GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRAFT Minutes of 2026 Annual General Meeting

Date: 1 June 2026
Time: 19:00
Location: Gargunnock Community Centre

GCC: *Chairperson* Mike Buckley (MB), *Secretary* Christine Phillips (CP), *Treasurer* Tom Jamieson (TJ), Martin Harrick (MH), Tom McEwan (TM), *Associate* Maitland Clark (MC).
Councillors: Rosemary Fraser (RF)
Minute Taker: Jenny Campbell (JC)

1. APOLOGIES; received from Julie Cole *(JC)*.

2. MOTION (MB): To approve Annual General Meeting minutes from 02.06.25 as circulated
Adopted by; TJ *Seconded by; (CP)*

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (MB)
None.

4. CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT (MB)

MB highlighted that the GCC are eligible for 9 members, with a minimum number of 7. As we have only 6, we are below the minimum required. A suggestion was made to attendees to consider any person who'd like to join, perhaps a representative from the youth of the village.

The following is a summary of the main issues and activities of the GCC since the last AGM of 2025. Inevitably, some duplication arises with the Secretary's report. The Treasurer's Report is a stand-alone document. *(Appendix 1)*

Christmas Lights – Cllrs Martin Harrick
Fundraising initiatives included a pub quiz supporting GCC projects (including Christmas lights) and a raffle raised £362.50, which offered a round of golf at Carrick Club in Glasgow as the prize, raising £360.

- Successful funding applications were submitted to Stirling Pride and the National Lottery (Awards for All), resulting in sufficient resources to upgrade lamppost lighting and run the display for the 2025 festive season.
- The Christmas Lights switch-on event was well attended, and collaboration with the school proved effective, especially the competition to create advertising posters.

Local Place Plan Steering Group –*Cllrs Julie Cole and Christine Phillips*

- The initial survey 2024, and open session yielded only 42 responses, some of which were duplicates.
- A revised questionnaire 2025, was developed and distributed to all households with a response of 170 surveys returned representing 320 residents
- GCC participated in the Bite and Blether meeting to encourage completion of the questionnaire.
- An open session was hosted the following evening to gather additional resident input regarding the Local Place Plan. The draft was then circulated to all key stakeholders and made available to the community to view / download.

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- The LPP was subsequently submitted to Stirling Council and registered, with confirmation received on 6 May 2026.
- With WFP support, a limited run of plans had been printed and distributed to Councillors, Wind Farm Panel, Community Trust, Pub, Shop and Community Centre and also made available for viewing and download on the community website.
- As part of the ten-year cycle of the LPP, we are continuing to engage with the key stakeholders identified in the Prioritised Projects. Further efforts are required to build engagement.

Roads - *portfolio lead Cllr Julie Cole*

- The Council's response regarding updates on the A811/Station Road improvement is pending; project completion is scheduled for 2027.
- An update concerning the drainage issue at Charles Street is awaited; it is understood that the vehicle previously obstructing access has been identified and relocated to facilitate drain inspection and repairs.
- Submitted response into Stirling Council including the flooding at the Glebe (*oily water*), plus many more subjects.

Planning - *portfolio lead Cllr Tom McEwan*

Plans for Earlsburn Windfarm Extension, which is to be constructed by Nadara in Carron Valley, were approved in January of this year. Following consultation, the project has been reduced in size, however there may still be an opportunity to secure further community benefit for Gargunnock following its anticipated commissioning.

Another proposed windfarm, Cairnoch Hill – which is also in Carron Valley and adjacent to both the Earlsburn developments, is currently in phase two of consultation prior to a formal planning application being submitted in late summer. Whilst there is no direct physical impact on Gargunnock, we are hopeful that there may still be some community benefit from this development proposed by Eurowind.

The Community Council continues to engage with both developers, and to explore how we can optimise any benefits that might flow to our community. We have also engaged with Fintry Community Trust, who have provided very useful insights from their experience as the owner of a 'virtual turbine' in the original Earlsburn development.

Glasgow Airport has recently completed their consultation on potential changes to the flightpaths to the airport, through their Airspace Change Proposal (ACP). This is part of the UK-wide project to modernise arrival/departure routes and reorganise controlled airspace below 7,000ft to reduce general noise impacts and reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The current proposals do not involve the introduction of flightpaths over Gargunnock, so should not impact us. The GCC will continue to monitor the proposals as they move through government consultation and flag any concerning changes.

Stirling Council has recently started the first phase of its consultation on the development of its Local Development Plan (LDP3), which is expected to be adopted in 2028.

