Community Council Meeting

Date: 8th July 2025 Location: Cove Burgh Hall, Small Hall

**Note that the original Agenda item 16 on planning was moved to earlier in the meeting by consensus.**

**It was also agreed to take the discussion on Craigrownie parking earlier in the meeting.**

1. Fire Alarms and Housekeeping
2. Present

John Auld (Convenor), Kenny Barlas, Ellen McVey, Ali Mills, Sheelagh O’Reilly (Secretary), James McLean, Anne Strachan

2 members of the public including one press.

1. Apologies

Susannah Conran, Nick Davies, Derek Fowlis, Kathy Gostick, Sheena Lamont, Lynda MacKenzie, Christine Murdoch

Cllr Corry, Cllr Irvine, Cllr Paterson

1. Declaration of interest (financial and non-financial interests)

DoI table (see below) circulated and updated. Note the following changes as the structure of OC has changed following restructuring of the RPWCDT.

* OC no longer has a Steering Group or Management Group
* Ali Mills is now a Director of the RPWCDT

John Auld (Convenor): As the convenor I have had discussions with the Governance Officer at Argyll and Bute Council regarding my ownership of land that is identified for possible development in LDP2. LDP2 forms part of Argyll and Bute Council’s statutory plans for the area and has now been adopted by them. As the landowner for one parcel of land I would follow the current guidance on Declarations of Interest and would not chair the section of any CC meeting dealing with issues specific to that parcel of land.

James McLean re Auchengower (personal complaint)

Anne Strachan planning generally but including specific reference to Auchengower and Knockderry.

1. Police Report

* Report circulated(attached) but no police representative present.
* Concern raised around increase in thefts and damage locally (from Sailing Club, trade & recreational buildings and households). Secretary to write to the Police to review options for a local event around household and business premise security.
* Concern was also raised in the meeting about the speed of vehicles along Shore Road

1. Minutes of the CC meetings as follows:

* Agreement of AGM Minutes from the 10th June 2025 to be adopted at the 2026 AGM - Noted as correct.
* Agreement of Minutes from 10th June 2025 agreed and signed (Proposed Ellen McVey / Kenny Barlas).
* No items identified which are not on the agenda.

1. Convenor

* Argyll & Bute Council Proposed Amendments to the 2022-2026 Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils (particularly Appendix 5 re administrative grants). CC submitted response and this has been circulated to members.
* Changes to the Democratic Service Team (email forwarded to CC) noted.
* Public Liability Insurance – issue of need for risk assessments to be undertaken e.g. when installing notice boards / benches. Meetings in CBH covered by their Public Liability Insurance. **Secretary was requested to:**
  + to establish if there is a required template (post meeting circulated as well as link to guidance - [Search Results | Zurich Municipal](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.zurich.co.uk%2Fmunicipal%2Fsearch-results%3Fk%3Dskate&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cf8f855f2d3054c2c434808ddb25fcc8f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638862846772685647%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3OoN2VKpEM2HCXh0k7H9hsp1OLcdIvxB93O%2BsLI2L2s%3D&reserved=0) ).
  + Confirm whether or not people completing the guidance need formal training (beyond the guidance provided by Zurich) or does the acceptance of the Risk Assessment by Zurich provide the necessary approval by an authorized person.
  + Additionally the Secretary was asked to clarify if the Public Liability insurance covered insurance for members of the CC carrying out their duties e.g. if one CC member sued another around a specific element of Community Council business.
* Playpark: awaiting confirmation of procurement outcome.
* Public bin emptying: This is a problem, especially during the summer. Small bins and mixed waste – including dog poop – means bins that are not emptied regularly quickly become rank. **Secretary to write to A&B Council regarding the policy / schedule for bin emptying, especially in the summer when operatives are likely to be on leave.**
* Cllr Corry indicated in a pre-meeting email new works for Barbour Cemetery are planned but no details are available.
* The CC noted that it is not being notified of a number of matters by A&B Council. These include:
  + Short term closure of key facilities by A&B Council e.g. village car park. Related matter here is what ‘benefit’ comes to the village from A&B Council fees for filming etc.?
  + Short term letting notices do not come under weekly planning notifications? Are the CC a ‘statutory consultee’ for this type of application?
  + Road closures that could affect Cove & Kilcreggan and other areas in Helensburgh & Lomond. Recently no notifications received by email for onward notification of residents.

