



Girvan and District Community Council Minutes
Tuesday the 04th of April 2023, 7.00 pm, Carrick
Buildings, Girvan.



(The meeting started at 19:01 pm)

Present: Rhona Walker, Ann McGinnis, Stephen Galloway, Wilma Dunlop, Karen McCartney, Jane Jardine, Colin Davidson, John Young, Sconaid Clark, Ken Johnstone, Catherine Maguire, Jane Willis, David Girvan.

In Attendance Tracy Whiteford, Cllr Henderson, Cllr Clark; (South Ayrshire Council); David Bone - Minutes

Apologies: Lucy O'Donnell (Girvan Youth Trust), Cllr Scott, John McCreath.

Welcome from the Chair

Rhona welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed John Young and Catherine McGuire as community council members as well as Tracy Whiteford from Thriving Communities.

Rhona reminded members not to talk over one another and to be courteous.

Declaration of interest not already declared

None.

Minutes of the March 2023 Meeting:

Proposed for accuracy by SC and seconded by KM.

Ken said that TQZ was not at the Flushes. David G said that it was referring to the trucks parking outside TQZ.

A minor error on Pg 3, where the word member was repeated.

Matters Arising

Ken said that both cheques mentioned at the last meeting have now been cashed by their respective groups.

Discussion over lorries and the parking for them. Cllr Henderson said that the height barrier at the Harbour is locked, the car park is being resurfaced and there are now water barriers up as well. Ann said that a lorry was at the TQZ car park but that the driver did move on after being informed about the car park at the Flushes. She added that this evening there are two lorries in the car park at the moment. Rhona suggested that Kevin Braidwood should be cc'd in any correspondence regarding this issue. Colin said that there should be better signage for lorry drivers to alert them to the park at the flushes before they come into Girvan. Rhona concurred with this. Stephen said that the lorry drivers at TQZ are local drivers, but he has informed them that they cannot park at that location anymore. He added that lorry drivers at WM Grants should also be informed about this., Cllr Henderson said that the Freight Transport Authority has been given notice of the new lorry car park at the Flushes. David G said that the Flushes Car Park needs lined bays for the lorries.

Catherine asked if the HGV Car Parks were visible on GPS. Cllr Clark said that ARA is also required to do this. David G checked and the Lorry Park at the Flushes was not currently on Google Maps.

Rhona said that the £2000 of the Kilgallioch funds are now in the account in spite of the slight error last month.

Police report

Rhona said that she was forwarded an email from David B that said the report would not be available due to a temporary secondment to Ayr and staff annual leave. She added that the Police have stated that they hope to get a report out on the 12th of April. Cllr Henderson said that there is an ongoing murder enquiry in Ayr at the moment.

David G asked if Ben Legge was still the Sgt. Community councillors confirmed that he was.

Public Participation

None

Matters arising from any group meeting at the moment:

In-depth discussion over the closure of the ICU at Ayr Hospital. Rhona said NHS nurses are contracted to the NHS, but consultants are under a private contract. Cllr Henderson said that this was correct and that all doctors and consultants are privately employed. Rhona said that representatives from locality planning have stated that NHS staff from the Central Belt are reluctant to travel to Ayr, let alone Carrick. Cllr Henderson concurred but added that the NHS is being honest about this situation. Cllr Clark said that the issues discussed this evening need to be given a larger profile within the community. David G said it was only level two of the ICU that was being closed and not the entire department.

Cllr Henderson agreed with the need for publicity and said that it may be worth contacting West FM and the Ayrshire Post. Jane W asked if it was worth trying to establish a petition about the A&E in Ayr in order to engage the local community. David G said that it should be a generic petition that would include questions about reductions to systemic cancer treatment in South Ayrshire as well.

Jane W said that a close relative had spent fourteen hours waiting to be transferred to CrossHouse from Ayr as Ayr didn't have facilities to treat them.

Cllr Henderson said that the GP surgery at Barr is also closing and it will be transferred to Daily. He added that there is a trend of cost saving in the NHS at the moment.

Cllr Henderson suggested writing to all MSPs and MPs. Cllr Clark said that the MSPs appear to be reticent to take these issues forward.

Catherine asked if community councils have a dedicated press representative to help raise pertinent issues with the media. Rhona replied that they do not.

David G suggested liaising with the other community councils. Cllr Henderson concurred with this. David G added that he could contact the Locality Planning Partnerships as well.

£20,000 of funding was received for the Girvan and Maybole food pantries.

Ten of the thirteen defibrillators have been installed. David G said that Boots have quoted an extortionate sum to install one on their premises. Jane J added that the one at the Westciffe will be installed in time for the Girvan Folk Festival.

SW Scotland Community Rail Partnership

New Community Transport Minister will look into the funding for this, but Cllr Henderson said he remains realistic about the prospects of this.

