

CARDROSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

GEILSTON HALL

ON MONDAY 17 MARCH 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), Duncan Stirling (Secretary), Alice Cook, Rob Irving, Alasdair MacCuish, Heather Munro, Bob Murray, Christine Nevin, Councillor Paul Kennedy, and 26 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

Brian Craven (Treasurer), Simone McLeod, Caroline McNair, PC Kierran Cameron (Police Scotland).

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 17 FEBRUARY 2025.

On Page 3, line 9, amend the word "objection" to the word "support".

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by **Christine Nevin** and seconded by **Alasdair MacCuish**.

POLICE REPORT

Patrick read from a report submitted by **PC Kierran Cameron**. He said that compared to last month, there have been no significant reports in Cardross.

SCHOOL REPORT

Patrick said that there was no school report this month.

MATTERS ARISING

Car Park at Newsagents: **Patrick** said that, at the moment, we cannot stop it being a caravan or trailer park. **Councillor Kennedy**, said that he had emailed **Patrick** with ways of going about obtaining signage.

- Road Drains:** **Patrick** said that a number of road drains are still blocked. **Councillor Kennedy** said that he had sent a report to the appropriate officer.
- Proposed MOT Garage behind Lomond Soaps:** **Patrick** said that work has started on the new garage.
- Cardross Library:** **Patrick** said that the library has re-opened and he is pleased that the opening time on Tuesday has been extended to 18:30. **Patrick** said that the libraries in **Tiree**, **Cardross** and the mobile library on **Iona**, are down for closure next year. **Councillor Kennedy** said that the Council are reducing budgets every year. **Patrick** said that we will have to do everything we can, to prevent the closure of our library. It should not be removed from the “warm places” in the village.
- Street Lighting Failure in Church Ave.:** **Duncan** said that the lights are now on in **Church Avenue** and **Reay Avenue**. The service has improved so much, that the lights are on 24 hours a day.
- Sawmill:** **Patrick** said that he has not yet written about the sawmill noise.
- The Paddock at Ardoch:** **Patrick** said that the area has been cleared recently.
- Proposed CALA Development:** **Patrick** said that he would like to thank the Darleith Road residents for all of the work they have done in relation to flooding issues. **Patrick** also thanked **Councillor Kennedy** for his efforts on behalf of Cardross residents, at the June planning meeting held in Helensburgh. **Councillors** at this meeting, rejected CALA’s proposals to deal with flooding. **Rob** said that CALA have demanded that the Council pay their expenses. They claim that their application was rejected for no valid reason.
- Darleith Road:** **Patrick** said that **CALA** have submitted a new proposal to deal with the access to the proposed development site. The planning authority have recommended acceptance of this proposal. The Planning Authority received 98 objections to this proposal. **Rob** said that the issue will be discussed at the planning meeting to be held this Wednesday. **Gordon Hendry** said that the Roads Officer seemed to have glossed over an awful lot of issues. He said that he wrote a five page letter expressing his concern about several aspects of the design. The only thing the officer mentioned was the width of the new footway. **Gordon** said that only 14% of the proposed footway meets current standards and was not seen as an issue. The officers’ view was that this is better than nothing. They are not considering the sub standard sight lines at Mill Road junction. They are not considering the perilous state of the road in the glen. They are not considering whether or not the 60 metre single way working is appropriate. It is certainly NOT traffic calming. It unlikely that neither the Roads Officer nor **CALA** have encountered the traffic calming that has been proposed. The Roads Officer is making great play of the fact that **CALA** has obtained a roads safety analysis. The notes state that this is NOT a check on the design. No one has asked the safety auditor if an 800mm wide footway is acceptable. It appears that the Roads Department are washing their hands of the proposals. They make the comment about “deliverability”, but do not state what the “deliverability” issues are. **Gordon** says that he feels the committee are being seriously mislead. **Gordon** has submitted a Freedom of Information request about ownership of the hedge between his property and Darleith Road. The request was rejected on the basis of “legal privilege”. A second FOI has been submitted asking for the departments records of ownership and **Gordon** is still awaiting a reply. He said that **CALA** have not approached any of the land owners adjacent to the road, regarding the land acquisition necessary to carry out their proposals. **Patrick** said that when you speak to older people in the village, they remember a footpath being on the west side of Darleith Road. It went as far as the chapel. **A member of the public** said that although these issues keep being raised, the Council has never explained why it chooses to ignore national guidelines. The Council allow housing development, while completely ignoring the lack of infrastructure. There is no consideration

as to whether or not the school, dentists and doctors in the area can accommodate an increasing population. Villagers do not have the resources available to them that CALA have. We rely on council officers acting professionally and giving reliable advice to councillors.

