

BARRHILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th January, 2026
Barrhill Memorial Hall, Barrhill at 7.00pm.

No	Item	Action
	<p>Sederunt: Barrhill Community Council: Jamie Burgess (JB) (Vice-Chair), R. Andrew Clegg (AC) (Treasurer), John Heath (JH), Pearl McGibbon (PMcG), Kenneth McLaren (KMcL) Martin Rennie (MR), Jean Shaw (JS), Celia Strain (CS) (Secretary & Minute Taker), Johnnie Thomson (JT) (Chair).</p> <p>In Attendance: Alec Clark (ACk) (SAC Councillor), Lee Kirkwood (LK) (SAC Link Officer), Amy Duthie (AD) (SAHSCP Partnership Engagement Officer), PC Andrew Thorne (AT) (Ayrshire LPST Girvan & South Carrick) and 3 Members of the public.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p>	
	<p>Robert Houstin (RH) (Noted that RH is currently in hospital again – a card will be sent.) KMcL then tendered his resignation, due to ill-health. JT thanked him for his service to the CC and all wished him well. He then left the meeting.</p>	CS
2	<p>Police Report</p>	
	<p>PC Andrew Thorne (AT) attended and gave the reports for the period from 26/11/2025 to 28/01/2026. Period from 26th November to 31st December 2025: 19 incidents were raised, with one crime report raised for theft of fuel from plant machinery at Arecleoch Windfarm. Details as follows: Notification of Planned Shoots: 17; Theft: 1; Abandoned 999: 1.</p> <p>Period from 1st January to 28th January 2026: 14 incidents were raised but no crime reports. Incident breakdown: Notification of Planned Shoots: 12; Road Traffic Matters: 2.</p> <p>Speed Checks: These will be undertaken at regular intervals in the area.</p>	
3	<p>Speaker: Amy Duthie: SAHSCP Partnership Engagement Officer Girvan & South Carrick Locality Plan</p>	
	<p>JT introduced AD, South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership’s Engagement Officer, who welcomed her opportunity to address the meeting. SAHSCP covers issues in the community and at present the Locality Plan is being refreshed. AD is carrying out engagement work for this, which includes Health & Social Work Services, various links, data on health statistics etc. The results will guide what is needed in the community.</p> <p>AD named the five priorities that govern applications: Social Isolation and Loneliness; Promoting Good Health; Managing Long Term Conditions; Tackling Drug and Alcohol Problems; and Supporting Unpaid Carers.</p> <p>JT and ACk referred to the distance of Barrhill from both Ayr and Crosshouse Hospitals and the effect this has on a rural community. A member of the public also raised the difficulties of travel for those without easy access. ACk reminded that travel is available through the CAN organisation in Girvan. AC enquired as to the access to hospices in rural areas. AD will make enquiries re-this.</p> <p>AD concluded by asking all if they agreed with the above 5 priorities. She also asked for their preferred method to discuss the current Engagement Strategy. Members agreed with the priorities and that face to face methods are best for engagement purposes.</p> <p><i>JT thanked AD for attending and she then left the meeting.</i></p>	
4	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting of Wednesday 26th November 2025</p>	
	<p>The minutes were approved: proposed by MR, seconded by JS.</p>	
5	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes Incl. Mark Hill Sub–Station Extension</p>	
	<p>Item 5: Matters Arising: ACk had forwarded information from Kevin Braidwood regarding the following matters: Duisk Bridge: ARA are not aware of any (fresh) damage to the parapet, though they are monitoring the crack there. 20mph Speed Activated sign across from 69/71 Main Street: A contractor has now been appointed and is inspecting and repairing all signs across SAC – should be completed in 4/6 weeks. Data Traffic Survey: No new speed figures available but are carrying out a survey south of reservoir. Knowe Road accident at the bad bend at Lochton Mill: ARA could not find a reference to ‘SLOW’ signs on its system – Clerk of Works to be contacted for an update.</p> <p>New Luce Hill Road/Knowe Road: The matter of the broken edges near the ‘feedng</p>	ARA

