

Gourock Community Council

Minutes from Have Your Say Forum 1900, Monday 17 June 2026, Gamble Halls

Present : Alison Dickie, (AD), Audrey Blincow (AB), Danny Cassidy (DC), Geraldine Harron (AH), Andrew King (AK), Margaret Moyse (MM), Scott Canning Associate (SC), Robert Kirkpatrick Associate (RK), Christine Allan Co opted (CA), MSP Stuart McMillan, MP Martin McCluskey, Cllr Ian Hellyer, Cllr Sandra Reynold, Cllr Lynne Quinn, members of the public.

Apologies: Guilia Canata, Hamish MCleod, Susan Francis

Alison welcomed all to the Forum.

Nicholas Stetz from the Gourock Scrapyard shared that the family will be closing their business on the 100th anniversary of his father's birthday on 15th of August 2026. He thanked the GCC for the support his business had received during the challenges that led to this closure. This support had helped to create more transition time. It is noted in these Minutes that GCC were saddened to learn that this local business of many years was closing and appreciated Mr Stetz's comments. AD noted that people power can often make a difference and an extra year was granted due to the public concern about this situation. GCC will monitor any increase in fly tipping should it occur and request what the council intend to utilise this spare land for.

ACTION contact council re what is happening.

A new resident and recent Mum of Gourock spoke to the Forum about the need for more free and affordable activities for mothers and babies/toddlers. She suggested a toy library as an example and the kiosk as a suitable location, as well as the need to co-ordinate and promote what is already available. She has already spoken with Teri from St Johns and Bruce from the Shed. Callum from the Council offered to assist with advice regarding funding opportunities. AD thanked Hannah for raising this subject as it was a good fit with the Caring and Accessible Gourock strategy and work already underway with children's rights and creating more play spaces for children. AD offered to incorporate this new issue into a related meeting already scheduled with officers.

ACTION, To include in wider play activity/children's rights discussions with officers and to update Hannah on the progress.

Resident from the floor brought up the disappointing state of Kempock Street where weeds are growing particularly at the Aulds pedestrian crossing, and elsewhere. The Gap also noted as being a mess. Dog poo also brought to discussion and drains blocked.

ACTION contact council with a list of areas that need cleared and cleaned. This has already been cleared but ongoing monitoring should continue.

Resident noted the previous removal of a dog poo bin at the intersection by corner of John Street and Royal Street. Dog poo bags littering the area and bin needs to be reinstated.

ACTION, contact council as above requesting a new bin be installed.

Resident noted increase of dog poo and dog poo bags in the new 'beauty spot' in Midton.

ACTION contact council as above to request tidy up and bins installed.

Calum from the Council asked if we could share information regarding the up and coming elections. He offered to send soft copies for us to share on our social media and website.

ACTION, chase Calum for soft copies - done

Resident asked if we could use people who are given community service some jobs re tidying up areas that require it.

ACTION to be discussed at business meeting

The Forum closed just before 730 pm.

Gourock Community Council Public Meeting Minutes 17 August 730 pm

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Welcome from the Chair AD, introductions from all Cllrs to the floor. Apologies as per the Forum.

2. Minutes

Minutes from the public meeting held on 15 June 2026 were agreed, proposed by GH and seconded by DC.

3. Wardens Report

The Community Wardens attended and shared their statistics. Total number of incidents up from 6 to 9 as per this time last year. Report offered to GCC. GH asked about any incidents at a recent youth meet up and none were reported. No real issues reported with regards to ASB nor racial abuse. GCC thanked the wardens for their attendance.

4. McGills Buses

GCC has been working on solutions to the bus issue for some time since the loss of the 540 bus taking residents from Midton/Upper Gourock to town centre and IRH. Before the summer McGills agreed to a meeting with GCC and offered a proposal to provide an additional service covering the areas of concern. AD read out the letter sent to SPT, which had been posted on socials, highlighting that the action was needed to support accessibility, inclusion and economic sustainability. GCC will continue to push for this service. Many comments from the floor that GCC will note going forward. All local councillors keen to support this proposal and the community needs to use it should it go ahead. During this discussion a resident noted that he is not on social media and finds it difficult to find out community information. Note was taken that GCC must post their minutes and agenda in the library, health centre and further discussion shall take place at our business meeting. Also we must consider font size and readability to ensure all our materials are fully inclusive.

ACTION. McGill's - Follow up with SPT and progress further action to realise this additional service for the community.

Allocate someone to take responsibility to place notices in library and health centre.

