

Gourock Community Council Minutes 16 June 2025

Minutes of the Forum and monthly meeting for Gourock Community Council Monday 16 June 2025 in Gamble Halls, Gourock.

Present

Al Harron (AH), Audrey Blincow (AB) Secretary, Geraldine Harron (GH), Andrew King (AK) Vice Chair, Hamish McLeod (HM), Danny Cassidy (DC), Alison Dickie (AD) Chair, Giulia Canata (GC)

Cllr Lynne Quinn (LQ), SMP Stuart McMillan, members of the public and representatives from Inverclyde Council

Apologies

GCC Cllr Susan Francis Ingram, GCC Cllr Margaret Moyse, GCC Cllr Danny Cassidy, Cllr Sandra Reynolds

THE FORUM

- Mention of the untidiness at the entrance to the Gamble Halls. Local resident offered to pressure jet and tidy the following day.
- Local resident noted that some of the sidings at the Pierhead are coming off and area beside the Spinnaker is a real mess. This will be followed up by councillor Quinn.
- Dropped kerb on Kempock St noted as damaged and not usable resulting in accessibility issues. Has been reported to the Council and will await fixing but keep monitored.
- GH noted that David Leitch, former Provost had passed away as well as Don McNeil, local artist recently residing across the water.
- Noted that there is a sink hole in Edinburgh Drive, Council are aware.

Have your say Forum closed at 730 pm.

Public Meeting started at 7.30PM

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

AD welcomed and thanked all in attendance. AD offered best wishes to Danny after his recent accident.

2. Minutes

Minutes from May meeting were presented and approved after one omission was corrected.

3. Wardens Report

Report from Wardens was read out by AK. AK enquired re dog fouling but it is not their dept. Enforcement team are correct contact, AK to follow up. **ACTION AK**

4. Pre Summer Round Up

AD reflected on our success over the past season. Invited public to huddle to discuss 4 questions.

Are the issues we've been working on important to community? Comment.

Group advised 'Yes, absolutely, tracker good to self monitor, all important to community, good structure'

Is there enough progress? Comment

'No, lack of joined up thinking in Inverclyde Council, time wasted talking to wrong people/wrong dept, do we need a resident IC rep, how is Council structured, who do we speak to, lack of progress, can Council staff need to meet with public, too disconnected, too many barriers for communication with IC, CC need to assist with communication, it is important to meet people face to face, yes progress been made but hindered by IC, Yes to progress and we don't have to complete everything but do continue to make progress and continue action'

From the list , what would you prioritise?

Group 1 – Young People's, cleaner town, accessibility

Group 2 – Recycling, safety in the community, support for young people

Group 3 – Young people, dog fouling and litter, community spirit

Collective discussion identified spaces/activities and safety from young people's list

Effective Engagement

Group 1 – participation in events, digital inclusion, branching out

Group 2 – engagement in Gourock Library, maximise these opportunities

Group 3 – target audiences, meet in different locations to engage with different groups

5. Community Issues Tracker

AD led a few questions from the tracker.

Albert Road – ongoing issue with Cloch Court for 15 months. AD along with residents met with IC reps on 13/6/25 with disappointing results. Residents offered sensible solutions, IC advised that ‘guidelines’ restricted options. Yellow lines will be repainted. Discussion about what ‘guidelines’ mean involving Stuart McMillan and Lynne Quinn. Leaving as is is dangerous but IC states that *no one has died* which is an unacceptable statement. Many instances of parking changes in town. Stuart McMillan to discuss with residents and we shall action thereafter. **ACTION Stuart McMillan**

Queens Hotel – Planning accepted with conditions. Make contact with owner.

ACTION AB

Shore St – This situation has made the community very angry. MP Martin McCluskey and MSP Stuart McMillan have agreed to write to owner seeking resolution. Bowman Rebecchi to be contacted given their quote in the GT article about GCC’s campaign. Hamish to write to them.

ACTION MM SM HM

Ferries – AH notes no updates but will monitor.

ACTION AH

Gourock Women – ethical standards did not uphold our complaint, finding there had been no breach of the code of conduct and offered no apology. We shall continue speaking out, supporting our women and ensure a zero tolerance towards what GCC and the community feel to be misogynistic practice.

One way Kirn Drive – awaiting next steps in consultation process.

Petition Powers – The petition was raised with officers at a meeting to discuss Cloch Court. GCC were advised that a petition had not been required, that no action had been progressed by officers following the committee decision to continue to the petition, and that GCC are creating too much work for officers. advised to stop bothering IC! GCC asked officers to progress action and update GCC. No engagement and no communication. To be followed **ACTION AD**

Children’s Rights – we have been advised that it is possible to co-opt a representative young person (16+) onto GCC with voting rights and we will be exploring this with schools, as well as alternative and appropriate ways to ensure children’s rights and voice are embedded in all of GCC’s work and decision making and in wider context get a young member of the community a role within the GCC. We need to contact all

schools and ensure that their wishes are embedded into our roles as councillors.

ACTION AD

Cloch Road – SMcM noted various campaigns that are short term. Re speeding, are average speed cameras affordable, Police been asked and awaiting feedback.

Finish the Jobby – GC is part of Green Tangerine leading the campaign for awareness of dog poo. Funding achieved and action via the schools will happen after Summer break. GCC to offer support as required.

Kiosk - to be added to Tracker

Need follow up on Buses, Wind Farm.

6. Garden Party Feedback

Thanks offered to AB and team re Garden Party which was a success despite awful weather. AB reported and thanked folks who helped and noted that despite a low income via the gates, we have enough money to cover costs and offer donations to several charities. Round of applause!

7. Forum Decisions

Noted above

8. Financial report

MM apologised as not present.

9. AOB

HM thanked Cllr Quinn for sorting out potholes. Also for the benches in memorial park.

Bill Oliver mentioned the trees, a push has to be made in cutting them all back ahead of the Kirn Drive one way system being put in place. AB mentioned trees at Hillside Road.

ACTION LQ

GC advised of a litter pick on 28 June at 1030 at Pierhead.

Achi Baba - Agreed that a wreath will be presented on 12 July 2025 at the Cenotaph to commemorate the fallen. Geraldine agreed to manage with Margaret agreeing to pay for wreath.

ACTION GH

10. Date of next meeting – 18 August 2025