**Secretary requested to write to A&B Council seeking clarification on these issues so that the CC can communicate effectively with local residents.**

* 20 mph – developments within A&B Council? No update available – concern that the decisions will be made without any local consultation. Cc to continue to track this issue.
* Geology walk: The CC extended their appreciation to those who organized the event. .
* Helensburgh Strategic Planning re base expansion / house building on green belt etc. Convenor attended the meeting. C&K CC will continue to monitor the development (housing, roads, social facilities etc.) and the implications for C&K.

1. Treasurer

* Report for July circulated prior to the meeting (attached)
* A&B Council administrative grant received (£626.60). It was noted that this is more than the current proposal under Appendix 5 of the Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils that is out for consultation.
* Grant to the Beer Festival agreed at the last meeting will be paid this month.
* GDPR registration. Agreed to take forward despite large cost (legally required as a data controller). **Secretary asked to send a letter to the team considering the ‘Scheme’ to see if this type of payment should not be covered by A&B Council in one overarching agreement rather than from scarce CC funds.**

1. Planning Applications (details of applications on A&B website) (note this was moved from original position in the agenda).

* Update on Fish Farm appeal. No update.
* Giants Burn. No update.
* Communications with / from A&B Planning Department and agreement of CC ‘position’:
  + **Auchengower 25/00516/PP .** As now more than 10 objections, and a request from the CC on the ‘principle’ this will now go to the Planning Committee.
  + **Ardpeaton 24/01321/PP .** JM raised the issue of whether it is possible to require a developer to talk with the community during the planning process. This has already been raised in correspondence with A&B Council and no response to date. There are also risks that time is spent on this, the developer gets permission and promptly sells the land (as per land near Kilcreggan Medical Practice). **Secretary will again raise this issue with A&B Council to promote engagement with local community.**
  + **Knockderry re work.** Concerns over flooding etc by land work ongoing. An Enforcement notice is in place. Secretary will request an update prior to the next meeting, but it is again a property / land owner not following planning requirements – including those of the Conservation Area. Enforcement of regulations is vital to facilitate orderly management.

1. Community and Household Emergency Planning update

CC thanked the convenor for placement of two bags of sand at the Fire station. Purchase of appropriate bags will be undertaken.

Wider work on business continuity / tourist business risks etc will be undertaken over the summer.

1. Ferry and Pier (ND)

* No change regarding the Pier / Ferry.
* The CC noted that Christine Murdoch has now been accepted as a member of the Cal Mac Ferries Community Board.

1. Roads / Paths / Lighting / Drainage etc

* **Tigh Dearg** – update. Cllr Corry almost completed with Snagging List underway. Work above Argyll Road in progress and connection dates to be advised. Ongoing hopeful completion by September.
* **School Road** update (Cllr Corry). No work to date on right angled bend. To be included in the next ‘works list’ update.
* **Craigrownie parking issues:**  Input from residents regarding parking. Petition was sent to A&B Council following last meeting. Issues around loss of parking spaces / disabled parking. Community want to examine options regarding use of land and parking. Key points:
  + **Abandoned (?**) caravan in front of garages. JM to forward the phone number for Craig Callaghan (A&BC) regarding formal notification process for removal of this abandoned property.
  + **Possible options & process for increasing parking in / around Craigrownie e.**g.
    - Use of land next to the BT installation? What options might there be for community ownership? Suggested an issue for the RPWCDT (especially as currently looking to take over Red Phone Boxes) and the CC asked Ali Mills (Director of RPWCDT) to discuss with the RPWCDT around their interest and she agreed to make enquiries.
    - Other land that could be assigned for parking to make up for the 4 parking bays currently removed by A&B Council? Grassland above Craigrownie? Below Craigrownie – to include electric hook-ups? To be taken up by the community with A&B Council / MSP and elected councillors to ensure an effective consultation process on parking in this area. To include the specific issue of disabled parking bays.
* **Drainage:** Gulleys, ditches and regular maintenance to minimize including plan (not yet made available to the CC) . Sewage near Old Tennis Courts? (Post meeting note – phone call from A&B Council and seeking short / long term options with a site meeting on the 17th July).
* **Overhanging trees / mossy pavements.** To include specific issue of South Ailey Road (overhanging trees / clearing of roads and pavements) and issues with encroachment onto pavements (hedges / weeds….) - to be added to works list.
* **Kilcreggan Shelter** repair (Cllr Corry). A&B Council now accepted that they ‘own’ site and are working on repair.
* **‘Works’ List update** sent to A&B Council. Will be updated regularly. Members to sent issues to the Secretary in writing for inclusion.
* **Street Furniture (Benches, Notice Boards, Phone boxes etc)**.
  + **Application for funding for bench at Cove**. Decision likely in September.
  + **Notice boards to be delivered to ND next week**. Will require a working party to assist putting them in place. Risk assessment for installation required if undertaken under the CC insurance policy.
  + **Red phone - from RPWCDT (Tom Walker) re application to BTresult is due in August 2025.** .

