

Girvan and District Community Council Minutes Tuesday, the 01st of April 2025, 06.30 pm, Carrick Buildings, Girvan.



(The meeting started at 18:34.)

<u>Present:</u> Rhona Walker (Chair), Jane Willis, Karen McCartney, Sean McMillan, Ken Johnstone, Pete Cheetham, Stephen Galloway, Catherine Maguire, John Young, John McCreath, David Girvan, and Sconaid Clark.

<u>In Attendance:</u> Ainsley McCrindle (South Ayrshire Council Link Officer/Glendoune); Declan Griffin (Youth participant); Cllr Lamont (South Ayrshire Council); Lucy O'Donnell (Girvan Youth Trust); David Bone (Secretariat).

Apologies: Cllr Clark.

Rhona welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly the two new members, and reminded all present to speak through the Chair and raise their hands if they wished to speak.

It was also mentioned that Andrew McCrindle, the third candidate who stood for election last month, had passed away. Condolences were extended to his family.

Declaration of Interest

None.

Police report

Police Report.pdf

Sent out to all GCC members. John Mc asked if the two animal incidents could be queried. Rhona said she would email the police regarding this.

Minutes of the March 2025 Meeting

Proposed for accuracy by Karen McCartney and seconded by John Young.

Matter arising

Email to Fiona Ross: Done, and a team meeting with her is scheduled for this Thursday, which Rhona said she would update members.

Letter of support for Aye Girvan: Written and sent.

Golf Club: Rhona and David Met with Golf Club members and contacted SAC, who is aware of the situation. Waiting for a response regarding the service lead for sport and leisure, with costs being updated. Unfortunately, the project is not affordable from existing revenue budgets. Support from councillors was noted. John Mc suggested speaking with the landowner, Drew Young. Cath mentioned that evidence of a drop in numbers at the Golf Course could be provided. She also added that GoGirvan could offer support if needed.

Lorries on A714: Letters have been sent. Currently, only 50% of the wagons are covered. Cllr Lamont stated there has been an increase in police patrols and clarified that tarpaulin issues are not classified as road traffic

offences. Rhona noted that villages have also sent in complaints. John Mc suggested that community payback could be a solution. Cllr Lamont confirmed that ARA will address the issue after the meeting on May 1st, 2025.

[Jane W and Lucy left the meeting at 18: 40]

Letter Regarding Cllr Scott: A letter has been sent to the Ethical Standards Commissioner and the SAC Monitoring Officer, and has been acknowledged by the Ethical Standards Commissioner but not the Monitoring Officer at SAC.

Louisa Drive: It was noted that there will be 2 crossings, 1 to cross Louisa Drive from the amusements to the boating pond area and one to cross the car park from the Quay Zone to the boating pond area. Sconaid highlighted that only one of the curbs on Louisa Drive has been lowered for this

John Y noted that three buses arrived this week with people wandering about, with nowhere to go. Also noted that the shelter is in poor condition. John Y emphasised that the proposed coach project represents a good opportunity to address the issue.

[Jane W and Lucy returned to the meeting at 18:56]

Public Participation

None present.

Youth Participation and Girvan Youth Trust

It was noted that the Girvan Academy Arts Festival was well attended and encouraged those present to attend.

Ainslie said that Youth Voice is off this week. She added that the young people put a lot of effort into the event and their 'voice' in the community. She added that they have a Youth Voice Action Plan, with a bigger centre and young girls not feeling safe at night being particularly prominent issues. She added that they also have the Youth Awards on Friday night. She added that it is the first time Girvan has been nominated.

Boating Pond recruitment is finished and is on plan to open during the Easter weekend. She added that they are in the middle of the P7 transition with all the rural primary schools, and then Girvan Primary.

Lucy said that there have been quite a few fire-raising incidents in Girvan recently.

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

Active Travel - Community Advisory Group.pdf

Girvan and SC Minute LPP.pdf

Girvan Town Team minutes - March 2025.pdf

Harbour Users Group (HUG)

John Y said that Harbour dredging is still on the books, but the Ayrshire Rivers Trust have now objected to this due to seasonal fish movement. He added that there are issues over their legal ability to do this. Rhona said that it is likely too late, and it will now need to happen later in the year. John Y said access can be dependent on tides. He added that the impounded fishing boat is damaging the quayside. He added that there may be impacts on small boats accessing this, as larger boats may hit the sandbar. Stephen said that it would also limit access for the lifeboat. John Y said that there is a limited number of actual harbour users attending the meetings.

Noted that the cruise ship will not be attending this year, but one is booked in for next year. Cath said that the infrastructure for some of these visits is not really in place. John Y said that he was surprised at the lack of promotional support for the cruises.

Action Point Log

Ainslie Car Park, Flushes Car Park, Aviary, plaques on one bench, penalties for overdue projects, and Banking Hub to be taken off as they have been dealt with.

Chalmers Arcade Car Park – unfinished. It was noted that the bays vary significantly in size, with some spaces being permanently blocked by a campervan and two cars.

It was noted that 9 am to 4:45 pm every Thursday, at the Carrick buildings in Girvan, there are staff from SAC customer contact service present.

Events Space – In progress.

Rose Gardens – It was mentioned that the shelter is on common good ground and requires court permission for demolition. SAC is looking to at options. Cath suggested that this one and the 'Park Run' shelter could be treated as a matching pair.

Stumpy railings and green netting. David has emailed the SAC officer for an update on the final works

John Mc queried the telephone box. David G confirmed it would be removed, and he would email BT to ask if a matching slab can be put in when the slab is removed.

