



Girvan and District Community Council Minutes
Tuesday the 04th of March 2025, 06.30 pm, Carrick
Buildings, Girvan.
(The meeting started at 18:33)



Present: Rhona Walker (Chair), Jane Willis, Karen McCartney, Catherine Maguire, John Young, John McCreath, David Girvan, and Sconaid Clark.

In Attendance: Kate Gillon, Pete Cheetham, Sean McMillan, Chris Wilkinson, Willie McDines, Bernie Mills (General public); Ainsley McCrindle (South Ayrshire Council Link Officer/Glendoune); Declan Griffin (Youth participant); Cllr Lamont (South Ayrshire Council); David Bone (Secretariat)

Apologies: Wilma Dunlop, Ken Johnstone, Stephen Galloway, Lucy O'Donnell (Girvan Youth Trust).

Rhona welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded all those present to speak through the Chair and raise their hands should they wish to speak.

Declaration of Interest

None.

Cath Maguire, Go Girvan - re proposals for becoming a Coach Town

Cath said that she and the trustees of GoGirvan were looking to get Girvan designated as a "coach town." She has already spoken to the head of the Coach Federation to further this. She added that this would require SAC support to upgrade signage, improve information, create videos, and line the coach bays. The idea is to turn the visits that are currently happening into "stickier" visits, aiming to transform Girvan into a destination itself by putting together pre-bookable experiences. She added that there may be opportunities for other organisations to earn an income through overall packages.

She suggested considering ideas such as coastal experiences, heritage workshops (in collaboration with local groups), and artisan and local produce experiences.

The next step is to complete an audit, support product development, explore the possibility of commercialising assets (such as evening openings), and engage with trade partners, including coach companies and local businesses.

She added that the approach in Girvan has been scaled down from similar projects in Perth and Inverness, which were originally aimed at managing coach numbers. The plan is to bring in around 40 visitors per coach, starting with 50 coaches in the first year, increasing to 100 in the second year, and 200 by the third year.

David G asked where the main coach bays would be. Cath said they would be at the Harbour, partly due to the location of the chemical disposal system that was installed for campervans.

John Y said he was supportive of the idea but pointed out that it would require significant changes and questioned whether local resources could handle the numbers. He emphasised that food and toilet facilities are the most important aspects for coach visitors. Cath responded that these experiences would be pre-arranged. John Y also noted the challenge of marking coach bays since marking car parking bays has

already proven difficult. Cath said that once SAC sees a financial incentive, the process would hopefully be expedited.

David G commented that this sounded similar to the scheme in place that welcomed cruise ship visitors that occasionally dock in Girvan.

Jane asked about the expected visitor numbers in the first year. Cath estimated about two coaches per week over the summer season, keeping figures at the lower end of the spectrum.

David G asked a question on behalf of Andrew regarding businesses not staying open after lunchtime. Cath responded that this initiative would hopefully help fill in those quieter periods and that they would work with business. Cath added that the project is not only for Girvan but for South Carrick as well.

John Mc asked if this was separate from existing coach visits. Cath confirmed that it was. He also expressed opposition to increasing visits to Ailsa Craig, to which Cath responded that this was not currently part of the packages she was looking to offer.

The proposal was unanimously approved for support.

Police report

[Police Report.pdf](#)

None received [Later sent out via email after the meeting. The Police had sent it out in time for the meeting].

Minutes of the February 2025 Meeting

Proposed for accuracy by Sconaid and seconded by Cath.

Matters Arising

- Fiona has been emailed about the grass.
- The email from ARA and AMEY has been circulated.
- Rhona said that she has emailed Cllr Scott regarding the six flagpoles at the Harbour and asked where the community support for this originated. She said that he did reply to say he would look into it but despite a further request via email, he has not responded to give the specified information.
- A CAG meeting was held.
- The resident on Hamilton Street was spoken to, and Cllr Clark is going to raise the issue with ARA.
- It was noted that the tennis court has not been resurfaced yet. David G replied that he has emailed Ali Mutch about this.