1. Licensing – no issues raised
2. Communications

* Website funding: JM identifying sources of funding. Secretary asked if the current lotter grant managed by RPWCDT could be assigned to the CC website (in all or part). JM to check.

1. Community Council Planning Policy

* A Director of C&K Trust (and CC member) indicated no update on this issue. Will chase up following the meeting.
* Correspondence with JBailey / SG re planning and change of ownership circulated to all CC members. Tracking of changes of ownership in relation to extant planning cannot be done through the planning system but through the Land Registry.
* CC agreed that JM should prepare a short note around Community Benefit (from development in A&B Council) for the CC information. That may provide the basis for consideration of possible ‘applications’ for support e.g. bridge from Fairfield to the Youth Café.

1. Update on Our Community Project

Our Community update from the new chair of the RPW-CDT

“In advance of tonight's CC meeting I thought it might be useful to provide a brief update on the Our Community Work and, more widely the Development Trust.

In terms of the Trust, Murdo, Malcolm and Anne have decided to step down after over 15 years of invaluable commitment. The Trust will be a lesser place without them. However we have taken steps to revitalise the board membership. As well as the continuing directors we have invited Ali Mills and Christine Menhennet on as directors and Paul Munro has returned. I am taking over from Murdo as Chair.

As a Trust we have agreed that, going forward, all activity, be it LPP related or otherwise, will be delivered under the banner of Our Community.

We have secured a further year of funding from CEIS to continue the excellent work carried out be the various OC Working Groups. Our primary focus using this funding is to create a Delivery Plan with specific projects fleshed out which have indicative costings and timescales. Each project will be aligned to the LPP and will seek, where possible, to identify opportunities for cross Working Group synergy. Our aim is to have that plan in place before the end of this calendar year at the latest.

The Community Lottery is also growing in size. We have already donated £2,000 to the Youth Cafe and have chosen the Scout Group as the next club we are going to support with a further £2,000. We are over £700 toward that target. “

The Secretary informed the Chair of the RWPCDT of the date of the next meeting (9th September) and it is hoped he will be able to attend.

* Following an email based ‘no-objection’ process the Secretary sent a support letter to the OC Green Group for their application for funding of a Polycrub for the Cove Community Garden site.

1. Any Other Competent Business (**To be notified to the Chair 48 hrs prior to the meeting )**

The CC agreed to approach the HMNB Clyde re inputs into Community Council meetings given the proposed changes in personnel numbers. Additional issue raised around PFAS and possible pollution from foam used in firefighting.

1. Date of Next Meeting 9 September 2025. Also note start time of 1915.

**C&K Community Council: Declaration of Interest in relation to trusteeship, directorship, membership of bodies** **that may have a bearing on CC agenda items**.

Amended following meeting of 8th July 2025 and modifications to the RPWCDT structure for management of OC.

|  | **Community Councillor Name** | **RPW-CDT Director** | **OC Working Group (Name)** | **Cove and Kilcreggan Trust Director** | **CBH Director** | **Professional or business group** | **OTHER – name organisation** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | John Auld |  | Business |  |  | NFU | KVA |
| 2 | Kenny Barlas |  |  |  |  | Taxi |  |
| 3 | Susannah Conran |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Nick Davies |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | Derek Fowlis |  | Business |  |  |  | Creggans |
| 6 | Kathy Gostick |  | Green |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Sheena Lamont |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | Lynda McKenzie |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | James McLean |  | X | X |  |  |  |
| 10 | Ali Mills | X | Arts / Green |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | Christine Murdoch |  |  |  |  | Minister Craigrownie Church |  |
| 12 | Ellen McVey |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | Sheelagh O’Reilly |  |  |  |  |  | C&K RNLI  KVA |
| 14 | Anne Strachan |  | Green |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | Vacant |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | Vacant |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **INSERT NAME** | **Community Council** |
| **Dates covered by this report:** | **01/05/25 – 01/07/25** |
| **Location:** | **Cove and Kilcreggan** |
| **Reporting Officer:** | **PC Cameron Macpherson** |
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| Number of calls to police | Between the dates of 01/05/25 – 01/07/25, there have been a total of 15 calls to the Police from the Cove and Kilcreggan area. |

