

Barr Community Council

A.G.M.

Minutes

Thursday 8 May 2014 @ 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Mr Hamish Denham (HD), Chair; Mrs Merlin Corbet (MC), Vice Chair, Mr William Dunlop (WD), Treasurer; Mr Alexander Tait (AT); Mr James Gracie (JG); Mr Alasdair Currie (AC)

In Attendance: Mr J Donaldson, Mrs B Donaldson, Cllr Alec Clark (ACk), Mr J Wilson , PC Wales, PC Hendry

<i>Item</i>	<i>Minute</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	Sederunt: as above.	
2	Apologies: Mr Alex Forsyth (AF); Mrs Isabel Kay (IK) (joined meeting at 8.00pm)	
3	<p>Chairman/Secretary Report: HD gave report for 2013-2014: Mr J Leil retired, and HD took over as Secretary, and Mrs J Muir was co-opted onto BCC. Mrs Muir does not want to stand for re-election, leaving one council position vacant. A changeover of local councillor took place, from A Oates to A Clark. The contact that the local councillors provide is invaluable to the Community Council and HD thanked Mr Clark and will also send a thank you to Mr Oates. Liaison with South Ayrshire Council (SAC) and BCC, with the help of the local councillors has been ongoing throughout the year on various issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road safety; where the T Junction at the bottom of Glenginnet Road was reported as a concern, and signage was put in place and road markings were renewed.• Covenanters Grave Stone was taken from the cemetery, but with SAC help was tracked down and will be re-instated in Barr on 21 May.• Dog Fouling complaints were received in large quantities from the community, and more bins and signage have been put in place and the issue is still being addressed.• Roads – the key to the state of the roads being dealt with is the more complaints received, the more likely that work will be carried out. This is an ongoing issue and a new Roads Alliance (South and East Ayrshire Councils) have taken over the maintenance.• Bridge Safety – the bridge at the Clachan has been repaired, and the Stinchar bridge has been reported and work commences 14th May• Refuse Bins – more bins have been installed which will help keep the village clean and tidy.• A Monthly Skip, for use by the community, has been reinstated.• The lack of emptying of refuse bins on the Barr Trails has been rectified and negotiation is taking place re the maintenance of the trails.• We made the Newspaper regarding employing sheep to maintain grassy bank in The Clachan, but are looking into ways of maintain this area not using sheep!• Developing the Carrick Heritage Trail with Barr's contribution being the Sundial. The first phase, the centre, has been completed, and the second phase, where the school will be involved in the helping with the mosaics has begun. The opening is planned for 22 June, which the BBC may cover. <p>The BCC have had various Presentation and Talks throughout the year from: Ailsa Horizons who explained how they can assist with funding.</p>	

