

Gourock Community Council Public Meeting Minutes 16 February 2026

Minutes of the Forum and monthly meeting of Gourock Community Council Monday 16 February 2026 in Gamble Halls, Gourock.

Present

Alison Dickie (AD) Chair, Andrew King (AK) Vice Chair, Geraldine Harron (GH), Danny Cassidy (DC), Susan Francis (SF), Hamish McLeod (HM), Giulia Canata (GC)

Councillor Sandra Reynolds (SR), Cllr Lynne Quinn, Council rep Janice Boyd (JB), Liz Robertson (member of Stuart McMillan's office) (LR), Jackie McLaren (member of Martin McCluskey's office), Jack Hartness (McGill's) (JH), John Adam (Warden), Mr Stone (Senior Warden), Carol (Practice Manager at Gourock Medical Practice), Assistant Practice Manager and members of the community.

Apologies

Stuart McMillan MSP, Audrey Blincow (AB) Secretary, Margaret Moyse (MM) Treasurer, Al Harron (AH), Councillor Ian Hellyer

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

As above

2. Minutes

Minutes from October were presented and agreed. Proposed by DC and seconded by SF.

3. Wardens Report

Two wardens present who presented the latest stats.

Wardens were chased for information on specific dog enforcement numbers that had been previously requested. No data available, suggested that we get the info using a FOI request. Reminded that they agreed to raise with their Managers.

New vans have been acquired.

Resident requested info on car break-ins on Broomberry Drive and surrounding area but the wardens were not aware as there have been no reports lodged - they will note this query.

ACTION – GCC TO WRITE TO COUNCIL TO SECURE DOG ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS.

4. Focus Issue: Caring Gourock

Gourock Medical Centre's new online booking system

2 reps from Gourock Medical Centre came to the meeting which was much appreciated. There was a lot of discussion regarding the new online booking system – it seems to have been received quite well although there have been teething issues and they are taking feedback seriously. The phone system is still in place and both options are available to all patients. Queries about the restricted access time of 8-11am were raised but this is due to clinical staff only dealing with online forms during day so emergencies would be missed if form was open outwith clinical hours. The new system has allowed the practice to balance the need for gender specific appointments, reduce response times, deal with more patients, and allow queries to be dealt with directly by clinical staff rather than reception team. Discussion and advice followed about out of hours/extended hours appointments, patients feeling pushed into using online form, length of form/amount of info requested, system flags potential high risk patients based on answers so clinical staff can prioritise quickly, concerns about those who cannot access internet at home or access library internet due to lack of buses to Gourock town centre.

ACTION – GCC TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNICATION OF ANY FUTURE GMC AND HEALTH CHANGES TO GOUROCK'S RESIDENTS.

Riverside Homes Charges

Previous and new charges to tenants are of great concern. The Eastern View Residents' Association and GCC have written to RI. Response was received today but was unsatisfactory and did not respond to issues raised, acknowledge the impact on residents or complaints about communication. Hamish explained that the communication from RI has been unacceptable – residents were not informed before the charges were published in the Greenock Telegraph.

ACTION – LETTER WILL BE READ IN FULL, GCC WILL RESPOND

Cost of Living

AD met with Inverclyde Foodbank. GCC's role centres around education, promotion and facilitating discussion on ways to better support residents who are struggling with the cost of living.

ACTION - GCC TO HOLD A DISCUSSION ON THE COST OF LIVING AT APRIL/MAY MEETING AND INVITE REPS FROM INVERCLYDE FOODBANK AND OTHER SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS AS WELL AS SCHOOLS. GCC TO CONSIDER A TEAM VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY.

Gourock Signage Fund

The issue was raised that no signage has yet been acquired.

ACTION – GC TO REPORT BACK AFTER REGEN MEETING ON FRIDAY ABOUT LATEST ON ECONOMIC TOURISM AND SIGNAGE.