	<p>station' is still outstanding after many months and JT referred to the volume of water on the road. ACK will chase this up with ARA.</p> <p>Martyrs' Tomb Footpath Bridge: Rachel Shipley finally informed that engineers had inspected the bridge and given estimates, but no money remained in the budget for repairs. She enquired if windfarm funds could be used but AC had informed that as SAC had made the walk a core path, it would supposedly be SAC's responsibility, therefore not eligible for windfarm funding. CS had sought clarification on this from RS, who replied that while SAC was not legally responsible, she had now engaged a contractor to repair the bridge.</p> <p>Dog Fouling: ACK had informed Environmental Health, which asked for the locations where extra signage is required. PMcG clarified this for ACK, who will forward to EH.</p> <p>'Welcome to Barrhill' Biosphere signage in Gaelic: LK had raised this with ARA and the matter is still being looked into. Ongoing</p> <p>Mark Hill Sub-Station Extension: Update received from Colin Wylie that the contractors have progressed the OHL erection near to the village and moved further along the route. Adjacent properties have been lettered. Future return required in a few months' time to wire the line. Project team will be utilising a helicopter for a few days at beginning of February to deliver to remote spots. Noted</p> <p>Item 13: AOB: Ardgay CC: LK had finally received assurance from within SAC that the insurance cover for Community Councillors includes Public Liability. JB's concern, however, was with Personal Liability. LK will pursue the matter further.</p> <p>Christmas Lights: Audrey Gatt (AG) replied that she had asked ARA about the process and cost of installing Christmas lights and would forward any information received - none so far. While it may be possible for SAC to fund the lights themselves the CC would have to cover the running costs, or perhaps the BCIC or BDT could do so? ACK informed that the Girvan CC Chair was experienced in this matter. CS will make enquiries.</p> <p><i>Other matters covered by agenda.</i></p>	<p>ACK</p> <p>ACK</p> <p>ARA</p> <p>LK</p> <p>CS</p>
6	<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	
	<p>AC circulated his report. CC funds in the bank again remain at £19,863.14. The CF balance is now at £12,018.97 following payment of £570 for audio engineer's work for the Primary School Christmas Play. Overall bank balance is now £31,882.11, but AC reminded the CC that the funding received from Carrick Futures to fund the CAP/Place Plan will shortly have to be returned as it was not used. This led to a discussion on the Place Plan, with JB reminding that the Place Plan comes before the CAP. CS reiterated the findings received from AG, that the Facebook posts had increased responses to 81, with a breakdown given of age group responses. AG has now to go through all the forms and sort them per theme and draft actions that can be included in the CAP, prior to having a meeting of the sub-group. No further information has been received and ACK will contact AG for an update.</p> <p><i>AC was thanked for his report.</i></p>	<p>ACK</p>
7	<p>Updates</p>	
	<p>a) BCIC: JT updated on the Community Energy Grants and Greener Homes project. 53 homes had now signed up, with Fiona Limbrey being present in the hall one day a week. One funding application has come through.</p> <p>b) BDT: AC called on the BDT Chair, Patrick Buck (PB), who was present, to give the update. PB informed that there had unfortunately been a number of set-backs recently. A new building warrant is required and the ramp and walkway have not yet been signed off by the architect and a guard rail is now required. The prospective tenants are still on board and the lease is being processed. It transpires that the MCS certificate, necessary after heating installations, had not been issued by the fitter and this is being chased up. An opening in February is still anticipated. <i>PB was thanked for the update.</i></p> <p>c) Carrick Futures: JB updated on the last meeting, which had been a funding round. He had forwarded an awards summary list to be circulated. 11 funding requests were considered, with 9 being funded, 1 deferred and 1 rejected. A total of £35,617.19 was awarded. Included in successful applications were organisations in Ballantrae, Barr, Colmonell and Pinwherry.</p> <p>d) South Ayrshire Health & Social Care Locality Planning Partnership (SAHSCP LPP): Main items at the meeting on 10th December 2025 as follows: Active Travel: Thriving Communities Health & Well-being Team - Consultation on cycling: information sought from the public – what are the barriers to people cycling and how to remove these</p>	<p>BDT</p>