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In the draft spatial strategy proposals for consultation Gargunnock is to be moved up a tier, from 'tier 6' (rural/small settlement) to 'tier 5' (rural village); this has implications for the nature of housing growth and targets set for the village. It also assumes a higher level of infrastructure than that currently in place – but does not guarantee any additional government infrastructure investment.

As part of the consultation Stirling Council issued a summary of potential housing sites, that have been identified as part of Stage 2 of the development of the LDP3. The sites have been identified following a 'call for sites', which is an open invitation to developers, owners and individuals to propose sites that may have potential for housing.

One potential site has been identified in Gargunnock; the field to the north side of Manse Brae, with the potential construction of 75 homes. (see Gargunnock under https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/site-options). The identified site is of the order of a 30%+ increase in the area of land dedicated to housing in the village.

This proposed site runs contrary to the Local Place Plan for Gargunnock that was developed in 2025, which defined our need for limited, small-scale growth, focusing on affordable and mixed tenure options while preserving the village character, and not large scale or speculative development.

A public meeting was held on 28th May in the Community Centre 2pm-6.30pm by Stirling Council to present the current proposals. Residents have been asked to consider responding as individuals to Stirling Council's survey, which has a closing date of mid-July. https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/site-options - "Take the Survey"

Gargunnock Community Council will be submitting a formal response to the proposed site option in due course.

- (TM) encouraged meeting attendees to submit their own individual responses to the Stirling Council consultation. ***ACTION*** *– To publicly promote the link to do so to residents.*

Website Development – *project leads Cllrs Mike Buckley and Tom Jamieson*

- GCC continues to collaborate with Gargunnock Community Trust (GCT) to enhance the online web platform and improve communications via regular website updates, utilising 'Latest News' page to highlight information as required.
- Webpage https://www.gargunnock.org/community-council/ carries details of Community Councillors, Local Councillors, MSPs and MP.
- (TJ) highlighted that the mobile access was not initially as the group had requested but that this has now been successfully addressed.
- (MB) thanked Nadara and GCT for financially supporting the project for the benefit of the community.

Village Fountain – *project lead Associate Maitland Clark*

- Cleaning and partial restoration works have been completed, with further restoration required. (MC) thanked 'Impressions on Stone' for their work.
- One side of the fountain's bowl will need to be repaired. 'Impressions on Stone' have provided a quotation £2,570 & VAT. Application made to Windfarm Trust (*not approved)*.

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- (MC) highlighted that Fionn McKintosh (SC) is very interested and has been very helpful.
- An unusual feature of the fountain is that historically dogs, horses and livestock could have drinking water from a trough at the rear. This is the only fountain in the area (possibly in Scotland) with this feature. Fionn is exploring the historical significance more fully.
- Discussions are ongoing regarding restoring the garden area at the rear of the fountain. Violi Gardens quotation received for the works, plus one from Architect Bowen. (MC) is awaiting the quotation from a local resident to make the quotations three in total.
- Douglas Johnston has been approached by (MC) regarding funding options.
- An application to Windfarm Panel for additional repair work was unsuccessful; follow-up actions are in progress.
- Two broken memorial benches in the park area to the immediate side of the fountain have been removed and we are exploring what options exist to improve the space and replace the benches

Village Shop – *project lead Cllr Christine Phillips*

- The shop committee convenes quarterly throughout the year.
- Average weekday footfall is approximately 100, with increased numbers observed during weekends.
- The shop provides a broad selection of food and household goods.
- A resident has recently joined the team in a part-time capacity. (Michael)
- A new secretary was appointed as of April 1st, 2026. (Kharis)
  Previous Secretary resigned after seeing the Committee through quite a lot, Danielle produced a share prospectus as well as marketing the shares and overseeing a fantastic number of shares and amount raised.
- Consideration is being given to the possibility of having funds available for the benefit of community projects.
- Cllr Christine Phillips and Cllr Julie Cole were recognised with Service to the Community Awards from Stirling Council for their work leading the project team.
- Rent is £15,000 a year + VAT.
- The Shop Committee then need to pay the accountant and secretary.
- VJ is regional manager overseeing things and Arvind is the shop's day to day manager.
- Moving to a different accountant as Shop Committee feel the fees are too expensive.
- Community Ownership Fund and Scottish Land Fund awarded Shop Committee grants, and the 2 end of project returns have been completed and returned

Community Engagement - *(MB)*

- Members of the Community Council have attended meetings of other CC's, the AGM of the Community Trust, external meetings, drop-in information sessions and have participated in surveys and feed-back opportunities to represent the Council's view on behalf of the community.
- GCC attended the drop-in information session run by Stirling Council's Kings Highway project team, producing a joint response with the Trust, and engaged directly with the relevant manager within Stirling Council highlighting suggestions and concerns.
- GCC has two representatives on Wind Farm Panel.
- Continue to encourage representatives of other Community stakeholder groups to routinely attend GCC meetings.