Tourism Group

Jane W said that the AGM was well attended and four new trustees have been elected. Tourist Information Point reopened on the 1st of April 2023 and will be open from 10-3 pm apart from Tuesdays and

Wednesdays. Girvan Community Garden is holding an Easter fair over Easter weekend. A What's on Calendar is now on the [Go Girvan website](#). Tattie Festival will be held on the 17th of June. Stephen asked if there were advertisements to alert visitors to the Tourist Information Point. Jane W replied that there were a number of flags and an 'A' board but conceded that this was an issue. David G said he was going to put banners up at Stumpy but there is scaffolding in place at the moment in order to paint the apex of the building.

Treasurers' Report

Ken said that he has provided all members with a copy of the accounts with a cash book at the back.

He added that SAC used to audit the accounts but this is no longer the case. He added that the auditor's bill last year was £219. Cllr Henderson said that the accounts do not have to be audited by a chartered accountant. Tracy said that this was correct and that she would make some enquiries with other community councils to ask who they use. David G suggested a number of people in good standing within the local community to Ken. Karen suggested that a treasurer of another community group may be suitable.

Ken said that before the allowance can be released SAC now require, up-to-date bank statements, copies of minutes, accounts, a RAG self-assessment analysis and insurance documentation.

Planning Applications:

23 Assel Place.

Sub-station, Ladyburn Works.

27 McCulloch Road, Girvan.

Approved

Brash building, Ladywell Avenue Girvan (land Energy).

130 Dalrymple Street, Girvan.

19 The Avenue.

Licensing applications

None.

Matters arising from correspondence

Various letters regarding the closure of the ICU beds at Ayr Hospital.

Email from Russell Brown stating that the bike racks have not arrived yet but that they should be installed by the end of April 2023.

Discussion over the A77 petition. Cllr Henderson said that there has just been a very detailed economic impact assessment report on the A77/75, funded by multiple local authorities/agencies. He added that the petition has been reopened due to the fact the Cairnryan has been labelled a 'strategic port' by Holyrood and Westminster. Cllr Clark said that he was informed by Stena that Cairnryan was used by 1.7 million foot passengers last year.

Update from local councillors

Cllr Clark:

All weather pitch is now through the design phase.

Liaising with Mike Newall of ARA regarding the Xmas lights for 2023.

Girvan Youth Trust has all the funding required to run the Boating Pond this Summer.

Capital Works are progressing through a programme of improvements at the moment. David G said that the Promenade is looking quite good, he is also concerned about the impact of the recent budget cuts and

Highlighted that the "Hit Squad" who have been undertaking some of the work will have their employment contracts terminated soon and asked the Cllrs if they will be renewed.

Cllr Henderson

Ballantrae and Portpatrick coastguard stations are closing and the equipment is being relocated to Stranraer and Ayr leaving a massive provision (and safety) gap on the coastline. He added that he has contacted Allan Dorrans MP about this. Cllr Henderson said that this is a UK-wide issue and the Coastguard is not funded by the local authority. He added that the only full-time coast guard stations nearest to Girvan are now located in Belfast and Oban.

Ballantrae Food and Drink Festival is to be held in June 2023 and the Girvan Folk Festival will be held at the end of April 2023.

Trying to raise £5000 worth of funds for a Merchant Navy Memorial. David G said that the Assel Valley Fund deadline is the 7th of this month.

Planning for the new Primary School is going ahead and it is expected that there would be a consultation on this in the near future. Related to this, John asked if the heating at the newly built Sacred Heart was being monitored as it would have implications for the new Primary School and its heat pumps.

A.O.C.B.

Ann said that sand and rubble from the Promenade improvements was dumped across the A77 at Bridgemill and that it is an eyesore and staff have knocked down the stone wall at Knockavalley as well. She added that there are still covid testing signs at the former test site as well. Ann asked about the installation of new railings at the Harbour and she hoped that this would not interrupt the summer season.

Noted that the railing at Newton Kennedy is still lying flat.

Karen said that the new lighting installed at Willow Drive and Eldar Avenue is too dark and people are using torches to get to their cars. Cllr Clark said that he would take this issue up.

Ken said that lane from the Tennis Courts to the Bowling Club is impassable when it rains. Rhona asked if the new ramp was installed. Ken said it had been. Related to this, Jane J said that there are youths using the Tennis Courts inappropriately at the moment. Cllr Clark said that he believed the keys were now at Girvan Academy. Stephen said this was done to encourage youths to be more responsible. He added that the Tennis Courts have been locked for two days. Discussion over if the lock has a key or a numerical-mechanical padlock and where the keys were located and if they now even exist.

Ann announced that she would like to retire from the Community Council by June 2023 as she had been a member since 1975. Tracy said that she would liaise with Rhona and Ann about organising this. Ann said that she will submit her resignation at the June 2023 meeting. Community councillors said that they will be very sorry to see Ann leave.

Tracy said that it may be worth having an online bank account rather than signatories for cheques as it was easier to administer.

Agreed that a sub-group will be formed to deal with raising the profile of the ICU closure at Ayr Hospital.

(The meeting ended at 20:45 pm)

Next meeting - Tuesday the 02nd of May 2023 at 7:00 pm