

**Fort, Seafield and Wallacetown Community Council**  
**Minutes**  
**7pm, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
**Council Chamber, Town Hall Buildings, Ayr**

1. **Attendance**

**CC Members:** Denise Sommerville (DS-Chair), Michael Hitchon (MH), David Connely (DC), Forbes Watson (FW), Robert Singer (RS), Kenny MacLeod (KM), Eric Armstrong (EA), Alan Roseweir (AR), Andy Seville (AS).

**SAC Councillors:** Cllr George Weir

**SAC Link Officer:** David Porte not present (apologies given). Tracey Whiteford, (TW), Gavin Kennedy, (GKe) SAC in attendance

**Police:** Not present. Report provided.

**Minute Secretary:** AR (stand-in)

**Public:** L Meek, H. Ford, Rachel Borland, Ewen Campbell (EC), Alan McKay (AMc).

2. **Apologies:**

- a. Gordon Kelly (GK), Carol Fisher (CF), Jim Mackay (JM), Cllr Bob Shields, David Porte.
- b. Cllrs Martin Dowey and Lee Lyons were invited to the meeting but did not respond.

3. **Declarations of Interest:**

None.

4. **Minutes of Meeting Held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023:**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed by vote and ratified.

**Proposed:** MH, **Seconded:** FW. **Carried.**

5. **Matters Arising from the Meeting Held on 13<sup>TH</sup> September 2023:**

- a. Due to competing priorities, Kevin Braidwood from ARA and Fiona Robertson from 'Streets' had not been invited to this meeting. Ongoing from September meeting. To be invited to the November meeting. **Action DS (Chair).**
- b. **STL Reregistration.** Chair reported that she had been in contact with Chris Carroll, SAC Landlord Registration Officer to ascertain the current status of applications for STL Licences as of the closing date of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023. The Chair was informed that the council had been inundated with requests and has asked to be given a few weeks to update.
- c. Carried over from previous minutes KM to correspond with Sam Platt of Cornerstone regarding the painting issue. **Action KM**
- d. KM to correspond with SAC Planning regarding the prevention of chlorine odours issue. **Action KM**

6. **Gavin Kennedy, SAC Thriving Communities**

GKe provided a summary update of the ongoing work being undertaken by the community hub in Wallacetown. A copy of the presentation is attached at Annex A.

**Action:** A Short Life Working Group is to be established to develop a joint plan in terms of the underground parking space as a potential venue and to also look at documenting the history of Wallacetown. The Group members would be GKe, RS, MH, and DS.

**Proposed:** AR. **Seconded:** DS. **Carried.**

## 7. Reports

### a. Police:

The Police report was circulated by the DS ahead of the meeting. The issue of prioritization of reported incidents was raised by KM and the identification of 101 vs 999 calls by AR.

**Action: DS to contact the local Senior Officer to arrange a meeting to discuss.**

### b. SAC Elected Members

i. Cllr George Weir provided provide a summary of report issues as follows:

- (a) Neighbour boundary disputes.
- (b) Issue of Euro Copy Building Dalblair Road, (DC highlighted this well).
- (c) Speeding Doonfoot Road – referred to ARA/Police Scotland.
- (d) Visit to local Fire Service.
- (e) Station Hotel: see details under Agenda Item 9.
- (f) Audit Scotland Report – It was brought to the CC attention that Audit Scotland criticised SAC in relation to the Best Value report (Accounts Commission 2021).

### c. Short Term Lets (STL)

i. KM provided detailed information in relation to the mandatory notices required to be posted in the local of the properties as part of the licence application process. KM highlighted a significant number of serious discrepancies that make the notices invalid.

**Action:** Due to the seriousness of the matter, KM proposed that a letter be sent along with the evidence to identified senior officials, to include the Chief Constable et al. KM to liaise with DS. It was agreed to make up to £50 available for printing purposes.

**Proposed: KM. Seconded: AR. Carried.**

ii. AMc member of the public made the committee aware that planning and licence had already been give to a flat in his location (Fort).

### d. Planning

KM brought to the attention of the CC the following:

- i. Station Plans.
- ii. Kyle Street – re application.
- iii. STL Corrin Road.
- iv. Communal Stairway – Cassillis Street.
- v. Flat conversion – 2 flats Bath Place.

