

KIRKMABRECK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting on 14th November 2022 commencing 7.00 pm at the Quarrymen's Art Centre

1. Present:

Martin Armstrong (Chair), Sandra Sainty (Secretary), Peter Lupton (Treasurer), Peter Sainty, Agnes Heron, Isobel Campbell, David Wright, Roger Cope, Councillor Katie Hagmann,

Attending:

Archie McKie

Apologies:

Jim McDowall

2. LOCAL REPORTS

(a) POLICE

The report for October had been emailed prior to the meeting. *Copy Attached.*

(b) ELECTED MEMBERS

Katie Hagmann informed the meeting that she was part of COSLA a national organisation. It is negotiating with Unions regarding to pay rises for Teachers. The teachers' unions are planning a strike on the 24th November 2022.

She is also Chair of Economics and Resources Committee for Dumfries & Galloway Council.

The 2025 Local Development Plan is being discussed.

The Derelict Land & Buildings Strategy only has the ability to ask owners to repair their property: it can carry out repairs only if absolutely necessary for safety, in which case it would pass the costs onto the owners. Legislation is being considered regarding "Compulsory Sales" so that owners can be forced to sell property instead of leaving them empty and decaying.

The Ellangowan was now becoming a concern, Peter Sainty said that a report had been commissioned by CBPT. Katie Hagmann asked if she could have a copy.

Wigtown Bylaws are under review.

The Youth Council and the Main Council joined together for a meeting. There will be a By-election for the Youth Council. Anyone between the ages of 12 and 25 can stand.

A consultation for the National Park has opened, link attached for anyone who would like to take part.

<https://www.nature.scot/doc/future-national-parks-scotland-have-your-say-closing-date-30th-november-2022>

(c) PLANNING

Some residents had approached Katie Hagmann regarding the renovation of the petrol station. This had been raised at the last meeting and the response from the Council had been received:

“Thank you for your email. Having checked with the Planning Enforcement Team, they have confirmed that the matter had not been reported to them previously and the necessary approvals have not been obtained. The works you have identified are likely to require a grant of planning permission for the fuel tank and a grant of advertisement consent for the new signage. The Planning Enforcement Team have opened a case on the matter and will pursue these issues with the developer.”

Martin Armstrong raised the question of double glazing within properties that were in a conservation area and therefore unable to change their windows to double-glazing without permission. Katie Hagmann said that she would raise the matter to see if the regulations could be altered as she agreed that people are now concerned about their energy costs and insulating their homes.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting on 10th October 2022 were approved.

Approval of the Minutes proposed by D Wright and seconded by I Campbell.

ISSUES ARISING

The Dumfries & Galloway Council Place Plan had now gone live. Creetown Initiative will still be carrying out the survey to assess future requirements.

EV Charges – Council response to our email was:

“The ev charging bays shouldn’t be used by non ev vehicles, the Councils Roads team are currently setting out the rules on car parking and how they will be enforced.

The charges are set to cover costs, no profit is being made from the tariffs and when measured against the other 31 Local Authorities in Scotland and the private operators currently within the market we are below average based on a 30kWh charge. Our charge averages at £7.50 for 30kWh against a £9.15 for the rest of the market.

The Council is upgrading carparks across the region in support of our climate targets and to enable the transition to zero emission transport, at the same time this should encourage visitors to stop and use local facilities at the same time as charging and to allow residents to access off road charging over night.”

The cheque for £150.00 had been paid to the Baby and Toddler Group.

The Christmas Dinner will be on the 20th December 2022 at the Waverley Hall. Ferry Friends will be contributing £5.00 to the cost, the attendees will be asked to pay £5.00 per head and the Community Council will contribute £7.00 per person.

The Christmas Lights will be switched on the 24th November 2022. Creetown Silver Band will provide music.

A memorial tree will be purchased for the church yard.

The fallen tree has been cleared.

The wood is being sourced to repair the bench in the layby. It was suggested that a plaque be added in memory of Gordon Skimming.