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- GCC are engaging with Stirling Council Local Development Plan consultation, noting the possibility of housing development within the community.
- Meetings now have an external speaker slot, thus far we have heard from speakers on biodiversity, community development, flood risk and resilience planning.
- Working alongside the church, to support the proposed 'Start Up Stirling' Food bank initiative and acknowledge support from GCT and Nadara.
- Members of GCC attended the Remembrance Day service at the Kirk, laying a wreath.
- Local Councillors attended most of our meetings and we acknowledge their support, engagement and encouragement in a variety of matters.
- Now offer refreshments and hot drinks at meetings in the Community Centre.

Council Establishment and Succession Planning

- Gargunnock Community Council is entitled to have 9 community councillors. The election for Councillors is normally held every 4 years, with the most recent round undertaken in 2023. However, as Local Authority elections are taking place in 2027, it then falls to the next available year which is 2028.
- GCC currently have 6 elected members and an associate member, meaning there is an opportunity for a further 3 elected members.
- GCC are actively seeking to co-opt members to fill the vacant places and support the succession planning of the Council.
- GCC welcomed two new members, Cllrs Tom McEwan and Martin Harrick - and an Associate member, Maitland Clark.
- We thank outgoing members Cllr David Millar and Cllr Lovat MacGregor for their service to the community.
- (MB) as Chair, thanked (on behalf of the community of Gargunnock); Cllrs Christine Phillips (Secretary), Tom Jamieson (Treasurer), Julie Cole, Tom McEwan, Martin Harrick and Associate Maitland Clark for their outstanding work and dedication.

5. SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT – *Per Cllr Christine Phillips*

Meeting Updates

- Meetings are held in person every two months on the first Monday of the month whenever feasible, in the Community Centre.
- Minutes and agendas are consistently shared with Stirling Council Officer, Stephen Bly, and disseminated to the community via social media, our website and noticeboard.

Communications

- All official correspondence is conducted via the Council's designated email account: gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com.
- Personal email accounts of GCC councillors are also utilised, copied to the GCC designated email address.
- A WhatsApp group is used for informal comms.
- We contribute to the Bugle with a combination of news updates and calls to action and utilise the Gargunnock webpage for news as well.

General

- Speeding in the village remains a concern, with calls for stronger enforcement.

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- Pothole issues on Main Street and Leckie Road have been referred to Stirling Council.
- Stirling Council has surveyed the Main Street bridge and scheduled repairs.
- Village maintenance concerns—including grass cutting, verge weeding, and culvert clearing—have been raised with Stirling Council.
- Footpath deterioration will be escalated by GCC to Stirling Council.
- Local police report anti-social behaviour and recent vandalism of the village noticeboard.
- Police also suspect local drone activity may be linked to theft planning.
- Residents raised concerns over invasive species, and we have flagged these with the landowner and Stirling Council as appropriate.

Police Scotland

- Regular ward reports are still being received, though their detail and frequency have declined compared to previous periods.

Promotion of Meetings

- Meetings are publicised through Facebook, the Community Notice Board and village website, which also holds agendas and meeting minutes, the latter initially in draft form and then as approved versions.
- The council email account (gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com) is routinely monitored, and relevant correspondence is circulated among councillors.

5.1 VILLAGE SHOP REPORT GCC 2025-2026 - *Per Cllr Christine Phillips*

- The shop committee convenes quarterly throughout the year.
- Average weekday footfall is approximately 100, with increased numbers observed during weekends.
- The shop provides a broad selection of food and household goods.
- A resident has recently joined the team in a part-time capacity.
- A new secretary was appointed as of April 1st, 2026.
- Consideration is being given to the possibility of having funds available for the benefit of community projects.
- Cllr Christine Phillips and Cllr Julie Cole were recognised with Service to the Community Awards from Stirling Council for their work leading the project team.

6. TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT – *per Cllr Tom Jamieson* ***See Appendix 1***

- The Community Council is a statutory body.
- Our only direct income is our administrative grant from Stirling Council which for the financial year was £476.03. Our accounts have been audited and will be submitted to Stirling Council after the AGM.
- Our administrative costs this session included hall hire, minute taking, insurance and Google storage for email. We also incurred some additional costs in producing the Local Place Plan.

