

# KIRKMABRECK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **Minutes of Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 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

**Attending:** Fiona Cope

### **Apologies:**

Roger Cope, Councillor Katie Hagmann, Councillor Jackie McCamon

Peter Lupton informed the meeting that a former Community Councillor Evie Johnson had died recently. She had been an active member in the community and will be sadly missed.

### **2. LOCAL REPORTS**

#### **(a) POLICE**

This was distributed by email and is attached to these Minutes.

#### **(b) ELECTED MEMBERS**

No elected Members attended the Meeting.

#### **(c) PLANNING**

Creetown Service Station – the Planning Department had contacted the new owners regarding the alterations they had carried out and the increased lighting and they were waiting to hear from their Agent.

Application for a House and 2 Shepherds Hut in Carsluith had been received.

### **3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were approved.

#### **ISSUES ARISING**

The Christmas lights, Memory Tree, Senior Christmas Dinner, and Carols at Christmas Eve had all gone well.

Review regarding Newton Stewart Hospital as well as care in the community is being undertaken by the NHS at the moment.

A cheque for £300.00 each had been sent to Creetown Initiative Youth Club and the Youth Hall for activities regarding Life Skills.

Cheques for £90.00 each had been paid to Carsluith and Creetown towards Christmas lights/tree.

Skimming Bequest has been handed out £18.00 to everyone who had applied.

A meeting between the school staff and parents had taken place. An issue of classroom discipline was under investigation. The Head Teacher had confirmed that money for refurbishment was available and the work was scheduled for 2024.

Martin has started work on the website; each member was asked if they could provide a short paragraph about themselves and a photograph if they so wished.

Sandra said she would send a link so that they could look at what had been done so far.

The website will help keep the public informed.

#### **4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Kilgallioch Community Fund had provided a further £2000.00 to the Community Council for the benefit of the community.

#### **5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The band stand guttering in Creetown is blocked. Sandra said she would contact the Council to see if they could help.

Fiona a member of the Machers & Cree Valley Climate Action Network asked if the Community Council had any building that they could use for a "Clothes Swap" which they hope to hold monthly at various venues around the area. This is expected to be held every 3 months in Creetown and they were looking for somewhere that did not charge.

It was suggested that the Mission Hall might be willing to do this, Peter Sainty said he would contact the Session Clerk to see if this was possible.

Another option would be for the Community Council to pay any charges if nowhere could be found free of charge.

The question was asked what was happening with the Church. The Church of Scotland are proposing to sell the building. Church Services were now being held in the Mission Hall and everyone are welcome to attend.

Peter Lupton suggested that a "Resilience Co-ordinator" should be appointed to be available to deal with winter resilience that might be needed in the village. Martin had salted the streets of Creetown during the bad weather.

Peter Lupton suggested that the money that we had received together with further funding should be used to provide holidays for families that could not afford to go away during the school holidays. It was agreed to investigate the costings for this.

It was also suggested that organisations within the area should be made aware that funding was available so that they can apply for such funding from the Community Council. This should be put on the website and Facebook.

Peter Sainty informed the meeting that the Quarrymen's Art Centre were planning on celebrating the King's Coronation over the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and wondered if the Community Council would like to combine activities. It had been suggested that QAC could provide a focus for the activities in the village. The meeting thought that this would be a good idea.

They are planning an open weekend with various activities, Peter Sainty said that he would find out what these would be.

#### **6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 commencing at 7.00 pm at the Quarrymen's Art Centre.

#### **APPENDIX 1 - POLICE REPORT ATTACHMENT**



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>POLICE SCOTLAND</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT</b></p>
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<b>Community Council – Kirkmabreck</b>
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<b>Date of Meeting - 13/02/23</b>
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<b>Officer Attending / Report Prepared By - PC V311 Osborne</b>
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<b><u>Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting</u></b>
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PC David Broadfoot V436 will start his new post within Newton Stewart Community Policing Department on 15/02/23.
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<b><u>Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)</u></b>
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A cross section of incidents (not all) in the Kirkmabreck CC area reported to Police since 12.12.22. Other reported incidents in the Mid Galloway area attended on a month
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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. Please 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 accurately graded/allocated, providing accountability, and prevents unnecessary delay giving the best opportunity for any timely investigation required. Avoid contacting individual officers to report crimes/incidents in the first instance as this could also create undue delay should an officer not be on duty due to weekly rest days, a period of annual leave, course/court attendance, training or sickness etc, and the matter not recorded.