No movement on the "Community Fridge".

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The Newton Stewart Hospital Action Group had requested that all Community Councils write to Mr Ace the Chief Executive of NHS Dumfries & Galloway with a copy to the Government Health and Social Care Cabinet Minister Humza Yousaf.

Sandra had drafted this and it was discussed. Katie Hagmann informed the meeting that the care provided in the community at the moment with the staff available meant that 100 people could be cared for instead of just 36. It was decided to amend the letter making reference to the requirement for palliative care in a hospital environment for those who prefer it.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Roger Cope informed the meeting that the Apple Day had been a success and enjoyed by all that attended. It was pointed out that perhaps next year it could be held earlier and more notice given.

The path to the mangling field was discussed and it was suggested that it needed to be improved. Katie Hagmann suggested we contact "Paths for All" to see what could be done.

Martin Armstrong said that the sign for the trees on the mangling field is now ready.

Katie Hagmann asked if anyone knew what was happening with Balloch Wood.

Roger Cope asked if consideration had been given to switching the street lights off in Creetown at night. Katie Hagmann said that she thought that they already dimmed after 11.00 pm, but she would check.

It was agreed to give Carsluith Village £90.00 towards their Christmas lights.

Martin Armstrong said that the clock tower had been reset for the clocks changing. He had spoken to the clock engineer about getting the chimes working again but switched off at night. It was agreed that Martin would obtain a quote for the work from Cumbria Clock Company and it was suggested that the Coastal Fund could be approached with a view to funding the work.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12th December 2022 commencing at 7.00 pm at the Quarrymen's Art Centre.

APPENDIX 1 - POLICE REPORT ATTACHMENT



POLICE SCOTLAND

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

Community Council – Kirkmabreck
Date of Meeting - 14/11/22
Officer Attending / Report Prepared By - PC V0130 Jamieson

Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting

N/A

Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)

A cross section of incidents (not all) in the Kirkmabreck CC area reported to Police since 10.10.22. Other reported incidents in the Mid Galloway area attended on a month to month basis by Newton Stewart section officers are contained within each respective Community Council report for the area each incident has occurred.

The incidents reported each month are an accurate representation of what's reported to ourselves via our crime recording platforms on a monthly basis which is in turn shared with yourselves at each CC meeting.

It is respectfully requested that members and attendees of the Community Council **do not** report personal and private non CC issues during the meeting, or wait until the monthly CC meeting to report any community related incidents or concerns that they have or reported to themselves, but report same as and when they occur throughout the month to Police Scotland, and encourage others to do likewise in the normal manner via attendance at Newton Stewart Police Station, via the 101 system, the 'Contact Us' forum on the Police Scotland website, or in an emergency

by the 999 system. This in turn creates an official record of the report, allowing it to be graded accurately and allocated, provides accountability, prevent's unnecessary delay and gives the best opportunity for any timely investigation required.

1. 25.10.22 – C49 Chain Road. Straying Cattle. Frequent complaint. Enquiries ongoing.
2. 27.10.22 – St. John Street, Creetown. Dog bite incident reported. Matter investigated.

Significant Incidents / Occurrences - (Local / Divisional / National)

Community Issues

Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Article (Scotland) Act Legislation

The Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles (Scotland) Act 2022 was passed by the Scottish Parliament on 29 June 2022 and received Royal Assent on 10 August 2022.

The Act will result in new crimes coming into legislation, starting with a 'proxy-purchasing' offence for those responsible for buying fireworks for anyone under the age of 18 and an aggravator added to offences where emergency service workers are attacked by fireworks.

Both of these legislative changes go live on Monday, 10 October, 2022, with the others being introduced throughout 2023.

Stranraer PSYV

If there are any events in which the group can assist with please contact the group co-ordinator PC Emily Conroy at Emily.Conroy@scotland.police.uk

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

Are you or anyone you know?

13 – 15 years old?

