

CARDROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

GEILSTON HALL

ON MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025

AT 8.00 P.M.

WELCOME

Patrick Trust (Convener) welcomed all present. He reminded everyone that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of taking minutes. After approval of the minutes, the recording is destroyed.

PRESENT

Patrick Trust (Convener), Lindsey Young (Vice Convener), Brian Craven (Treasurer), Alice Cook, Rob Irving, Alasdair MacCuish, Heather Munro, Bob Murray, Christine Nevin, Councillor Paul Kennedy, PC Kierran Cameron (Police Scotland) and 13 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

Duncan Stirling (Secretary), Simone McLeod, Caroline McNair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Patrick said that he is a **Community Member of the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership** and **Secretary of the Geilston Hall Management Committee**.

Alasdair said that he is the **Chairperson of the Geilston Hall Management Committee**.

Heather Munro said that she is a member of **Cardross CAN**.

Lindsey Young said that she is a member of **Cardross CAN** and the community engagement officer for **Argyll and Bute Climate Action Network** for the **Helensburgh and Lomond Area and Cardross**.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD BY CARDROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON 20 JANUARY 2025.

On page 3, line 3, and line 4, amend "Peel Street" to "Reay Avenue".

On page 4, under DATE OF NEXT MEETING, amend "March" to "February"

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by **Brian Craven** and seconded by **Bob Murray**.

POLICE REPORT

PC Kierran Cameron said that there was an increased police presence in Cardross last month. There were several vehicle stops, resulting in, no insurance, drugs charges and someone who was being arrested, tried to escape from the police. There was **telephone fraud** activity involving an elderly gentleman, who nearly gave away £3000.

The works traffic lights around the village, have resulted in a few "bumps". This probably helped increase the police presence. **PC Cameron** said that police had attended 6 road traffic accidents.

SCHOOL REPORT

Patrick said that there was no school report this month.

CYCLE TRACK

Christine said that there is not much to update the meeting on. The Cycle Path Action Group will meet before the **Helensburgh and Lomond Committee Meeting** on 11 March. The Action Group hope to assess progress so far. **Christine** said that **Hannah Carmichael (a Production journalist with STV)** had been in touch with community councils asking if there were stories or talking points affecting people in their areas. **Christine** proposed that we contact her and discuss the cycle track issues. **Patrick** agreed with **Christine's** suggestion and proposed that **Flooding in Cardross** should be included as a topic. The meeting agreed that **Hannah Carmichael** should be contacted.

MATTERS ARISING

Burns Supper: **Patrick** said that the Burns Supper which was held in the Geilston Hall on 31 January 2025, went well. **Isla Hunter** from **P6** addressed the haggis in a brilliant manner. **Jaz Bance** did a slightly shortened, but nonetheless great version of Tam O' Shanter.

Car Park at Newsagents: **Patrick** said that the caravan is still in the car park. **Bob** asked if the previous prohibition sign, which has been removed, could be replaced with an Argyll and Bute sign. There is nothing to stop the car park becoming a caravan park. **Councillor Kennedy** will pursue it.

Road Drains: **Patrick** said there is definitely a blockage outside this hall.

Cardross Station: **Patrick** said that the matter of staffing the station is still ongoing.

Main Road Garage: **Patrick** said it is interesting that **Alan Scott** has returned to work in the garage that he used to run. It has now been refurbished

Proposed MOT Garage behind Lomond Soaps: The building does not seem to have been progressed.

Cardross Library: **Patrick** said that the library has now re-opened.

Street Lighting Failure in Church Ave.: **Patrick** said that the new cable from the church to Reay Avenue, has been completed. Work to repair the lighting cable is still ongoing.

Visitor Levy: **Patrick** said that there is a meeting on Thursday 20 March in Victoria Halls in Helensburgh. Drop in time is between 16.00 and 19.00. There is a Webinar online on Thursday 3 April 2025.

Sawmill: **Patrick** said that he has not yet written about the sawmill.

The Paddock at Ardoch: **Patrick** said that the area has been cleared recently.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was detailed.

PLANNING

Rob said that there are no new planning applications.