Three main projects requiring financial support were:

1. The consultation process and production of the Local Place Plan, which required to be approved and signed off by Stirling Council.

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2. The cleaning of the Village Fountain in the Square.
3. The installation of additional Festive Lighting and New Year Celebrations.

We are grateful to the Wind farm Panel and the Trust for their support with the Local Place Plan, the work on the Village Fountain and covering the insurance costs for the New Year Fireworks.

We are also grateful to the Community Councillors and various helpers who have worked hard to make things happen in the village. Fund raising amounted to £3014.50, which was primarily used to extend and run the Christmas lighting display.

At the close of the financial year, 1/4/25 our account balance was £2550.32.

Our current balance is £1955.67 (24/5/26)

Each year we have additional running costs such as running the Christmas lights, which require fundraising each year. A thank you to John More (The Beild Farm), as he donates his cherry picker and his time for free to help the community.
Thank you to Christine for the fundraising efforts
Accounts thanks to Mr Edmond for looking over them before they are submitted to auditor.

Councillor Rosemary Fraser congratulated Shop Committee for their awards and the GCC for their efforts and hard work. Rosemary took over the chairperson role of the meeting.

7.1 RESIGNATION OF CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS

In unanimity, the below people resigned:

Chair:	*Mike Buckley*
Secretary:	*Christine Phillips*
Treasurer:	*Tom Jamieson*
Planning/Licensing:	*Tom McEwan*
Roads & Transport:	*Julie Cole*
Communications:	*Mike Buckley*
Wind Farm Rep 1:	*Martin Harrick*
Wind Farm Rep 2:	*Tom Jamieson*

7.2 ELECTION OF 2026-27 OFFICE BEARERS

In unanimity *the following people were elected to their previous 2025-56 roles*
The motion was approved by attendee Anne Christie. Seconded by; attendee David Penman.

Chair:	*Mike Buckley*
Secretary:	*Christine Phillips*
Treasurer:	*Tom Jamieson*
Planning/Licensing:	*Tom McEwan*
Roads & Transport:	*Julie Cole*
Communications:	*Mike Buckley*

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Wind Farm Rep 1: *Martin Harrick*
Wind Farm Rep 2: *Tom Jamieson*

8. AOCB

Edmond Mansion raised a concern that if there is any damage or accident blocking the bridge on Main Street, access and egress from the village is blocked. This includes emergency vehicles. GCC has already raised this issue with Stirling council, but the reply focused on surveying and scheduling repairs to the bridge and not the risks if the bridge is blocked. GCC will communicate with Stirling Council again over this matter.

(TJ) mentioned that SC confirmed an inspection after financial year end.

ACTION - Rosemary to send in a request to their officers to look at the bridge repair works.

An attendee highlighted that a theoretical route that could be used in case of an emergency instead of the usual bridge being used - SC have in recent years added a lamppost in that area and therefore no emergency vehicle could access in the situation of an emergency. Possibly a cast iron type fountain at the end of the route also, restricting through access.

9.1 CLOSE OF MEETING

7.53pm

9.2 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26 July 2027

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APPENDIX 1 ***FINANCIAL REPORT***

Gargunnock Community Council

Statement of Accounts from 1st April 2025 to 1st April 2026

Opening Balance: £3711.02.

Closing Balance: £2550.32

- **Income:**
- Admin Grant 476.03
- Pub Quiz Christmas Lights. 362.50
- Pub Quiz prize Donation. 360.00
- Lottery Grant Christmas lights. 1500.00
- Stirling Pride Grant 792.00
- Surplus Refund from Wind farm 00.60

Total: £3491.13

- **Expenditure**:

• Hall Hire	129.80
• Minute Taker	210.00
• Local Place Plan	245.93
• Remembrance Day Wreath	42.90
• Refund for Stone Analysis repaid to Wind Farm Panel	732.00
• Payment for Fountain restoration.	1182.00
• Christmas Lighting	1912.72
• Christmas Tree	100.00
• Google Storage for email	14.49
• Vouchers for CC members leaving LM + DM	66.99
• Catering for meetings	15.00
Total:	£4651.83.

Prepared by Treasurer.

Tom Jamieson

Signed
2026

Date: 5th May

I have examined the accounts and from the information and paperwork submitted, I certify them as being correct

Auditor Edmond Mansion

Signed
2026

Date: 5th May