

**Gourock Community Council**  
**on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026. In Gamble Halls.**

Minutes of a Quorate meeting, with Chair Alison Dickie. Present: several people from the community, including Development Worker Janice Boyd, Ward Councillor Sandra Reynolds, Councillor Liz Robertson (Ward 4 Cardwell Bay and Greenock West), Campaigner William Oliver for Kirn Drive, Social Media William Wilson, representative for residents of Cloch Court. Community Councillors included Danny Cassidy, Susan Frances Ingram, Al Harron and taking Notes Geraldine Harron.

**ITEM 1 MEETING OPENED WITH WELCOME** from the Chair who invited notice of Apologies given from Councillor Lynne Quinn, Vice Chair Andrew King, Secretary Audrey Blincow, Treasurer Margaret Moyse, Community Councillors Guilia Canata and Hamish MacLeod.

**ITEM 2 MINUTES** from November had been distributed and were Proposed for ratification by Susan Frances Ingram and Seconded by Danny Cassidy.

**ITEM 3 COMMUNITY WARDENS** Bert and Jamie kindly attended with a Report from December with Neighbourhood Noise total of 6 incidents, Intimidation/Harassment 1, and Drug/Substance Misuse 1. Questions were invited. Noise, was minor due to fireworks as part of seasonal festivities. Dog Fowling, a Police remit, has increased with local owners being charged. There are new vans and cameras, investment for long use. Antisocial Behaviour for the area numbered 10% of the total incidents. One Community Engagement was also conducted by the Wardens, unrelated to Antisocial Behaviour. People should call without hesitation for advice or if noticing Antisocial Behaviour. The Wardens handed over a written report and were thanked by the Chair.

**ITEM 4 COMMUNITY PRIORITIES 2026** there was information from the Chair on Caring Gourock, Accessible Gourock, Safer Gourock, coming from the Community. There had been engagements with many ages including school pupils. Hearing more from our people of diversity input from all types, ages and backgrounds will contribute to a wider voice from Gourock Community Council and wider issues to improve our already beautiful place, maximise on attracting visitors and focus on what matters to everyone. There was discussion invited and thanks expressed to Campaigners working on their own, in groups or with Councillors and Community Council for improvements. **KIRN DRIVE** is a joy to drive down now, although some increased traffic is on other roads, there is the usual congestion and some chaos during school runs. **540 BUS SERVICE** has brought the community together to highlight the physical splits, through lack of transport. The idea that there is Community Cohesion was given attention and people involved were thanked,

including Councillor Sandra also working on the contradiction of underused **507 BUS SERVICE** against other crucial routes. Councillor Sandra, who will not let this go, is working with the MSP towards a successful outcome. **SAFER and ACCESSIBLE GOUROCK** currently with a piecemeal approach locally. There is a problem of continuity and procedures for safety cycling and using shared spaces on the promenade that needs funded to help build strategies additionally enforcement for parking, speed and dangerous driving. People can't always access where they are going. The requests from women and children's for safety should be raised further asking what needs done, a lack of strategy has been identified. Health and Social Care Partnership priorities and their voice with Your Voice show that partnerships could be formed universally. Driving forward with this business and inviting help.

**ITEM 5 COMMUNITY ISSUES TRACKER** needs for consultation and signposting change with raising heating charges at **EASTERN VIEW** being addressed **Action:** To write to RCH and raise CC concerns about financial impact on residents. **INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES** are struggling and need supported. **BUSES** Inverkip may be accessed more easily. **Action:** **GoGOUROCK** will be asked about promoting more and incorporating attracting **CRUISE SHIP PASSENGERS**. Council update needed and Susan to communicate. Everything Inverclyde also promote the E-bikes. It was established that The Pirate and Bluebell with Enchantments also closing because they had also moved into a new taxation registration level, difficulty through being victims of their own success. Both had a Vote of Thanks earlier during the Forum for all the years and contribution to the reputation of Kempock Street and will be missed. **COST OF LIVING SAFETY NET** children and young people wish to help, a **FOODBANK** is viable, Your voice and Hope Church doors are always open. Partnerships with others is to be investigated. **Action:** To explore access to foodbank for Gourock residents. **CARING GOUROCK** Dementia Friendly Training is to be facilitated. **CLOCH ROAD** Residents issues on traffic congestion and parking has had a petition, round table event and walkabout, with detailed lists of problems and varied solutions. Many voices are being heard and it seems that investment by Western Ferries at the terminal for facilities and improved queuing could alleviate a lot of the trouble. **Action:** Councillor Liz representing the MSP will send a joint letter to this effect. CC to consider latest feedback on walkabout meeting once received from Council. **ALBERT ROAD** lines being painted and the main sticking point for viability has reached stalemate with no flexibility. There was some progress out of the blue when after 22 months lines were painted, stopping traffic. Ian thanked Gourock Community Council for supporting a problem far from solved, quarterly residents meetings unanimous to take things further forward. Noted Cardwell Court has also been repainted. **Action:** seeking feedback from Chief Executive, Councillors Sandra and Liz will support by also asking. Great agreements on funding for Inverclyde Leisure to improve toilets and fit changing space, Councillor Liz said that Parents Groups would also support this. **McGILL'S:** Further discussion on McGills. **Action:**

Chase date for meeting with them that was agreed with McGills at previous CC. Lots more **LIVE ISSUES** include more play spaces for children and community owned football pitches.

**ITEM 6 FORUM** decisions were agreed to be added to The Tracker, some were already incorporated into the General Meeting or will be in February. Special mention for Gourock Medical Practice as discussion included need for much more advance preparation and notice for changes. A new approach online for appointments and many other things through E-Consult is causing confusion, anger and fears. People were not happy before anyway and this might free up phones for those unable to use technology or not have devices. **Action:** To write to the Practice Manager at Gourock Health Centre for more details, requesting attendance for a guest Item.

**ITEMS 8 & 9 FINANCE REPORT:** BALANCE TOTAL £2874.59 and £30.00 **GOUROCK GARDEN PARTY ACCOUNT BALANCE TOTAL.** A: Treasurer Margaret applying for the Annual Funding Grant through the Secretary to the Chief Executive for the attention of Council Legal Services. Diversifying **ENGAGEMENT** is to prioritise as much as possible including the systems for filling the allocation of Members for Gourock Community Council. More diversity, differences in age and backgrounds evidencing a good representation for Gourock voices.

**ITEM 7** was swapped over by the Chair. **A NOD TO RABBIE** for heritage and identity. Chair Alison recited a Burns Poem, '*A Man's A Man*' followed by Community Councillor Al with the Burns Poem '*O, were I on Parnassus Hill*', along with some background Al first announced that this was written in 1778 describing Burns love for Scotland, this reflection, one of Burns lesser known works, is how AL feels about Gourock while Alison closed the Item with how she feels her choice is about people power, people's voices and belief that Your Voice Matters.

**AOCB VACANCY**, there is space for one Community Councillor who may be Co-opted by the Members. Reaching for diversity and fairness A: Alison will be checking with Council Services about Interim Voting. Now seeking expressions of interest and asking everyone to spread the word. William Oliver on **KIRN DRIVE** is researching estates for establishing responsibility for trees and horticulture overhanging the road. Contractors cleared branches two years ago through Inverclyde Council.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** given by the Chair as **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2026** in Gamble Halls, meetings are on third Monday of each month, all welcome. With no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.48 pm thanking everyone for their participation, especially for coming out on a very cold night.