Do you/they have an interest in Policing?

Do you/they want to volunteer in your/their local community?

Stranraer PSYV are recruiting

To apply send an email to Pc Emily Conroy or speak to Pc Gary McCutcheon at Stranraer Academy.

Events/Campaigns

- Get ready for winter campaign from 31st October – 5th November
- Sunday 13 November 2022, Remembrance Day Parades
- That Guy – sexual crime prevention campaign launched. Join the conversation at that-guy.co.uk - Men are being challenged to be a mate, to step in and put a stop to behaviour that might put their friends at risk of sexual offending. This year's campaign, launched 17/10/2022, urges men to be the solution to preventing sexual offending by having those difficult conversations with a friend who may have crossed the line.

Scams

Trading Standards Scotland recently launched a month-long campaign aimed at raising awareness of scams linked to the ongoing cost of living crisis.

Some of you may be aware that over the past few months' communities across Scotland have received numerous fraudulent email and texts claiming to offer energy bill rebates and cost of living payments, as well as fake supermarket voucher and fuel card giveaways on social media.

Doorstep scammers have also been taking advantage of the global shortage of construction materials to ask customers to pay large deposits, then failing to return to carry out the work.

During the coming weeks, officers are asked to raise awareness of the ongoing TSS campaign during interactions with the public and continue to provide the range of crime prevention and personal safety advice provided on the Police Scotland website.

Further information about the campaign can be found at

<https://www.tsscot.co.uk/cost-of-living-scams/>

Please remember to advise communities to report such incidents to Police Scotland via 101 or Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000, or through their website:

www.consumeradvice.scot.

Ofgem Scam Emails

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) is warning the public about a sharp rise in reports relating to fake emails purporting to be from Ofgem, the independent energy regulator for Great Britain. The emails claim that the recipient is due a rebate payment as part of a government scheme and provides links for the recipient to follow in order to apply for the rebate. The links in the emails lead to malicious websites designed to steal personal and financial information.

Between Monday 22nd August 2022 and Monday 5th September 2022, a total of 1,567 phishing emails related to this scam have been reported via the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS). All the emails display the email subject header "Claim your bill rebate now". Offenders are using the Ofgem brand logo and colours to make the emails look as authentic as possible. However, the emails ask recipients to "apply for an energy bill rebate before September 2020", which is what prompted many recipients to realise the emails weren't genuine.

- If you have any doubts about a message, contact the organisation directly. Don't use the numbers or address in the message – use the details from their official website. Remember, your bank (or any other official source) **will never ask you to supply personal information via email.**
- If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to report@phishing.gov.uk. Send us emails that feel suspicious, even if you're not certain they're a scam - we can check.

Identity Theft

Identity theft is when criminals get access to someone's personal information. They then use it to steal their identity.

They could then pretend to open bank accounts, get credit cards, loans and mortgages or to claim benefits. They could even take over someone's accounts and change the address.

They can steal someone's name and reputation. Then can use this to make money.

How the fraudsters operate

Here are a few ways which these criminals work:

- They search through rubbish to find bills or bank statements
- They target flats where shared mail boxes make theft easier
- They bribe or rob postal workers or purchase the information from other criminals
- They search through unattended bags.

Warning signs

There are a number of warning signs to look out for:

- If you get bills or invoices for goods you have not ordered
- If you get collection letters for debt that isn't yours or
- There are transactions on your bank or credit card statements that you do not recognise
- Important documents such as your passport or driving licence may have been stolen.