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 email **Patrick** with the appropriate contact.

CCC Finances: **Patrick** said that we have some money and **Lindsey** managed to get grants from Argyll and Bute, to prepare the Local Place Plan.

Playpark Roundabout: **Patrick** said that he has written to the Cardross Trust asking when the roundabout in the children's play area, in the park at Church Avenue, was going to be repaired. The Trust have asked Argyll and Bute Council to pay for the repair. **Patrick** said that he was very disappointed with the very long time taken to effect a repair. **Patrick** said that the **Trust** is accountable to the people of Cardross. **Patrick** said that it is ridiculous that the play park near the school has been closed because of the activity of moles. **Lindsey** said that she is meeting someone from **Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA)** on Thursday. She is hoping that the park can be opened for use this summer.

CYCLE TRACK

Christine said that Consultants have been appointed. The Cycle Path Action Group will meet with their representatives on 27 March 2025. Argyll and Bute Councils' Roads and Infrastructure Department, will be responsible for the maintenance of the cycle track. The completion date has slipped by another year, and the new completion date is March 2033. **Christine** said that National Bike week is the second week in June and suggested that a community cycle should be organised from Cardross to Helensburgh. The Group will consult Police Scotland on this proposal.

Councillor Kennedy said that he had received an email about cameras on the cycle track. The cameras are there to monitor the number of people using the path. This information will be used by the Council, as an aid to apply for appropriate grants.

A member of the public suggested that the Council are acting illegally, if the cameras are not accompanied with the appropriate signage. **Councillor Kennedy** said that he will write to the appropriate officer expressing the public concern.

CORRESPONDENCE

Duncan said that he had received nothing of note. **Patrick** said that he had received correspondence about the **cycle track**, saying that the Council are going to appoint someone to finish what should have been done a couple of years ago. He had also received hundreds of emails about the Visitor Levy. The Local Place Plan for Helensburgh, is going to be available to the public on Saturday 22 March 2025.

The meeting on the Flooding Issue was cancelled and has not yet been rescheduled.

PLANNING

Rob said that there are no significant new planning applications. There are several applications relating to the conversion of Bloomhill House into residential units. This has been ongoing for some time.

There is a domestic application for operations at Kirkton Cottage.

Rob said that he had nothing of significance to report on the **Taylor Wimpey** application. He said that an **objection** has been raised by **Ridings Sawmills**. They do not want to have more people living close to the sawmill, who will cause them hassle. **Duncan** suggested that residents of the proposed development will be complaining about the level of noise from the **Sawmill** and this could be **Ridings** main concern.

HEALTH

Patrick said there have been problems because **Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board** wish to officially notify, that there is **NO Minor Injury Service** overnight at the **Vale of Leven Hospital**. This is to bring it into line with **Stobhill** and the **Victoria**, which close overnight. That leaves the **Royal Alexandria Hospital** at Paisley, the **Queen Elizabeth University Hospital** and the **Glasgow Royal Infirmary** as the only places open at night.

CARDROSS CAN GROUP

Lindsey said the notice boards are in place at the Station garden. The first shore survey will be on Saturday 3 May 2025. There will be others in June and October. **Chris Moore** said that **Geilston Gardens** will open on 24 March 2025 and the **Friends of Geilston AGM** is on Wednesday 26 March 2025.

LOCAL PLACE PLAN

Lindsey said that the information gained from the recent survey is being processed. The date for submission of the plan has now been moved to January 2026. **Lindsey** said that **SPT have a bus consultation** at the moment. The no. 1B bus has now been replaced by the no. 206 bus. The owner of the **Coffee Bothy** would like to have seating within the shop. Unfortunately, existing planning legislation does not allow this.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

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| Community Resilience: | Patrick said that there is a Community Resilience Teams Meeting on Thursday 20 March. |
| VE Day: | Patrick asked if the community were going to mark VE Day . It was agreed that an activity should be arranged. |
| Beach Clean: | Bob suggested the beach clean should be on Saturday 3 May 2025 at 10:00. All present agreed. |
| Car Charging Points: | Ken Readman asked if there were plans to have public charging points in the village. The only available ones, are at the Railway Station. No one knew of any plans for the village. Lindsey suggested that this should be included in the Local Place Plan. |
| Planters: | A member of the public asked that anyone with any spare compost should top up the planters around the village. |
| Traffic Lights near P.O.: | Ken said that the lights are out. Councillor Kennedy said that he will look into the matter. |
| Annual General Meeting: | Patrick said that he would like to change the date from 21 April 2025 to 28 April 2025 . |

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the **AGM** and will be held on **Monday 28 April 2025** at 8.00pm in the Geilston Hall. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Convener.