1. 19/12/22 – Threatening and abusive behaviour – Recorded Police Warning issued.
2. 27/12/22 – Neighbour dispute – enquiries ongoing.
3. 01/01/23- Assault – 1 person charged.
4. 19/01/23 – Defective exhaust – Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme ticket issued.
5. 29/01/23 – Fire-raising - enquires ongoing.
6. 03/02/23 - No MOT- ticket issued.
7. 09/02/23 – Hate Crime – 2 persons reported to youth justice.
8. 10/02/23 – Careless driving – ticket issued.

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

### **Community Issues**

#### **Police Officer Recruitment**

In Police Scotland no two days are the same, no two careers are the same and no two officers are the same.

The police officer job is unique. It will challenge you mentally and physically every day. It can be tough, but also incredibly rewarding.

Your job will be to protect the vulnerable, support victims of crime and build trust with the people and communities you serve.

We will train you with the skills you need to rise to the challenge, and provide support through our police family.

You will become part of a 200 year long history of policing in Scotland. You will join a team of 23,000 officers and staff dedicated to keeping people safe.

We are looking to recruit people who live and work by our values of integrity, fairness and respect and have a commitment to public service. In this role, you will build lasting relationships with colleagues and the people who live and work in the area you are based in.

In order to apply to become a police officer, you must meet [essential criteria](#). You will then take part in our selection process. This includes a fitness assessment and a medical, which takes place at the end of the process.

Find out more about our [selection process](#).

Vehicle security advice



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

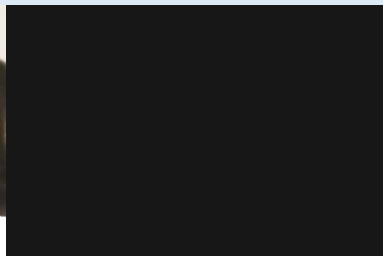
**POILEAS ALBA**



# Vehicle Security

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- If you have a garage “use it” and lock it. If you have gates ensure these are locked. Consider using an alarm for you garage and gates.
- Leaving items on show is an invitation – Mobile phones, electronic equipment, coins, sunglasses, tools, clothing and bags should be removed from the vehicle or placed in the boot.
- Keys and ignition fobs should be kept safe and out of sight and reach – a common way to steal a car or van is to take the keys or ignition fob, either when left in the vehicle or from your home through burglary
- Always lock and close the windows of your vehicle when unattended – on the drive, the petrol station forecourt or when parking an unlocked vehicle is the easiest to steal or steal from. When away from home, consider using a Park Mark approved car park
- Fit theft resistant number plate fittings – stolen number plates are commonly used to hide the identity of stolen vehicles. Use one-way clutch head screws to secure plates
- Use a steering wheel lock and/ or a lock that fits over the gear lever. Alternatively a security box can be fitted over the pedals to prevent thefts when the vehicle is parked up
- Double check: Listen out for the sound of your doors locking, lights flashing and/or mirrors closing. If you don’t hear or see this it make sure to double check
- Fit a tracker: These devices can alert you when your car is active and if it’s travelling in a new area.



**Relay Theft**

Vehicles fitted with a smart or passive key are susceptible to relay theft. This key system allows you to gain entry and start your vehicle without the need to interact with your vehicle's key. Criminals use specialist equipment that has the ability to grab the signal from the car to the smart key so that it appears to the car that the key is present. Your vehicle is most vulnerable overnight, particularly if parked on your driveway or directly outside your home.

**How to prevent this:**

- When not in use – either at home or when out and about - store your keys (including spare keys!) in a security pouch. Security pouches are sometimes termed Faraday bags or signal blockers/shields and there are many security rated versions on the market (PSNI recommend Secured by Design accredited pouches/ containers). These will prevent the signal from your vehicle being captured using electronic devices

- Keep updated with latest software: Many manufacturers are now updating their in-car security systems to stay ahead of these attacks

**Key Programming**

Key programming is being used by criminals to assign a new key to vehicles, by plugging a device into the On Board Diagnostic port (OBD) of the vehicle. The OBD port will in most cases be located in the driver's foot well. Criminals will gain entry into your vehicle then plug into this port and programme a blank key to the vehicle.

- Fit an OBD lock guard professionally fitted
- Electronic OBD security is available – seek the main dealer's advice



**Catalytic Converter theft** - The precious metals used in catalytic converters such as rhodium, platinum and palladium has led to an increase in their theft. Cars that are most often targeted are hybrid vehicles as these vehicles have two power sources (electric and petrol or diesel) so the catalytic converter is used less frequently - the metals are less likely to corrode, meaning they are worth more and therefore more attractive to thieves. Vans and SUV's are particularly at risk, as the ride height makes access to the exhaust system beneath them easier.

To keep your vehicle safe, ask your manufacturer or dealer if they can give you any advice on locks or guards to protect the catalytic converters under the vehicle. Any products will need to be approved by the vehicle manufacturer for use on your vehicle model.

Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative



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