Take action

There are a number of steps you can take to avoid falling victim to identity theft:

- Keep all your important documents safe and secure
- When using a credit or debit card, make sure it's never out of your sight
- Cash machines may have been tampered with. Your cards could be skimmed and cloned
- Never give out your personal details when you're contacted by phone, fax, post or email
- Always offer to ring back any suspicious callers but check the phone number you are given
- When throwing out documents which contain personal information try to shred them so that nobody could read your personal details
- Always check your bank and credit card statements. Report any transactions you don't recognise, even small amounts
- Close all accounts you no longer need

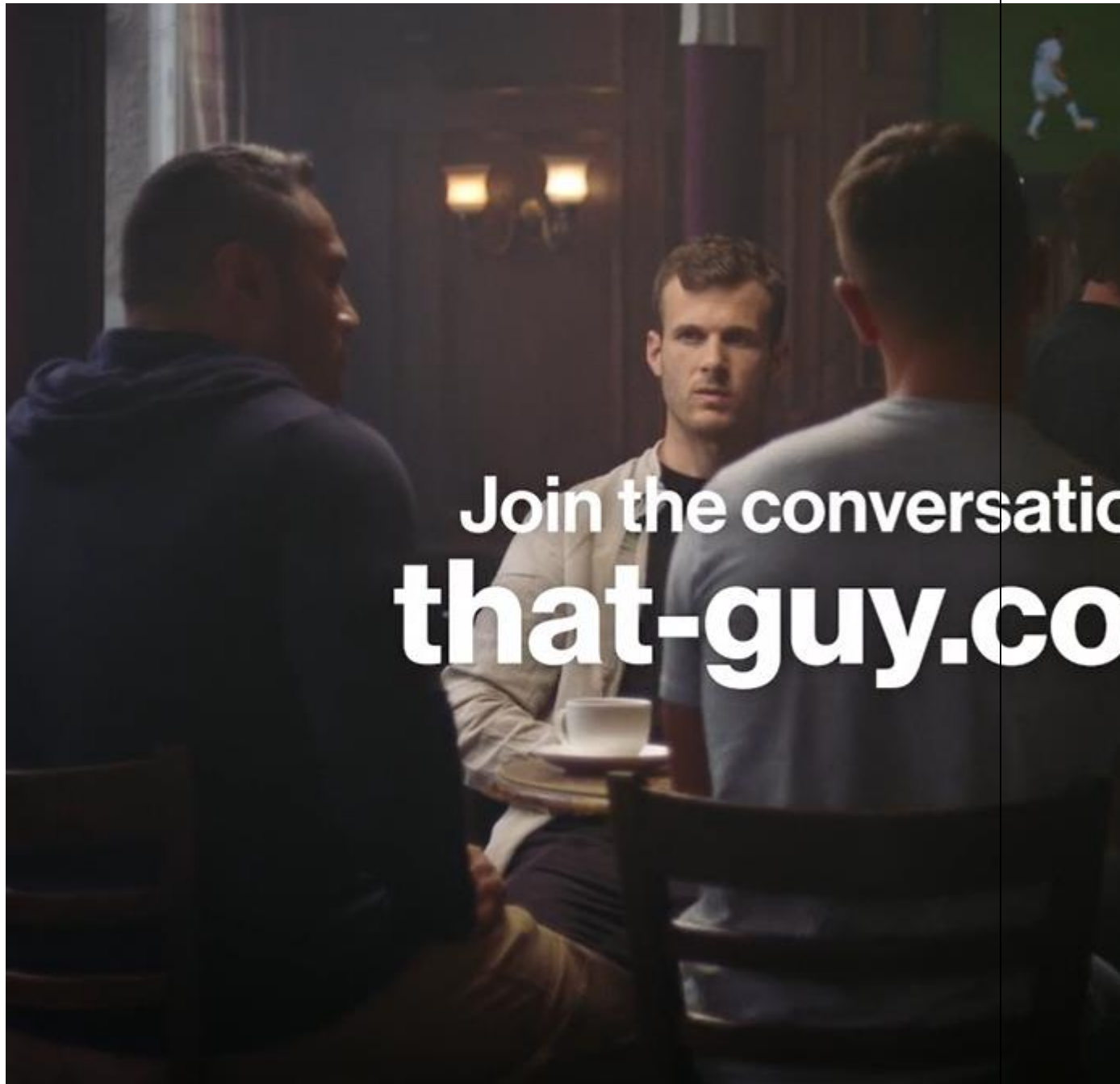
- Move your mail when moving home by arranging with the post office to forward your mail to your new address
- Get organisations to send to your new address.