Public Participation

AyeGirvan

Kate from AyeGirvan said that the old Library building is being considered for use as child care facility by AyeGirvan. She added that they are currently putting together a bid for this and that the building meets many of the Care Inspectorate regulations and safety features. She was looking for a letter of support from the community council.

She also mentioned that on 22/03/25, between 12–3 pm, there will be an anniversary event at the WaveHub with various community groups and a children's disco.

It was unanimously agreed to send a letter of support for this project.

Ainslie said she would be happy to send one as well from Glendoune, pending board authorisation.

Girvan Golf Course

It was noted that the 11th hole at Girvan Golf Course is persistently flooded. The Head Greenkeeper has been informed, but the issue remains unresolved. This is also affecting the 12th hole, as people are now walking on the fairway.

It was noted that SAC is spending funds in Ayr and Troon to remedy similar situations. Bernie mentioned that there used to be a ditch in this location and that the current drain is not large enough.

Rhona and David offered to take drone footage of the affected area. Cllr Lamont said he would be happy to take this matter forward. Willie added that Girvan Golf Club members pay the same golf fees as residents in the rest of South Ayrshire.

Youth Participation

Declan said that students from the school went to the Royal Hospital for Children in Glasgow to discuss mental health services in Girvan. From this it was thought that teachers and pupils should be trained in basic mental health support in school.

While agreeing, Ainslie said that participation in this should be a personal choice. She noted that while there is a lot of training available, some of it is limited by cost and numbers. She mentioned that the Wellness Recovery Action Plan may also be relevant.

David G brought up the 'Place to Be' scheme that provided support in Girvan Academy. Cath said that teachers are already under a lot of pressure and that age may also be a factor in training suitability.

John Y said it is difficult for teachers to handle these issues and warned that there is a risk of adversely "tagging" students without involving the right professionals.

Declan highlighted concerns about the long timescales for pupils accessing mental health support.

Matters arising - From any meeting community councillors attended representing the community council

[2025 Carrick Futures Small Grant Report.pdf](#)

[Active Travel.pdf](#)

[Carrick Futures Awards 22nd January 2025.pdf](#)

[Girvan & SC LPP Minute.pdf](#)

[Girvan Story Minutes.pdf](#)

[Girvan Town Team minutes - February 2025 v2.pdf](#)

[Louisa Drive ARA Meeting Report.pdf](#)

Locality Planning Partnership

David G mentioned that the Diabetic Eye Clinic will start on 24/03/25 and will accommodate 16 patients per day.

There will soon be a meeting with the Clinical Director of NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

Harbour Users Group (HUG)

John Y said that a HUG meeting will be held tomorrow night. He added that a fishing boat got stuck across the sand bar at the Harbour this evening.

Action Point Log

A new lighting column, along with an adaptor for the Christmas lights, was installed in Knockcushan Street (opposite the Library) last night following the removal of the one blocking the pathway outside the library last year. This will now be removed from the Action Point Log

Treasurers' Report

[Treasurer Report.pdf](#)

Sent to all community councillors. No issues.

Planning applications

[Planning - Applied for.pdf](#)

[Planning - Outcomes.pdf](#)

New signage for the Library and McKechnie

Licensing applications

None.

Correspondence

[Correspondence - Secretary Report.pdf](#)

Sent out to all councillors. No issues.

Update from local councillors

Cllr Lamont

The opening of the library went well and is a great facility for the community. The reopening of the McKechnie Institute also occurred and it will provide greater access to the garden. He added that the bank hub has also opened, and it has a high footfall, and a large number of cash transactions were noted.

A.O.C.B.

David G asked if the councillors were rotating their attendance at the community council. Cllr Lamont confirmed that they were at the moment.

Discussion about the Ayrshire Urgent Care Service (AUCS), which now covers the whole of South Ayrshire, as well as the availability of GPs during out-of-hours.