	<p>Community Broadband Scotland for increasing the Broadband speed in the village – this is still ongoing.</p> <p>Peter Linton, from Girvan and South Carrick Leisure Centre who showed plans of Girvan Leisure Centre, before the revised plans.</p> <p>We have received regular reports from CCCF, which MC attends and reports back.</p> <p>Over the session the BCC members had plans to do 7 things:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve communication between SAC and the community, which has taken place as we are very engaged with SAC. 2. Develop communication with CF and HHBCF, to allow us to see how the community benefit funds are utilised and what projects are being undertaken. 3. Identify areas within village requiring repair, replacement or refurbishment to allow reporting to SAC, which has included tree and hedge trimming, manhole cover repairs etc. 4. Plan and develop the play park and football ground. The BPDC was set up to develop this and applications for funding were sent to HHCBF and CF as well as a partnership agreement with SAC. We have been assured that funding will be granted, but the final amount or timings have not yet been advised. Hopefully, by next meeting, we should have a positive update and potentially a start date. 5. Plan and deliver Carrick Heritage Trail, which has been achieved. 6. Promote active energy efficiency for the village, at present this has not been advanced a great deal. 7. Support community led initiatives, where possible. This is ongoing. <p>The Clock Tower has been discussed, but needs to be moved forward re the ownership, upkeep and insurance, and this will have to be discussed with BCA and needs to be addressed.</p> <p>BCC have been involved in Windfarm Development meetings, by attending Altercannoch and Tralorg meetings.</p> <p>A community petition was received by BCC, from over ½ the community against Scottish Woodlands planting at Traboyak. This was forwarded to the Forestry Commission and the matter brought to the attention of SAC. Unfortunately in this instance it did not have the desired effect and the planting rights were granted. Small grants were given to nearly every application that was received by BCC. We have had very few negative Police reports over the year, and the reports were mostly farm vehicle thefts.</p> <p>There have been no contentious Open Forum issues. The Open Forum provides a vital opportunity for the community members to bring local issues to the attention of BCC.</p>	
4	<p>Treasurers Report and Annual Audited Statement of Accounts: Attached at Annex A.</p>	
5	<p>Election of Office Bearers: HD handed over Chair to ACK. Chairperson: JG nominated HD, seconded by MC. HD accepted. Vice Chair: HD nominated MC, seconded by AC. MC accepted. Secretary: Left in conveyance – BCC members to look at sharing post. Treasurer: MC nominated WD, seconded by AT. WD accepted on proviso that this would be his last year. Planning Application Representative: MC nominated AC, seconded by AT. AC accepted. HD closed AGM and opened monthly meeting.</p>	
6	<p>No declaration of interest.</p>	
7	<p>Police Report: brought forward to start of meeting: PC Wales reported that no incidents or crimes were recorded in our area. He stated that for non –emergencies call 101, for emergencies call 999 and contact available through Website. There have been fuel and heating oil thefts taking place in surrounding areas, and member of the public to look</p>	

	out for suspicious vehicles in the area. MC asked about the quad bikes, but nothing local had been reported. JW said that Crosshill, Knockeen & Pinvalley had incidents and that a blue transit minibus was used. PC Wales asked that the vehicle registration or even a description of the vehicle to be reported to the police. HD stated that an Agenda and copy of Minutes would be sent to Police Scotland as this was a valuable input to the BCC meetings. HD has e-mail address.	HD
8	Minutes of:	
8a	The previous meeting of the Community Council held on 10 April 2014 were agreed as accurate. Proposed by MC and seconded by AT.	
8b	Altercannoch: AT reported that next meeting would take place in the Autumn.	
	MC and HD attended Tralorg Windfarm meeting, to discuss where and how to deliver the benefit funding. A new model was discussed that would accept funding under new guidelines using Community Development Companies as the vehicle based on demographics and Barr said this would be their preferred method. No start date was given, but it would be a 9 month build. Minutes will be received from meeting in due course. A "Good Practice for Community Development Funds for Communities" has been published.	
9	Matters Arising from the minutes:	
	<i>Item 6 (6):</i> MC has been in contact with Rachel Shipley, who is willing to have a partnership agreement to maintain Barr Trails. The only agreement at present is for the Fairy Knowe Trail. SAC have agreed to meet with landowners to ask permission to access their land to be able to maintain the trails. MC asked for names to forward to SAC. ACK will get the name of a landowner on part of Barr to Girvan trail.	MC ACK
	<i>Item 6 (15g):</i> Subsidence at Pyannot has been dealt with to a degree.	
	<i>Item 6 (8c):</i> HD received communication from a resident on Windy Row stating that the person responsible for moving car wing mirrors had been identified and this has now stopped. The incident had not been reported to the police.	
	<i>Item 6:</i> Drainage still requires to be fixed. ACK will look into this.	ACK
	<i>Item 15g:</i> The irresponsible dog owners: ACK reported that one owner has been visited. MC stated that she has said that the dog officer will visit again.	
	<i>Item 15h:</i> The Covenanters Head Stone will now be reinstalled on 21 st May. MC has asked Rev McLachlan if he wants to attend, but has had no reply as yet.	
10	Treasurers Report – as above.	
11	Correspondence:	
11a	Straiton Willow Wind Meeting to be held in Kings Arms, Barr on 15 th May at 7.00pm	
11b	Tralorg – meeting as above.	
11c	Hydro Day at Castle Douglas on 13 th May – Energy Efficiency Projects.	
11d	Letter from a resident outwith Barr Parish re: petition to legalise Medical Cannabis. HD will reply to say that this is outwith the scope of BCC..	HD
12	HHCBF Report: WD reported that HHCBF looking into VAT payments. HD stated SAC had informed BPDC that we could not go through SAC to purchase play park equipment as this may be deemed as avoidance. A specialist charitable VAT accountant has been hired by HHCBF and this is holding up the funding release. Charitable status for the BPDC to be investigated.	
13	Carrick Futures Report: no report as meeting to be held in May, but AC stated that the hospital project is progressing. AC asked about the shortfall of the play park funding and HD replied that the £20,800 shortfall was now £16,000 and would re-write to CF and HHCBF requesting assistance in meeting the shortfall.	
14	BPDC: MC will be sending out letters at the weekend, re: membership.	MC
15	CCCF Report: MC reported that meeting postponed until June. ACK explained that this	

