

## Symington Community Council

**Minutes of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 7pm in the Hall for All, Symington.**

**Present:** Liz Kelly (Chair), David Houfe (VC/Secretary), Deborah Lochhead (Treasurer), Jan McGarry (Thriving Communities), Cllr Julie Dettbarn (SAC)

**Apologies:** Julie Howie (Planning), Rhona Duncan, Sharon Johnston, Gareth Lees,

**Declarations:** None

**In attendance:** None

Agenda No:

<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Approval of previous meeting</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were proposed by DL, seconded by LK.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Matters arising</b> <b>Change to bus stop.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CC requested removal of the bus stop asap, to avoid any confusion. In the meantime, most bus drivers are stopping at both stops. In future, passengers are encouraged to wait on the Northbound service stop, even if travelling Southbound</li> <li>• Services are still being cancelled, perhaps due a shortage of drivers and issues with electric vehicles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Townend House</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still nothing has been received from Enhance Healthcare regarding a sample of their programme, and communication channels. The CC will request again and Cllr Dettbarn will also take forward.</li> </ul> <p><b>AGM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This will be deferred to May meeting.</li> </ul>	<i>Cllr Dettbarn /DH</i>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Outstanding</b> <b>Local Bus Service Real time tracker</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be C/F to next meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Traffic Calming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no update on the survey or planned mitigation works.</li> </ul> <p><b>Footpath at Brewlands Drive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Dettbarn to follow up. In the meantime, 2 out of the 3 neighbouring hedges have been cut back, concluding that the property in question is privately owned.</li> </ul> <p><b>Resilience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding the mobile phone coverage, the CC have done as much as they can. However Resilience to be kept on Agenda going forward.</li> </ul> <p><b>Knockendale corner</b></p>	<i>JH</i>  <i>JH</i>  <i>Cllr Dettbarn</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are still waiting for the signage. To be kept on Agenda.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ward Capital Spend.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllr Dettbarn advised that there was a further Council meeting in May to take funding forward, but in the meantime, the Shaw Park car park surfacing had been approved.</li> <li>A contractor had been found for the finger posts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Replacement Trees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13 trees had been planted, 3 by Symington Road South, 3 by Bowling Club, 2 by tennis court/turning circle and 8 at Lomond View, creating a copse.</li> <li>The SAC grounds maintenance team have been advised not to mow in these areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pathway to childrens play area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Probably not going to happen. Pavilion is nearly complete and original paths will be installed imminently.</li> </ul>	DH
8.	<p><b>Police Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No violent incidents or drugs issues reported in the period</li> <li>No Domestic abuse incidents reported</li> <li>No Hate crime incidents reported</li> <li>No housebreaking, robbery or fraud reported</li> <li>1 x vulnerable person callout</li> <li>1 x gathering of youths</li> <li>1 x speeding on Symington Rd South</li> </ul>	DH
9.	<p><b>Secretary's Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There had been correspondence referring to inconsistencies with pick up and drop of of No 4 bus and why the bus stop is being removed. Siobhan Brown and Elena Whitham to be contacted re buses.</li> <li>Event on 15<sup>th</sup> May where there will be an opportunity to hear from transport providers. Details will be put on CC website and forwarded to Councillors.</li> <li>Stagecoach have issues with recruitment and fleet. Often the buses don't have sufficient charge to make their full journey.</li> <li>SAC LDP3 – there is a call for evidence on the following headings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity (DH to review)</li> <li>Blue and green infrastructure (LK)</li> <li>Community wealth building (LK)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	DH
10.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bank balance: £2,260.86 (CR)</li> <li>Year end accounts are in preparation.</li> </ul>	DL
11.	<p><b>Planning Report:</b> None  <b>Planning discussion:</b></p>	

	<p><b>Townend House</b>  Retrospective planning consent for listed building alterations has been granted.  Further discussion took place:  Opinion was expressed that the new usage is not social care but healthcare, requiring registration with Healthcare Improvement Scotland.  They appear to be promoting a different service than registered for. This applies to their facility at Calderglen as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident has written to the Care Commission. Although it's the same class (8) it's a different model to that previously provided - should this be subject to planning?</li> <li>• There is an increased intensification of use</li> <li>• Need to enquire from the Care Inspectorate of who is undertaking the clinical guidance.</li> <li>• Can the CC take this forward on behalf of Symington residents if this falls under planning?</li> <li>• There is a huge lack of communication.</li> <li>• There have been recent noise issues with the employees presently on site and this has been reported to Environmental Health at SAC.</li> <li>• Residents were asked to keep the CC updated on any return correspondence, then CC can reassess any necessary actions.</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b>Elected members Reports:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nothing to report from member present.</li> </ul>	<i>All Cllrs</i>
13.	<p><b>Pollinator Friendly Symington (PFS):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 replacement trees provided by SAC, were planted around the village on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April.</li> <li>• A total of 22 gardeners in the community have now joined PFS.</li> <li>• We and a small social venture business, Under Sky, who use outdoor learning to build nature connections, met with the Primary School to discuss our proposal for nature and curricula-based learning activities, for which we aim to obtain necessary funding.</li> <li>• Pow Burn Riverwoods: We signed a contract agreement with project partner the Farm Advisory Service (SRUC), who have obtained the consent of 7 farmers to engage in discussions about introducing and connecting habitat – trees and other vegetation, along the upper catchment of the Pow Burn – essentially between Bogend and Rosemount. Over the coming weeks, the Farm Advisory Service and Ayrshire Rivers Trust will be undertaking their initial surveys of the watercourse and surrounding habitat.</li> </ul>	<i>DH</i>

14.	<p><b>Community Action Plan (CAP):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is now printed and will be circulated. A few things worth mentioning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The school will arrange pupils to litter pick</li> <li>○ Coop will encourage more residents to recycle soft plastics through their scheme.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Local Place Plan (LPP)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This has been drafted and sent to SAC who have made some comments. The CC members will review.</li> <li>• It is important to note that the LPP can have an influence on the Local Development Plan.</li> </ul>	LK/AG/ SCC
15.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-option of members. LK proposed issued an advert which will be approved by SAC and placed on noticeboard, at the school and on CC's website.</li> <li>• Cllr Dettbarn advised that the inspection report for Symington Primary and the early year's centre has been published. The report is full of praise for both and is an excellent report.</li> <li>• Diversion signs have been left around the village. DH to speak to ARA and also check on the back of signs to see who the providers are.</li> <li>• Antisocial behaviour – reminder to report all incidents to Police so they can build up a picture. There is currently an issue at Townend near the muddy path, where youths congregate with chairs and bottles and other paraphernalia are left.</li> <li>• SPARK opening weekend upcoming.</li> </ul>	DH/LK  DH  ALL
16.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026, followed by AGM and Public Meeting in Hall 2 - Symington Community Hall 7pm.</p>	