The budget was discussed, including renovation plans for the Fisherman's Huts/viewing area. This includes removing the entire top surface of them. Other items authorised in the budget were dredging at the Harbour and the possibility of introducing car park charges in the future.

There was further discussion regarding the Quay Zone and remedial work at Stumpy.

Thanks were given to David G, Cllr Lamont, and the Carrick Resilience Team for their work during Storm Eowyn. David G mentioned he is trying to arrange a debrief with SAC. Cllr Lamont stated that he had met with Jamie Tait regarding communication issues during the storm.

It was noted that voting for the community council election closes on the 13th of March, and results will be announced on Friday the 14th. David G suggested sharing information about the vote on Facebook. Ainslie confirmed that while the ballot paper cannot be shared, candidate information that has already been sent out can be posted. David G suggested that community councillors should be allowed to hide their home addresses. Ainslie said the Community Engagement Team would review this at their next meeting.

Noted that the Millennium Quilt will be on display in the Wave Gallery.

There was a discussion about traffic concerns on the A714, particularly regarding lorries, following a letter received from a resident on the A714. The number of lorries gathering at the Snack Shack is also causing the grass area to be churned up. A vote was taken on the proposal of sending a letter of complaint, with the result being unanimously in favour. Chris noted that, as a positive, the road sweeper has been present more frequently.

David G asked for an update on Ainslie Car Park and the installation of a barrier, particularly regarding camper vans. Discussion followed about signage and lorry usage and the need for a solution to be found before summer

It was noted that Wilma will be leaving the Community Council. She was thanked by all for her lengthy service to the community council. Gift to be organised for Wilma.

Note: An email was circulated to all members prior to the meeting confirming Colin Davidson's resignation.

A discussion took place regarding Cllr Scott's comments at a recent council meeting. Rhona suggested sending a letter of complaint. Cath highlighted the existence of a code of conduct and a monitoring officer at SAC. If these did not deal with the issue, the Standards Commission could be contacted. It was noted that Cllr Scott does not attend the groups he commented on. John Mc stated that his remarks could have implications for future funding applications. David G noted that accounts are independently audited by an accountant and then sent to OSCR, raising concerns about Cllr Scott's competency as a councillor. Cath added that two of our current councillors are handling the workload of three people. In his role as a Girvan Town Team Trustee (GTT), Pete stated that the GTT supports sending a letter and asking Cllr Scott to justify his comments. It was noted that he had also instigated two audit trails with other organisations, with no evidence to justify these actions. Cath said that it is SAC's responsibility to investigate this issue under their code of conduct. However, it was decided that a joint letter from various Girvan groups will be sent to Public Standards. Pete questioned why he wasn't challenged by the Chief Executive or the Chair of the meeting at the time.

Cath mentioned two pedestrian crossings, both near Louisa Drive. Cllr Lamont said he would email AMEY tonight with the picture to clarify which crossing is to be removed

(The meeting ended at 20:53)

Next meeting - Tuesday the 1st of April 2025 at 18:30

Outstanding Actions from November	Responsible
To email Fiona Ross regarding forwarding rape seed email	David Girvan
Update: Email sent and awaiting a response	

Outstanding Actions from February	Responsible
To secure a meeting with service lead in regards to their policy on stray dogs	Cllr Alec Clark
To email Fiona Ross will information on the electrical cable for the community garden	Stephen Galloway

Action Point from March Meeting	Responsible
Letter of support to be written for Aye Girvan	Rhona / David
To meet with Golf Club members and raise the issue with the service lead	Rhona / David
Letter to be sent in regards to lorries on A714	Rhona / David
To put a post on Facebook to highlight By-Election vote	David Girvan
To organise a gift for Wilma	Rhona Walker
To work with charities on complaint letter regarding Gavin Scott	David Girvan
Contact ARA on pedestrian crossing on Louisa Drive	Cllr Alan Lamont