Traders/Market

The issue was raised that traders are seeing reduced trade when market is on due to stands offering same goods/services as local shops.

ACTION – LQ to ARRANGE ANOTHER MEETING WITH ANDY ABOUT CROSS-OVER TRADES.

5. Focus Issue: The Budget

Discussion about the budget decisions, timelines and public consultations. Full Council meeting at start of March at which council tax decision should be made and after which budget decision will be made. GCC needs to offer a voice for those within community who have no voice during this process.

ACTION – GCC WILL CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE CONSULTATION AND PROCESS

6. Community Issues Tracker

AD updated the room with the latest information on our Tracker.

Cloch Road -Ongoing issues with WF traffic being backed up every weekend.

ACTION: TO WRITE JOINT MSP/CC LETTER TO WESTERN FERRIES CALLING FOR CAR PARK EXTENSION. TO WRITE TO INVERCLYDE COUNCIL TO CHASE THE FEEDBACK FROM OFFICERS AGREED AT THE WALKABOUT RE THE TIMING AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNCIL'S PROPOSED PASSING PLACE/RESIDENT PERMIT SOLUTION.

Cloch Court – request from resident to get updated list of road painting on a regular basis. Resident would appreciate a reason why council officers could not attend a GCC meeting. It was noted that the 20 mph speeding restriction will be in place by March 2026.

SR has had meetings to highlight issues. Residents' Association have had letter printed in Greenock telegraph and have sent letter and article to Stuart Jamieson (Chief Exec. of Council) and to Roads but have not received a response or acknowledgment. Cllrs had previously noted that CE was aware of the issue.

ACTION- GCC TO WRITE TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO CALL FOR A SOLUTION TO THE ONGOING SAFETY ISSUES AT CLOCH COURT AND CONCERNS ABOUT COMMUNICATION/ACTION TIMESCALES.

Community Councillor – GCC need to co-opt another Community Councillor.

ACTION – GCC TO ADVERTISE THE OPPORTUNITY OF CO-OPTION.

McGill's

ACTION – TO WRITE TO MCGILL'S ABOUT THEIR LACK OF RESPONSE TO GCC RE MEETING AND PROPOSAL FOR SPT. MSP TO INCLUDE GCC IN MEETINGS WITH MILLPORT BUSES TO EXPLORE UPPER GOUROCK JOURNEY SOLUTIONS TO PUT TO SPT.

International Women's Day

DECISION - GCC TO PROMOTE IWD

Expectations of Council – Discussion about dealing with issues with Council action/inaction. SR outlined complaints process (Formal Complaint followed by complaint to Public Service Ombudsman). CCs need to use Community Empowerment Act to the community's benefit, as per Albert Road.

7. Forum Decisions

All agreed

8. Treasurer Report

MM not present.

9. AOB

HM - Manhole cover issue at Eastern View. Possibly a BT cover, **GH to ACTION**

JB – Peter McDonald has all required paperwork and grant will be issued in next 7 days.

Bill – Overhanging trees on Kirn Drive not trimmed. SR spoke to team who didn't agree it was overhanging. Robert said he will deal with it as he has done so previously and will speak to Bill.

Bill – Box junction markings at bottom of Larkfield Road. AK has spoken to Roads and yellow lines have been re-instated but not the box markings. **AK to ACTION**

Bill – Will double yellow lines on Drumshantie Road be enforced? LQ – yes.

LR – Did GCC get comms from Stuart McMillan's office about BT box works? LR to re-send. Engineering work has been done but not maintenance to the box.

GH – Thank you to Green Tangerine for local work. AK/GC promoted local litter picking opportunities, especially Gourock Pick on last Saturday of every month, 10.20-12, meet a Wee Annie on Kempock Street. Mr Stetz – Heart Start Training venue offer. AK – MM is looking at this but GCC would be facilitators only, not providers. Watch this space...

10. Next Meeting

March 16 2026