1. With regard to **CALA's** appeal regarding flooding, **Rob** thanked **Christine** and **Norman** for giving the **Reporter** access to all of the information provided at the June meeting with the Council. He thanked **Christine** for her very detailed response from the Community

Council to the **Reporter**. The **Reporter** will make an unaccompanied site visit at some point in the future.

2. **Taylor Wimpey. Rob** said that the closing date for objections has passed. There are 46 letters of objection on the website. **Lindsey** said that the planning portal had been down before the time for objection was reached and objections can still be made. **Rob** said there were 8 expressions of support. They appeared on 13 February, all at the same time. They gave no detailed reasons for their support. 6 came from Helensburgh, one was from Dumbarton and the other was from Hawick in the Scottish Borders. **Rob** quoted from this objection as follows:- "I support the proposal as the attractive homes would tie in with the aesthetic of the area"
Patrick read from a letter advising against a housing estate on this site. The letter was given to him by **Elsbeth Gibb** and was written by **Adrian Naznean Lecturer PhD** George Emil Palade University of Targu Mures in Romania It read as follows:-

*"To whom it may concern. As noted by illustrious scholars, such as Alan Davies, in his book A.J. Cronin, the man who created Dr. Finlay or Francis Gerard Dunn's masterpiece entitled AJ Cronin's career in fiction with specific reference to **The Citadel** and the consequential foundation of the **National Health Service**. The world famous doctor turned novelist, was born in the idyllic village of Cardross. With the house where he was born, still standing today in such a picturesque location, an urbanisation plan in the neighbourhood, would only diminish the unparalleled value that the place has for researchers, avid readers of **Cronin** or tourists stopping by the place of origin of one of the greatest Scottish novelists. On my visit to Cardross, when finishing my doctoral thesis on Cronin and his **Citadel**, I found the place to carry such emotional significance and inspiration to me, that to see it surrounded by other houses and to see the landscape altered and spoiled, would bring me much sorrow. As such, I express my dissatisfaction with the urbanisation plan, in a place which has such great historical value, that should be exploited in a different manner, RESPECTFULLY."*

Rob suggested waiting until we see what materialises, before corresponding further with Planning.

HEALTH

Patrick said that he is dismayed to report that **Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board** wish to close the **Minor Injuries Unit** at the **Vale of Leven Hospital** from 8pm until 8am. They say it is to bring us in line with **Stobhill** and the **Victoria**. No Minor Injuries Units in Glasgow stay open overnight. This means the A& E departments are even busier.

Patrick and **Jackie Bailie MSP** have arranged a meeting with the new Chief Executive and are hoping she can be made to see sense.

CARDROSS CAN GROUP

Heather said they are looking forward to the event in Geilston on 8 March 2025 from 1pm until 3.30pm.

LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Lindsey said that the survey closed at the end of January. In February, 48 children in the primary school completed their survey. There are focus group sessions that are happening in the next couple of weeks. There is a low response to the survey from 12 to 24 year olds and attempts are being made to rectify this. In the church hall, on Sunday 23 February, between 2 and 4, there will be an adult focus group looking at the four lowest scores in the 14 subjects. At the end of March, there will be a "how did we do" session.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Parking at Pharmacy: **Patrick** said that he has been asking for a 1 hour time restriction at the Post Office, the Newsagent and the Pharmacy over a period of 10 years. **The Council** have not yet responded to his request. **Councillor Kennedy** said that he will pursue the matter.

CCC Finances: **Brian** said we had £1000 grant from Argyll and Bute Council. Some of the money will have to be “**ring fenced**” to help with the cost of preparing a **Local Place Plan**. We have £1412 in the CCC account. Payments were made as follows:-
Website subscription - £138.00,
Information Commissioner - £40.00
Flyers for the Cardross Plan - £165.00
The annual payment for the website will be £172.00, Google £60.00 per annum, Hall rent is around £300.00. There are costs for Beach Clean and Remembrance day wreath
Annual spend will be around £650.00 and annual income is £700.00.

Playpark Roundabout: **A member of the public** asked when the roundabout in the children’s play area in the park at Church Avenue, was going to be repaired. It has been out of action for about a year. **Patrick** said that he will write to the chairman of the **Cardross Trust** and ask why it has not been repaired.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 17 March 2025 at 8.00pm in the Geilston Hall. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Convener.