	<p>– to ensure a ‘greener’ South Ayrshire; Locality Plan Refresh: Amy Duthie will engage with communities; Girvan Hospital Review – no further information; AOB: Noted that NHS Ayrshire & Arran is in debt by £130 million, which will affect the Locality Plan. 5 unfunded wards at Ayr Hospital; delayed discharge and shortage of Carers all affect this. A meeting is being held in January to discuss what other services can be added at Girvan Community Hospital.</p> <p>e) Kilgallioch Community Benefit Fund: MR informed that the last meeting was held on Monday, when the main items were the forthcoming AGM and the accounts. No date set as the accounts are still with the auditors, but it is hoped it will be held in March. Noted</p> <p>f) Kilgallioch & Arecleoch Extensions Community Benefit: JT informed that this fund is now open.</p> <p>g) Barrhill Events Group: PMcG informed that the AGM was held on Monday and new Office-bearers appointed. A new ‘Cosy Spaces’ project is planned to be called ‘The Snug’, where soup and refreshments will be available. A freezer is now available to use and it is hoped to place this in the Memorial Hall to store supplies for running ‘The Snug’. See below at Item 13: AOB: ‘The Snug’ Events.</p>	
8	Planning Applications	
	<p>Planning Applications since the last CC meeting - only one relevant to Barrhill: Prior notification for erection of agricultural shed at ‘Sheepfold Forest Road’ (New Luce Road)</p> <p>December Decisions List: Re- above planning application – prior notification not required. Although outwith the Barrhill CC area, other decision of note: Further application to vary condition 2 of application to extend time period re-Proposed Met Mast at Knockodhar Site 2.</p>	
9	Knockodhar Windfarm Additional Information Consultation Feedback on Public Consultation held on 8th December 2025	
	<p>Knockodhar Windfarm: The public consultation had taken place in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 8th December 2025, which most had attended. Barrhill CC is a consultee on this and had objected to the original application in July 2023. This objection had mistakenly been omitted from the information on display at the consultation. A discussion ensued on the additional information, which includes a change to the transport route and it was agreed that there are grave concerns regarding the proximity of a section of the new route as it skirts Barrhill New Cemetery. CS to submit a letter to the ECU - this will be sent to all for approval prior to submission.</p>	CS
10	SP Energy Networks (SPEN): Community Benefit Fund	
	<p>SPEN had sent further information regarding its Community Benefit Fund for Barrhill, linked to the Mark Hill Sub-station Extension, Chirmorie OHL, and Stranoch OHL/Sub-station projects. A consultation is in progress, regarding Stage 3 Priorities and Preferences, with leaflets being distributed by SPEN to households. SPEN has six themes for the funding and wants the community to give its priorities and preferences by completing the feedback form, either online, by email or posting the card. (It was noted that not all households had received the written communication.) It is hoped all will communicate their views before the closing date of 15th February.</p>	ALL
11	Small Grant Applications	
	<p>i) Barrhill Art Group: The application was for funding of the hall hire costs – 2 hours monthly for one year i.e. £10 x 12 months, a total of £120. This was approved in full, the cheque to be paid direct to the Barrhill Development Trust, the sponsoring organisation.</p> <p>ii) Stinchar Valley Gardening Club: This application was for the sum of £450 to fund the costs of equipment necessary to equip a polytunnel at Pinwherry. It was explained by PMcG, who declared an interest, that Pinwherry & Pinmore CC had already provided funds for the club and as the majority of members were from Barrhill, this CC is being applied to now. After discussing this, the application was approved in full. The cheque will be paid to the sponsoring organisation Pinwherry & Pinmore Community Development Trust.</p> <p>iii) Barrhill Book Club: This application came too late to be included in the printed agenda, but the meeting agreed to consider it. The amount requested was for the hall hire – 1 hour per month for 12 months, £60. This was unanimously approved, the cheque to be paid direct to Barrhill Development Trust, the sponsoring organisation..</p>	AC/CS