5. Town to Town Calmac Ferry

AD shared with the floor that the Dunoon Gourock service will be a single ship service for some time as Calmac are removing the ferries individually for maintenance and extension of life works. This communication came as a surprise to ourselves and our friends in Dunoon given the calls and work to ensure a more sustainable ferry service for both of our communities. A meeting is being organised between all the relevant parties concerned about this situation. AH, GH and CA all offered to attend the meeting. MSP Stuart MacMillan shared some thoughts and offered to send his notes to us on this subject. GCC shall share updates as soon as available.

ACTION, AB to confirm attendance of GCC and follow up with MSP for his notes.

6. Gourock Pavilion

Gourock Pavilion is in a very poor state and discussions took place on best way forward to improve this facility and bring it back to a useful facility. SC has done some research into the background of the building and shared recent statistics and investment over the past few years. The Council are currently reviewing their Leisure and Community Buildings Asset Plan for wider Inverclyde and there is no indication at this point that there will be any significant investment in the Pavilion's maintenance. Cllr IH shared that there was some private discussions ongoing but nothing of real note so far. GCC were concerned that these appeared to be commercial discussions about a community asset and that they had not involved the community or the community council. It was felt that the community council needed to now raise, including querying the status of these discussions. Although Inverclyde Leisure manage the pavilion and other leisure spaces, Inverclyde Council are the owners and therefore responsible for the scrutiny of any decisions that impact the community. Several sporting clubs who utilise the pavilion are aware IC has no funding and are discussing how they can help fund any necessary work to keep this in the community. Larkfield Housing also having discussions. AD noted that she is attending a meeting with IC to discuss safe spaces for the younger community and may discuss this issue.

ACTION, SC to draft council letter to explore and progress action to address the poor state of the Gourock Pavilion and to share our concerns and to seek clarification about the news of discussions which have not involved the community or the community council.

7. Community Issues and Tracker

AD did a short presentation on items on the Tracker and updated the room.

Gourock Medical Practice – a disappointing response was received by the clinic and GCC shall continue to press on this subject.

ACTION to continue to press on this matter

Gourock Pavilion and the Harvesters memorial.

ACTION As main agenda discussion above for Gourock Pavilion; Discuss how to upkeep Harvesters Memorial at forthcoming business meeting.

Cleaning up Binnie Lane

ACTION GCC/resident to address the tree issue post legality checks, Cllr Reynolds checking with Scottish Water re ownership. Maybe we just need to knock on doors?

Anti Social behaviour

ACTION continue to monitor

Ferry Traffic congestion on Cloch Road

ACTION The Council have informed GCC that the majority of residents do not support the Council's proposals for Cloch Road and we are currently querying the date when the consultation results will be shared with the committee and confirming the proposed action.

Making Albert Road safer for pedestrians

Action: Update September's meeting on the community response to the Council's proposals (awaiting

Council feedback) and feedback the thoughts of Cloch Court Residents Association about the proposals.

Promoting Local Road Campaigns – Kirn Drive

ACTION await an update on this week's Kirn Drive committee discussion.

Ensuring support for residents with additional needs

ACTION GCC to ensure hard copy and large printed agendas and trackers in library and medical centre to maximise on accessibility.

Progressing bus access for all residents

ACTION await SPT response and maximise on campaign around this issue to best influence the delivery of the additional service.

Realising more local play spaces and activities for children

ACTION GCC to feedback on discussions with Council officers at September's meeting and spaces for parents and babies, Gourock Pavilion and green spaces to be incorporated into these and related discussions.

Ensuring a stable town to town ferry service

ACTION Stuart McMillan MSP to provide a written summary of the verbal update provided at the CC, which will be shared on social media and GCC to attend the meeting that Dunoon CC have organised.

Discussion took place about many topics including 20 mph areas, is this being monitored and enforceable? Ongoing issues regarding parking on Kempock Street on double yellow lines? Drumshantie Road bus shelter being demolished and drivers racing about. Road markings not clear around town. Thanks offered to CC councillor Guilia Canata re the new bins installed at Ashburn.

ACTIONS - TBD

8. Have your Say Forum Decisions

All good.

9. Financial Report

MM offered statements from the finances and all is in order. She suggested we should apply for Big Lottery funding for the Garden Party, AD noted the importance of prioritising any funding requests in line with the needs of the community to ensure accountability in the spending of any public money. We shall be discussed at business meeting.

10. AOB

Resident raised subject of objections re the Kirn Drive consultation. Questions raised why the new consultation was not so publicly marketed compared to the initial consultation.

Resident noted that yellow crossed junction box not been repainted. The new green space is a mess and needs poo bins etc. Cllr LQ noted it is a work in progress.

GH noted that the memory of Achi Baba needs to be kept and the annual remembrance needs to be continued.

Meeting closed at 2110 and next meeting shall be September 21 2026.