**Action:** KM indicated that he wanted to engage with planning in relation to the Bath Place development.

**Proposed: KM. Seconded: EA. Carried.**

### e. Licencing

FW – no applications for our area of responsibility.

f. **Common Good**

FW reported that he was still waiting on a response from his FOI request to SAC. Once received the agreed working group will convene.

g. **Treasurers Report**

MH reported a current balance of £523.18. He brought to the attention of the committee the planned best dressed shop window Christmas competition. He requested a £20 contribution be made from the CC.

**Proposed: MH. Seconded: FW. Carried**

8. **Community Engagement Ideas**

a. **Stall at Farmers Market**

The idea of having a community stall at a future Farmer's Market was discussed by members. It was agreed in principle that this would be a good idea.

**Action: DS to investigate and report back to the committee.**

b. **Contact with Chairs of the other SAC Community Council Chairs**

DS (Chair) has contacted the other chairs via a survey to ascertain availability for future joint meetings.

9. **Station Hotel**

a. **GW provided some details in relation to the ongoing work as follows:**

i. A survey of the site discovered an area of weakness at the gable end close to the bridge. There is a plan to open one of the carparks to remove the congestion from Morrisons Supermarket carpark. There is also a plan to create a safe route for pedestrians.

ii. Input from SAVE has been sent to SAC. The indications were that any plan taken forward would need to show clear benefits and have funding to support them.

iii. DC raised the question of the level of the scaffold covering provided during the fire. The feedback from the Fire Services was that the covering played a significant part in limiting the spread of the fire to external areas.

iv. The issue of the available Fire Tenders and specialist equipment was raised. GW indicated that in discussion with the Fire Services there had been no detrimental impact to the management of the emergency.

b. FW made the committee aware of the Charge order that had been issued to the Hotel Owners.

**Action: FW to supply GW with the details.**

10. **Public Business:**

None.

11. **AOCB:**

a. **Events Working Group.** AS made the committee aware that the group were compiling a feedback report to be used at a future meeting with SAC, (Laura Kerr and other parties involved in events planning) the feedback meeting has still to be arranged. To remind the CC the working group members are: GK, AS, EA and EC (Co Opted member).

b. EA asked a question regarding the old police station and what was being planned. The Chair indicated that it was going to be demolished.

c. MH made the committee aware of the planned showing of the Hunchback of Notre Dame on the 19<sup>th</sup> October in the town.

d. FW raised the issue of speeding on Doonfoot Road again to highlight that early morning and evening traffic were exceeding the speed limits of the road.

e. RS brought to the attention of the committee if there was further information regarding shop front improvements.

f. GW brought to the attention of the committee the number of available defibrillators available for public use. GW had been made aware by the Pastoral support group in South Ayrshire.

**Action: DS to invite a member of the team to a future meeting.**

g. GW made the CC aware that the Licensing Officer had attended the Alloway, Doonfoot, and St Leonards CC to give a presentation. The CC members agreed that that would be useful.

**Action: GW to liaise with DS (Chair) to organise.**

h. The issue of the funding of the CC was raised in that it had been a fixed sum for a number of years.

**Action: DS (Chair) to raise with other CC chairs.**

i. KM and AR provided brief feedback on the Place Planning event held in the ARK Citadel on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023. It was a well-organised event on the night however only 8 people from the South Ayrshire Community were present, (four of whom were CC members).

12. **Date of next meeting:**

The Chair concluded the meeting at 21:00 hrs and confirmed the next CC meeting for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7pm, Ayr Town Hall.

**Annex A – Gavin Kennedy Presentation**



# Working For Wallacetown

- Making Wallacetown a place where people are safe, healthy & want to live.
- Service providers working in partnership with the community, for the community.

# Working For Wallacetown

- Locations
- Resident Engagement
- Case Studies
- Insights and Outcomes
- Environment Audit
- Prevention First
- Wallacetown Community Voice
- Wallacetown Your Community, Your Story
- Future