	was due to a lot of apologies being received. HD appealed to councillors to backup MC at the meetings. IK volunteered as well as WD if required. HD thanked IK and WD as it is useful for BCC to get information from other community councils.	
16	Planning Applications: AC has e-mailed all relevant plans to BCC members. HD will e-mail Marie Welsh with all new office bearers and planning application representative.	HD
17	Funding Applications: No applications received. IK asked if Barr Teas could put in an application for tablecloths as Barr Tearoom had done this in the past. It was agreed that an application would be considered. WD stated his concern over groups requesting funding, but not spending the funds on the projects asked for. This was discussed further, and post project reports may be implemented.	
18	Open Forum: brought forward earlier in meeting:- Mr Donaldson asked why Eileen Howat of SAC was not at the meeting. HD explained that she would be at the June meeting. Mr Wilson asked for clarification on why the BCDC had been replaced with the BPDC. HD explained that due to a number of Directors leaving BCDC which was a dormant company and after numerous requests for the remaining two Directors to appoint the new Community Council Members as Directors it was decided after discussion at a BCC meeting that it would be easier and quicker to set up a new company. Mr Wilson asserted that funds had been wasted in setting up a new company. HD reported that the setup costs for BPDC had been a fraction of those spent on the set up of BCDC and that the consensus of members at the time was that the positives vastly outweighed the negatives in terms of moving the Play Park application process forward for the benefit of the whole community. JW was satisfied with this reply.	
19	A.O.C.B.	
19a	HD reported that the Hadyard Hill extension exhibition took place and was very well attended. The next meeting will be in approx. 9-12 months. MC had asked for "comments" forms and will make these available in the village shop. She asked that everyone fill these out and get the word out for as many people as possible to comment. It is hoped to make these available on the Website as well.	MC
19b	HD stated that the Small Grant top-up was to be made available, which will allow BCC to continue to distribute small grants.	
19c	HD will refresh the Notice to Co-opt a new council member.	HD
19d	IK asked if the police had mentioned the vehicle theft at Pinvalley & Knockeen. They had said there was no report, but IK stated that it had been reported.	
19e	AC said that Bob Murison from Community Broadband Scotland has informed him that Barr would not be updated until 2017. He has offered to come back to a BCC meeting. It was discussed and agreed that AC to ask him to write with possible options for Barr to take forward.	AC
19f	AT thanked CF for supporting the Play Park. He stated that Ailsa Horizons had taken £400-500 for their specialist support but would be receiving an answer in 2/3 days time.	
19g	WD asked what the BPDC had been working on, apart from securing the playpark funding. IK replied that securing the funding has taken a lot of people's time and has been hours and hours of hard work. MC explained that they were also looking at purchasing Dinmurchie House, surrounding buildings and immediate land, and are in discussion with the Forestry about this. The next steps are to ask members, which is approx. 75% of the villagers, to consider options, take a ballot, then apply for funding for the purchase. BPDC will consider applying to the Scottish Land Fund for this, and are awaiting a reply from the national Forest Land Scheme re a timetable. HD stated that overall the BPDC is to become a vehicle to benefit the whole community and could	

	possibly be a place for future benefit funds.	
	HD thanked all the BCC for their hard work over the last year, and AR for taking the minutes.	
20	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm. The next meeting will be held on 12 June 2014.	