If you think you're a victim

If you think you might be a victim of identity theft, don't delay:

- Contact your bank or building society
- Keep a record of all communication
- Report the matter to the police
- Request a copy of your credit report (such as Equifax or Experian) - you can ask for incorrect information to be removed.

New THAT GUY sexual crime prevention campaign launches



Be a mate, don't be *THAT GUY*

Men are being challenged to be a mate, to step in and put a stop to behaviour that might put their friends at risk of sexual offending.

Last year, Police Scotland's viral THAT Guy campaign challenged men's attitudes and behaviour towards women. It put the cause of sexual offending where it belongs – with men.

This year's campaign, launched today, urges men to be the solution to preventing sexual offending by having those difficult conversations with a friend who may have crossed the line.

Launching the campaign Deputy Chief Constable Malcolm Graham, said:

"Last year's campaign asked men to reflect on their own behaviours and attitudes - and those of their friends, family and colleagues – towards women, to prevent rape, sexual assault and harassment.

"We held up the mirror to harassing and abusive behaviours that impact on women. Now we are focusing on a solution.

"Our new campaign is about what men can do. It asks them to think about the impact their friend's behaviour has on women, and to step in, to be that friend. Be the mate who takes a friend aside, and has that quiet word. It's about stopping a friend doing something they will regret.

"Not all men go on to offend but all men have a responsibility and a role to play in ending sexual violence against women and girls.

"This isn't about shaming. We are asking men to be a mate, look out for your friends, to join the conversation and to stop sexual offending before it starts."

THAT GUY builds on previous Police Scotland sexual crime prevention campaigns, targeting men aged 18 – 35 years who are most likely to commit sexual offences.

Its aim is to urge men to take responsibility for their actions and language to help affect a culture change to tackle sexual crime against women. The campaign features a new advert which will run on several online platforms, including social media.

[Watch the new THAT GUY video here](#)

[Visit the **THAT GUY** website](#) for advice and resources

Police Priorities

The priorities for your area are decided by data from our strategic assessment which details threats and risks, and also from feedback from local authorities, partners, and residents in the Your Police survey.

•Violent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour

•Crimes of theft and dishonesty

•Substance misuse

•Road safety and road crime

•Protecting vulnerable people.

You can read more information about how these priorities are decided and how officers work with the local council and partners to improve your community and address these issues in the Dumfries & Galloway Local Policing Plan.

Notification

**Communities – Roads & Infrastructure, Cargen Tower, Garroch Business Centre, Garroch Loaning, Cargenbridge, Dumfries, DG2 8PN
31st October 2022**

To: * Our ref: N/RM/D3400/CH
From: Roads Manager

TRAFFIC ORDERS : TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE NEWTON STEWART WINTER FAYRE 2022

Application has been received for a temporary road closure of the above named road. Pertinent details of the requested closure are as undernoted.

Please let me know of any observations that you wish to make within five working days of receipt of this notification.

Source Of Request

Katrina Dick from Newton Stewart Initiative

Location

C50w Dashwood Square in front of McMillan Hall, Newton Stewart

Reason

Facilitating the holding of a sporting event, social event or entertainment including enabling members of the public to watch it or reducing the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event.

To facilitate Newton Stewart Winter Fayre.

Alternative Routes

No diversion required. Emergency access will be available if required.

Pedestrian Access

Pedestrian access will be maintained

Timing of Closure

Saturday 19th November 2022

08:00 to 17:00 hours

<u>Matters brought to Police attention by Council</u>
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<u>Response given to above points at the meeting</u>

<u>Further action to be taken regarding above points</u>

<u>Section Sergeant (Comments</u>
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<u>Area Inspector (Comments)</u>

Use overleaf if necessary