## Working For Wallacetown Hub 37 George Street, Ayr

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
930am to 1pm NHS South Ayrshire Treatment and Recovery Team	Health and Wellbeing	10am to 12pm Wallacetown Women's Group	Cost of living	Employability
1pm to 3pm Thriving Communities Employability  Living Life to the Full	10am to 12pm NHS Homeless Nursing Team  Community Links Practitioner (fortnightly)	12pm to 4pm  Thriving Communities Supported Employment	12pm to 2pm  Seascape  Thriving Communities – Employability	930am to 12pm  Skills Development Scotland  Thriving Communities Employability
	11am to 1pm Alcohol and Drug Partnership  12pm to 2pm Quarriers		1pm to 4pm Ukraine Support Team	930am to 1pm  Quarriers
6pm to 730pm ESOL	1pm to 3pm  NHS - Staying Ahead of the Curve  1pm to 4pm NHS Quit Your Way	5pm to 7pm Wallacetown Girls Group	2pm to 4pm  Ayr Housing Aid Centre  Social Security Scotland	230pm to 5pm  Jeremy Weller My Community, My Story



## Room@Wallacetown Newton Primary School, Ayr

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
930 to 1130am English for Speakers of Other Languages	130pm to 230pm Food and Clothing Bank	TBC Wallacetown Woodwork Club	9am to 1130am  Coffee and a Chat	130pm to 230pm Food and Clothing Bank
	Up to 18 Services Available	1pm to 3pm Wallacetown Gardening Club	11am to 1230pm Room Sixty	Up to 18 Services Available
3pm to 5pm  Ayr United Football Academy				*Last Saturday of Month 11am to 1pm - Chat Café





# Wallacetown Resident Engagement



## Focused Work

- Weekly Day of Action
- New Residents
- Vulnerable Residents
- Wellbeing Visits

# Case Study

Wellbeing visit with Anti Social Behaviour Team.

Elderly resident experiencing issue with a neighbour. Resident expressed feeling isolated, family live abroad. Mobility issues and unaware of any financial support available, struggling with energy costs.

Anti Social Behaviour Issue Resolved	Home Energy Scotland – Energy Carer	South Ayrshire Lifeline - Attendance Allowance	Information and Advice Hub - Household Boost Fund
Fire Safety Visit	NHS -Staying Ahead of The Curve	South Ayrshire Lifeline – Social Activities/Volunteering	Housing Repair Raised

# Case Study

Contact with Wallacetown Team during weekly day of action.

Resident has moved into permanent accommodation, 2 dependent children. In receipt of benefits and in poverty. At point of contact resident was not engaging with any other service.

Newton Primary Foodbank	Home Energy Scotland – Fuel Bank Top Up	Clothing for Children	Information and Advice Hub	Fire Safety Visit
Housing Officer repair raised	Meeting with Police Wellbeing Officer	Thriving Communities – Employability	Social Security Scotland	Wallacetown Womens Group
	Wallacetown Parent and Child Group	Room Sixty	Wallacetown Breakfast Club	



# Case Study

Resident recently moved into tenancy having fled domestic abuse in another locality. Resident isolated, living in fear, in poverty and struggling with addiction issues.



# Case Study

Resident recently liberated from prison, moved into temp accommodation in Wallacetown. Attended Newton Primary Foodbank for assistance.



# Resident Referrals



- Referral Form

Email;

- WorkingForWallacetown@south-ayrshire.gov.uk



## Working for Wallacetown - Resident Referral

Referral Status		
Partner Agency	SAC Service	Self-Referral
<b>Section One: Agency/Service Details</b>		
Organisation	Email	
<b>Section Two: Resident Details</b>		
Name:	Address:	
Tel:	Email:	Preferred Contact Method:
<b>Section Three: Optional Information</b>		
Providing this information will help to identify specific support, services and help relating to your enquiry		
Date of Birth	Dependants:	
Gender:	Ethnicity:	
Income Source:	Health Conditions:	
Housing Tenure:	Disability:	
<b>Section Four: I would like to receive information on:</b>		
Housing	Cost of Living Support	Benefits/Money Advice
Employment	Further Education	Training Courses
Volunteering	Youth Clubs/Children's Activities	Family and Adult Learning
Wellbeing	Physical Health	Mental Health
Social Activities/Groups	Events	Arts and Crafts
Fire Safety	Community Safety	Addiction Services

### Data Protection Statement/Disclaimer

As the 'data controller' for the personal information – or data – we hold about you, South Ayrshire Council decides how your personal information is used or processed, and what it is used for. Our service will always let you know exactly what we will do with your personal information – what information we collect, why we collect it and what we do with it.