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| **Local Policing Priority** | | **Local Good News** | | **How can you help?** | |
| A blue rectangles with white text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | | Cowal, Bute & Helensburgh benefits from a dedicated Pro-active Serious and Organised Crime Team (SOCT). These specialist officers are supported by dedicated intelligence officers in tackling serious and organised crime in our communities.  We have been upskilling officers across Argyll ensuring they understand and appreciate the importance of community intelligence and information. This information is key are often results in the targeting of those involved in the sale and supply of controlled drugs. | | Community information is key for us and may just provide us with the last piece of evidence required to apply to the courts for a warrant.  We encourage our communities to share concerns and suspicions around drug dealing either by calling 101 or by reporting anonymously via Crimestoppers 0800 555 111  [Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org)](https://crimestoppers-uk.org/about-the-charity/crimestoppers-in-scotland) 0800 555 111 | |
| A blue rectangular rectangles with white text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | | Acquisitive crime remains a local priority. Figures across the country are on an upward trajectory, which in part is a result of the cost-of-living crisis. We are working with our Preventions team looking at maximising our crime prevention opportunities and looking at innovative ways to increase local awareness.  We are working with our communities to identify areas of vulnerability where we can engage with our partners to maximise our response.  In Helensburgh Our community policing officers are engaging with local businesses in the retail sector to reduce shoplifting. Officers are taking ownership by identifying those responsible, collating information and seeking bail conditions restricting access by the perpetrators.  In the area of Kilcreggan and Cove housebreakings and suspect persons is still a priority for Police Scotland, and investigations are still ongoing with incidents already reported. We are still prioritising extra attention to the area, and will frequently carry out patrols throughout the day, and provide a higher visibility to the area to deter criminals frequenting the area. | | Your local police would like for your Community Council to help us by following us on our social media channels and help us spread crime prevention advice and guidance.  Security could be improved by simply installing security lighting and or CCTV, by doing so this gives an extra barrier to stop potential housebreakers from entering your homes.  We would also like you to report any suspicious behaviour you see in your local community.  Call us on 101 or visit our website to report any incidents or 999 if incidents are ongoing and require our immediate attention | |
| **Local Policing Priority** | | **Local Good News** | | **How can you help?** | |
| A blue rectangular sign with white text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | | Across Helensburgh and Lomond we very much understand public concerns in relation to road safety. We are committed to reducing road deaths by targeting the 5 main causes of fatal road accidents. These include speeding, being unfit to drive through drink or drugs, failure to wear seatbelts and driver distraction. Our officers will continue to pro-actively engage through enforcement and education.  We very much welcome the new average speed cameras on the A82 at Luss and the safety cameras in Cardross and hope these cameras positively influence driver behaviour and decision making.  Local police officers will be out and about the Helensburgh and Lomond area carrying out speed checks and we will be increasing our engagement with drivers, focusing on road safety. | | We would like to know any areas of concerns in the local area that you feel would benefit with our presence in regards to speeding.  Your local police would like for your Community Council to help us with ensuring Road Safety by reporting anyone who is suspected of drink or drug driving within your community or any vehicle speeding/driving carelessly, this can be done either in person via 101 or via crime stoppers online:  [Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org)](https://crimestoppers-uk.org/about-the-charity/crimestoppers-in-scotland) 0800 555 111 | |
| A blue rectangles with white text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | | Violent crime continues to be closely monitored and reviewed with investigations being resourced across Local Policing Teams and the Criminal Investigation Department.  Each crime is subject of daily review and scrutiny and thereafter allocated to the most appropriate department to progress to assist in identification of repeat victims, offenders and locations. Any emerging issues and risks are shared, and appropriate actions identified  Across Helensburgh and Lomond, we continue to support our nighttime economy by providing a visible presence in our licensed premises. Weekend policing plans allow us to maximise our efforts across our towns as we look for opportunities to reduce early signs of anti-social behaviour which may escalate into violence. We often work with partners to maximise our presence.  In Helensburgh the Royal Navy Police continue to attend shift meetings learning about priority tasking and supporting local policing across the town. | | Your local police would like for your Community Council to help us with tackling Violent Crime by reporting any ASB or community concerns either in person via 101 or via crime stoppers online:  [Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org)](https://crimestoppers-uk.org/about-the-charity/crimestoppers-in-scotland) 0800 555 111 | |
| A blue rectangular sign with white text  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | | Throughout the summer months, we have been engaging with partners across various organisations to consider how we can work together more efficiently to tackle the seasonal Anti-Social Behaviour that we often see.  We have a team of 3 Local Community Officers who work from Helensburgh who are the eyes and ears for the local community. They aim to:   * Build positive relationships with local business and community. * Engage with and support night-time community * Robust ASB plans at the weekend * Not solely for the town centre and will ask them to patrol small villages across area   Fraud Prevention  Frauds and scams continue to be a focus as offences are still being reported on a regular basis, and we would welcome invites from any community groups or organisations in the Helensburgh and Lomond area who feel they could benefit from an input from our preventions team. | | Your local police would like for your Community Council to help us with helping Public Protection by reporting any concerns you may have regarding potential victims of Domestic Abuse or vulnerable persons, who may be being exploited or who may just need additional crime prevention support to us either in person or anonymous | |

