing the previous proposal for the Altercannoch Windfarm on the same site, which was rejected on appeal, and viewed the prospect of repeating this fight with dread. JB summarised her objections: previous refusal on the same site; far too near dwellings; excessive height and detrimental health aspects of the Energy Park. The second resident, who also opposed the Energy Park, felt that the Community Council had missed an opportunity to object and asked for ACK's views on the matter. ACK informed that SAC does not comment on scoping and stressed the fact that scoping is not a planning application. There will be ample opportunity to register objections once the application has been submitted in 2026. ACK informed that not all scopings result in an application. He will ask Planning to clarify Scoping/Planning applications and forward information. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> resident had viewed SAC's website noting references to wildlife and a discussion on biodiversity followed. It was agreed Biodiversity was important. JB closed the discussion and thanked the participants, although he found some terminology objectionable. <i>JT then resumed the Chair.</i> <b>Planning Applications/Decisions:</b> Once again, SAC had omitted to send the Decisions Lists, which JS had to ask for. <b>May Decisions List:</b> One for Barrhill - Prior approval not required for 'Prior notification of and extension of existing access track' near Arecleoch Windfarm - applicant Fox Davies Forestry. <b>June List:</b> None relevant to Barrhill. <b>July List:</b> Application by SPEN approved for 'Further application to vary condition 41 of planning permission - to extend commencement date of proposed Chirmorie Windfarm'. <b>Applications:</b> Prior notification by Scottish Woodlands for Forestry – related Building Works (Non-residential) at Laggish Farm to upgrade a section of road to facilitate timber harvesting and haulage; EIA Screening opinion for SPEN's proposed Static Compensator on land	ACK

	south of Mark Hill Sub-station; Prior notifications for Demolition of buildings at Laggan and Knockytunnel by Mark Wilson.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Small Grant Applications</b>	
	<p><b>a) Individual on behalf of Indoor Short Mat Bowls Group:</b> The application was for funding for the cost of hiring the hall for 1 hour each week for 9 weeks in October/ November and 12 weeks for January/ February/March. The amount sought was £105, which was approved in full.</p> <p><b>b) Barrhill Wee Whist Club:</b> This application had been received too late for the agenda, with apologies for the lateness. It was for funding of £385.00 for hall hire charges for 22 weeks at £!7.50 per night (3.5 hours). The application was approved in full.</p>	CS/AC
<b>11</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p><i>A list of correspondence received between 25/06/2025 and 31/07/2025 was previously circulated to members – details on request. (Included were forest plans for Ballochmorrie Estate and West Dornal - usual responses submitted; and a request for a letter of support for High Drumlamford's funding application to SAC– support agreed by email.)</i></p> <p>August's correspondence as follows.</p> <p><b>SAHSCP:</b> Usual emails including <b>LPP Small Grants Funding; Girvan Youth Trust</b> - meet the team event; <b>GRAG Community Arts</b> - weaving workshops; <b>Carers' Gateway</b> - Carers' Family Arts &amp; Crafts events; <b>Suicide Prevention</b> Community Champions <b>Awards</b>; information on <b>Connect South Ayrshire; Adult Carers' Strategy Consultation; Gaelic Language Plan</b> consultation; <b>Stinchard Connections</b> consultation survey; <b>Low Road</b> screening; <b>Harbour Ayrshire</b> leaflets; and SAC Libraries – various <b>Green Health workshops</b>. <i>Further details available.</i> <b>Non-SAHSCP items</b> as follows:</p> <p><b>SPR:</b> Poster re-turbine deliveries for the Kilgallioch Windfarm Extension;</p> <p><b>Energy Consents Unit:</b> Whiteminwhill notice correction;</p> <p><b>SURF Awards</b> notification; <b>Scottish Rural Action</b> newsletter; <b>EDF:</b> Notification of u-road closures re- Stranoch Windfarm; <b>ARA</b> – notification of A77 road resurfacing and the current Service Review, which closes 5<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p><b>SPR: Kilgallioch &amp; Arcleoch Extensions:</b> Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> August - JT and AC to attend. <i>See above at Item 7f</i></p> <p><b>TRACC:</b> Information on Transformative actions for Resilient Coastal Communities research. <b>Foundation Scotland</b> bulletin; <b>SAC: PWS</b> Water Low Flow Levels alert.</p> <p><b>SPEN:</b> Reminder of Free Upskilling Event on Communities Buildings re-Net Zero in Glasgow; <b>SPEN:</b> Notification of problems with scheduled <b>trial run of turbines</b> on 10<sup>th</sup> June to Kilgallioch Extension: <b>SAC</b> Update on PWS; <b>Plantscape</b> brochure; and <b>SPEN:</b> Notification of free workshops on Net Zero Communities.</p> <p><b>SWSEIC: Nature Connections Project:</b> Information re- future possible workshops. It was noted that the recent Moths Workshop had been a great success. All who attended, including the Primary school children found it most interesting. <i>(Details available on request)</i></p>	
<b>12</b>	<b>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</b>	
	<p>RH raised the matter of the <b>overgrown banking</b> onto the pavement at the south end of the Main Street. AC volunteered to cut this back. RH also informed the <b>Duisk Bridge</b> had again been damaged. ACK will report this to ARA.</p> <p><b>Councillor's Report:</b> ACK informed that <b>Merchant Navy Day</b> will be celebrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, at 5pm in Girvan and the <b>Ayr Air Show</b> is on 5/6<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>CS to thank Ann Robertson for her 8 years as a <b>Kilgallioch Benefit Fund director</b>.</p> <p><b>20mph Speed Activated Sign:</b> CS reminded that the sign on Main Street has still not been repaired, almost 3 years after its removal. ACK will investigate.</p> <p><b>Martyrs' Tomb Bridge:</b> A member of the public raised the matter of the state of disrepair of the bridge over the Cross Water. CS first reported this 2 years ago and several times since. ACK will chase this up.</p> <p><b>Dog poo bags:</b> AC requested approval to purchase more bags – unanimously approved.</p> <p><b>Kilgallioch Windfarm Entrance:</b> JS had experienced careless driving by windfarm workers at the main entrance to Kilgallioch. Noted. The CC had also received a complaint of construction traffic using the <b>Knowe Road</b> and driving dangerously. CS had reported this to SP and site staff will again be instructed to use the designated routes.</p> <p><i>Meeting closed at 9.05pm.</i></p>	<p>AC ACK</p> <p>CS</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>ACK AC</p>

13	Date & Time of Next Meetings	
	<u>All Wednesdays: 29<sup>th</sup> October &amp; 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u> <u>NB. There are no meetings in March, July, September &amp; December.</u>	