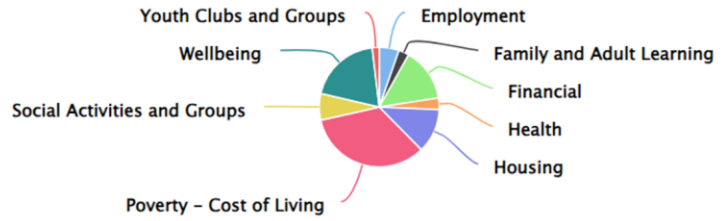
We will do this via our Privacy Notice which is available at: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/privacy-notices/>

We will use your contact information to provide you with information and share your data only for the services you request information on.

Data will not be used for any other purpose (i.e. marketing for other services or forming a marketing database).

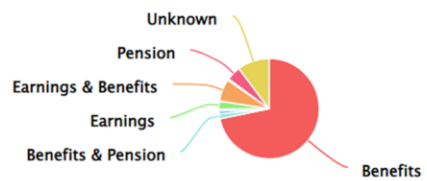
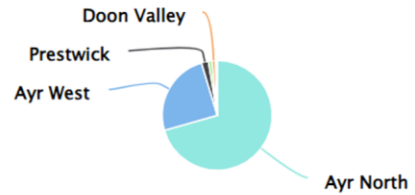
Please email completed forms to [WorkingForWallacetown@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:WorkingForWallacetown@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## Resident Engagement Insights – Matter Type



Total Engagement – 319

## Resident Engagement Insights – Income Source and Area



# Resident Engagement Insights – Financial Gain



1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023



Resident total financial gain;



£98,423.80

## Wallacetown Environmental Audit

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- A monthly environmental audit is undertaken in partnership with relevant agencies to identify urgent repairs, improve the look of the area and to respond quickly to needs of the residents.



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## Wallacetown – Prevention First

- The Newton Primary Prevention First group approached South Ayrshire Council with concerns after local young people's homemade tyre swings were removed due to health and safety concerns. This resulted in a collaboration between the group and the Council to come up with a positive solution.

- Children making Positive Changes in the Community.

- Expanding to Include Wallacetown Early Years and St Johns Primary



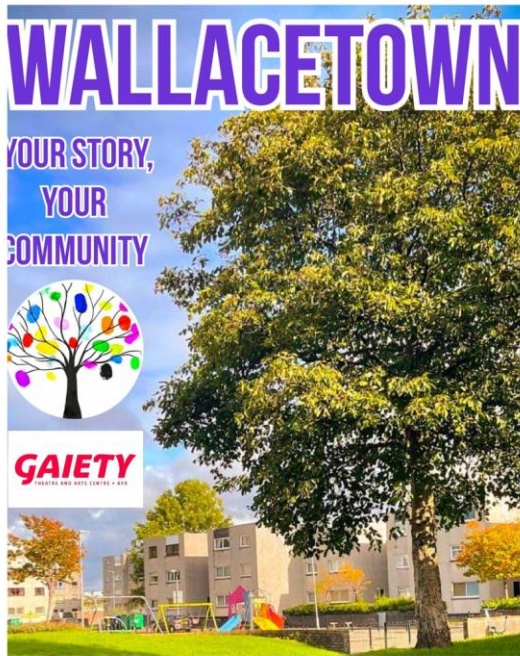
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## Wallacetown Community Voice

Working closely with Thriving Communities - Community Engagement Team to develop a modern way of engaging with residents through Wallacetown Community Voice and ensure service delivery is a response to the needs of residents. This work is in addition to tackling residents' priorities from the original survey.







## Wallacetown Your Community, Your Story

- A writer from the Gaiety Theatre would like to hear your story about your community.
- Come along and meet with us at the Wallacetown Community Hub, 37 George Street, Ayr every Friday from 29th September 230pm to 5pm
- Snacks and tea/coffee will be provided. Come along and have a talk with us about how life is for you living in Wallacetown. Please drop by, no appointment needed.

### Future Plans:

#### Wallacetown Community Arts Festival 2024

- Music
- Dance
- Theatrical Drama
- Writing and Poetry
- History of Wallacetown
- Photography
- Art
- Crafts
- Woodwork Design



## Future Plans:

### Tenants and Residents Association

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- Funding For Residents
- Community Café
- Cosy Space



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### Working For Wallacetown - Social Media

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- Twitter
- Facebook
- Next Door



Nextdoor



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## Working For Wallacetown

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