Resurfacing at Louisa Drive – Completed, but lorry relining has not been done. John Y also mentioned this. Rhona stated that residents at Duncan Street will have temporary bollards in place. John Y added that lorries using the area will severely damage the road.

Fisherman Shelters – Temporary repairs have been made with new wooden doors.

Cemetery – Noted that the left-hand fence is not high enough by the wall to stop deer jumping over the fence. Rhona will raise this

Library – Noted that the door is not automatic, but this is scheduled for replacement. Two disabled bays were noted to be sloping downhill. Also, a bike rack still needs to be installed. Cllr Lamont mentioned that he had requested installation as well. Concerns were raised about children running into the road. There is a possibility of installing barriers at the library. Cath suggested that the doors could be press-button operated. Rhona said she would speak to Clare regarding this

One-way arrows – Need to be removed.

Designs are being finalised for the Park Run shelter. Cllr Lamont stated that it was not salvageable. Rhona said that the shelter is from the 1920s, and it matches the one at the Rose Garden.

Tennis Courts - Completed.

Lighting at Victory Park – Cllr Lamont mentioned that the trees are too low for the lighting. Discussion took place about lighting in the area, with many support workers expressing a preference for the floodlights at the pitch to be on.

Information board to Stair Park to be relocated to avoid the bird droppings.

A request has been made for toilets at the 3g pitch as there are no facilities at this location.

Car Parking at Victory Park - Discussion regarding the impact of the new primary school.

Biosphere Signs on A77 – Pete mentioned that ARA and Amey are arguing over who has jurisdiction for this. Pete also noted that signs are being put up in Minishant and Kirkoswald.

Treasurers' Report

Treasurer Report.pdf

Sent to all community councillors. No issues.

Planning applications

Planning - Applied.pdf Planning - Decision.pdf

No issues.

Licensing applications

None.

Correspondence

Correspondence - Secretary Report.pdf

Sent out to all councillors. No issues.

Rhona said that the new national park consultation process is being reviewed. Cath said that she, Pete, and Ann were invited to a meeting the day before the consultation, which was cancelled with no notice. John Mc said that the meeting at The Wave was all focused on Dumfries and Galloway, with no discussion about nature.

Girvan Story documentary premiere – looking to show it at the tourist information point. It was noted that the teenagers handled any criticism very well.

Noted that there are a large number of issues raised by residents of the town, which are being addressed by the community council on the public's behalf

An email was sent regarding the six flagpoles – the proposal by Cllr Gavin Scott. He was emailed but has not replied satisfactorily, and he has since been emailed a further three times.

Email from SAC about overall ward capital projects. Agreed to invite Kenny Dalrymple to the next meeting, which is also the AGM. Rhona said she would email him first.

Update from local councillors

Cllr Lamont

Two crossings to be painted at Louisa Drive.

Dog Policy – SAC try to rehome dogs, but charities are getting inundated with unwanted dogs. Cllr Lamont said that only one dog was put down in 2024. Stephen said there may be issues over banned breeds. Cllr Lamont said that dogs are held for 10 days.

A.O.C.B.

Discussion over keyholders in the town. Cllr Lamont said that the police may have a list of these. Rhona said that she would check this.

Update from Neil Lang at Transport Scotland, who said that AMEY have identified utility and road construction considerations and have found no issues. He added that trial hole testing will take place.

Coach Town initiative: meeting with ARA on the 16th of April regarding signage and road markings.

GoGirvan had started the process for the asset transfer for the townhouse, and it is with SAC legal at the moment. This could take up to two years if there are no complications. She added that there will be an element of consultation, etc. She asked if the Community Council would be happy to write a letter of support for this at the initial stages. Stephen asked about the current users of the facility. Ken added that SAC were looking to transfer this asset over ten years ago. David G. asked what GoGirvan wants to do with the building. Cath said that it needs to work with a business plan, and ideas can come from the community. She added it will be used for tourist purposes as a community hub.

John Mc. said that the building is likely to have a number of issues and asked if SAC would bring it up to standard. Cath said that SAC would complete a survey and would have to rectify any issues that are found.

Pete said that he has been in a number of Girvan Story meetings where the Town House was seen as very important and that it would be sold to a private investor at some point. Cath said it may help Corren keep the townhouse on the Priority List.

[Cath and Pete left the meeting at 20:50]

It was agreed that taking on the Town House would be a large undertaking,

A vote was taken over providing a letter of support for GoGirvan: 7 were in favour, 1 was against, and 2 members abstained.

[Cath and Pete re-entered the meeting at 20:52]

Rhona reminded those present that the May meeting would also be the AGM.

(The meeting ended at 20:52.)

Next meeting - Tuesday, the 6th of May 2025 at 18:30

| Outstanding Actions from November | Responsible |
|--|------------------|
| To email Fiona Ross regarding forwarding rape seed email | David Girvan |
| Update: Will raise at schedule meeting | |
| Outstanding Actions from February | Responsible |
| To secure a meeting with service lead in regards to their policy on stray dogs | Cllr Alan Lamont |
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| Action Point from April Meeting | Responsible |
| To seek further information on the two animal incident record on the police report | Rhona Walker |
| To ask BT when they remove the phone box to remove concrete slab and replace with sandstone slab | David Girvan |
| To raise with Professional Design services that deer can jump wall at cemetery | Rhona Walker |
| To raise with Professional Design services issue in regards to new library | Rhona Walker |
| Invite Kenny Dalrymple to a meeting | Rhona Walker |
| To ask police if they keep a key holders register | Rhona Walker |
| To write letter of support for Go Girvan | Rhona Walker |