*Useful Links/Contacts*

* **Argyll and Bute Communtiy Directory** - <https://abcd.scot/> including warm spaces information
* **Crimestoppers** – [Crimestoppers in Scotland | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org)](https://crimestoppers-uk.org/about-the-charity/crimestoppers-in-scotland) 0800 555 111
* **Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime** – [www.scottishparc.co.uk](http://www.scottishparc.co.uk)
* **Women’s Aid -** [Home - Women's Aid (womensaid.org.uk)](https://www.womensaid.org.uk/)
* **Citizens Advice** – 0808 164 6000
* **Argyll and Bute Council Trading Standards** – 01546 605 519
* **Argyll and Bute Council** – <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-council/how-contact-us>
* **Transport Scotland** – road related incidents and road closures - <https://www.traffic.gov.scot/traffic-information/incidents>
* **Scottish Water -** [https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/Help-and-Resources/Contact-Us 0800 0778 778](https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/Help-and-Resources/Contact-Us%200800%200778%20778)
* **NHS24 (including mental health support) –** 111 or <https://www.nhsinform.scot/>

*Follow us on Social Media and help share loacl appeals and education messages*

* Facebook - Police Scotland Argyll and West Dunbartonshire
* X (formerly Twitter) – PSOSArgyllBute and PSOS ArgWestDunb

Sign up to Neighbourhood Watch to receive local alerts and bulletins for your community area - <https://neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/#0>

Have your say on your local policing priorities - <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/strategy-insight-and-innovation/your-police-2023-2024/>

We are here to help

Dial 999 for an emergency that requires urgent police attention.

For non-emergency contact call the 24- hour non-emergency contact centre on 101.

If you have information about a crime in your area and wish to provide it anonymously, call Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111.

If you have any concerns or issues you wish to discuss, you can contact your local Community Policing Team by phoning 101.

For more detailed information about your local Community Policing team and other services that Police Scotland provides, please visit our website at www.scotland.police.uk

If you would like this information in an alternative format or language, please phone us on 101 to discuss your needs. Service users who are deaf or have a hearing impairment can contact Police Scotland via Next Generation Text (NGT) on 18001, 101 for non-emergency, or 18000 in an emergency.

Meaningful and effective engagement involves genuine dialogue, respect, integrity, transparency and accountability. It provides an opportunity for people to shape our services and influence decisions made. Insight from effective engagement helps identify practical solutions and determine changes required to meet the needs of the communities we serve.

Police Scotland is committed to continuous improvement in all that we do. If you have something to tell us about our service, please contact us at Police Scotland – Contact Us.

Further information about our wider engagement can be found in our Engagement Hub. https://consult.scotland.police.uk/

Police Scotland has a number of active social media channels that provide a range of information and insight into policing, both nationally and in your local area. A full list of our social media accounts can be found on our website. Our local channels can be found at:

Twitter: Argyll and Bute Police

Facebook: Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Police Division

Please note that our social media channels are not monitored 24/7 and should not be used for reporting crime. Please dial 999 in an emergency, and 101 in a non-emergency situation.

Please Contact the officer below with any feedback or concerns raised at the meeting for further considerations or police action.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Report Completed by | PC Cameron Macpherson |
| Contact | [cameron.macpherson@scotland.police.uk](mailto:cameron.macpherson@scotland.police.uk) |

Finance Report – July 2025

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AI-generated content may be incorrect.