12	Correspondence	
	<i>A list of correspondence received between 26/11/2025 and 31/12/2025 was previously</i>	

	<p><i>circulated to members – details on request.</i> (Included were: Forestry Grant Scheme: Ballochmorrie LTFP consultation – no comments received; EDF Stranoch/Foundation Scotland – Stranoch Sponsorship Fund now open; SPR: Programme for reinstatement of Bargrennan Bridge – completed 17th December; Stinchar Connections: Minutes of meeting of 31/10/2025.</p> <p>January 2026's correspondence as follows: <i>Most items previously circulated:</i> SAHSCP: Usual emails including: Alzheimers Scotland What's On; SACT Out & About leaflet; Green Health Workshop – 30th January in Ayr; Libraries update: SAHSCP's Engagement Strategy Consultation flyer – closing date 20th March. Non-SAHSCP items as follows: SAC: Information for CCs re-Free Safety Door stickers for older residents – members noted but did not action; SPEN: Invitation to R110-T3 webinar; ED3 Business plan workshops – register for 23rd February; geViews: Introducing 'Tap Safe'; Flooding at Corwar: Email from a resident informing of exchanges with ARA, resulting in roadworks to prevent flooding at a corner on the A714; Biosphere: Community Events – poster re-walks; SAC: LDP3 Call for Evidence; Community Councils: Petition for new powers for CCs to match English Parish Councils; New Powers Newsletter 3; Kilgallioch Extension Turbine lighting: Email with photo received from a resident regarding the red lights on the newly erected turbines from 10 miles away - far brighter than anticipated but as the turbine height triggers lighting rules it was acknowledged that nothing could be done; Justice Service: Email from Dean Barlas asking for suggestions of work for the Community Payback squads – AC suggested weeding of the car park gardens and JT that benches be painted, if necessary; SAC Neighbourhood Services: Safe Letter Picking; Scottish Rural Action newsletter; Biosphere Network minutes of meeting held on 19th January received – next meeting on 27th April; and SPEN updates on storms. <i>(Details on any item available on request)</i></p>	
13	<p>AOB Council Members/Members of the Public Incl. SAC Councillor's Report</p>	
	<p>PMcG raised the matter of Mark Hill Sub-station lorries driving up onto the pavement when meeting traffic, almost into her window, which is alarming at times. ACK will look into this. Speed Survey: MR is still waiting for the speed survey to be carried out by ARA, which has been promised for a while, with no action yet. ACK will enquire when it is likely to take place. SAC Councillor's Report: ACK informed that SAC's new Chief Executive, Stephen Penman is now in post. SAC is currently setting the budget but the allocation of Govern-----ment funding was lower than expected. Girvan's QuayZone has now re-opened in part, but due to technical problems the full re-opening has been delayed, but is expected to take place very soon. JT informed of the Volunteers' Dinner in the hall on Saturday night, which is being given by the BCIC for volunteers on the village organisations as a thank you for all their work, SAC: 2nd Phase Consultation: Notification of Final Consultation re the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils – no comments received from members. Community Council Full Elections: CS reminded of the forthcoming full CC elections. All members have received a nomination pack and for those wishing to submit forms the closing date is 13th February. CS offered packs to any member of the public who was interested and 2 obtained nomination packs. Biosphere meeting: JS had attended the Zoom meeting on 19th January, which concerned Community Led Tourism. She had circulated a report on the meeting, which featured a presentation by the Strategy Manager for Tourism, SOSE, followed by a general discussion. 'The Snug' events in the Memorial Hall: A member of the public reiterated PMcG's information (above at 7(g)) concerning this and efforts to place a freezer in the hall. Discussions will be held with BDT representatives to take this forward. <i>Meeting closed 9pm.</i></p>	<p>ACK ACK</p>
14	<p>Date & Time of Next Meeting</p>	
	<p><u>Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall.</u> <u>Further meetings in 2026: Wednesdays 25th March, 29th April, 27th May, 24th June, 26th August, 28th October, 25th November.</u> NB. There are no meetings in July, September and December.</p>	