

Neilston Community Council

Meeting of Tuesday 30 September 2025

Approved Minutes

In attendance

CC Members: Malcolm Briggs, Julie Cloherty, Janice Connery (Vice Chair), Alison Findlay, Rowena Johnstone (Chair), Margaret Pettigrew, Jim Sheriff, Gail Squires (Secretary & minutes).

Councillors: Cllr O'Donnell

Visitors: Nancy Gardner, Val Perrie, John Perrie, Gavin Kinnell, Stephen Moffat, Allan Ogg, Douglas Currie

Apologies: Margaret Currie, Cllr Morrison, Cllr Buchanan

1. Welcome

All attendees were welcomed to the meeting.

2. Minutes: approved electronically 8.10.25 (Proposed: Malcolm Briggs, Seconded: Julie Cloherty)

3. Police Report

No officers were available to be present. The report for 27 August to 30 September was:

Homes being broken into: None.

Antisocial behaviour and disorder:

1 x intoxicated male on Main Street acting aggressively. Male was arrested. Youths at football match at Brig Olea Stadium being a general nuisance. Police presence settled any disorder and no further issues.

1x intoxicated male shouting within common close. Male issued with a warning.

Violent crime:

1x male arrested for assault. Incident occurred within property, no concerns for the wider public.

Drug dealing and misuse: None.

Road Traffic:

Small motorbike driving carelessly. Reporter did not get a chance to capture VRM. Police conducted an area search but no such vehicles traced.

Other:

Local community officers have engaged with staff at Neilston Campus due to ongoing reports of minor traffic issues, including careless driving and inconsiderate parking, during drop-off and pick-up times. Communications have gone out from the school to parents/guardians to be mindful of this as manner of driving by some road users is deemed a risk to children's safety.

Rowena raised awareness of the current Police Scotland road safety campaign and how important this is for everyone and to share where possible. [Police Scotland Safety Cameras campaign urges drivers not to become the story behind the speed camera — Police Scotland Safety Cameras](#)

4. Visitors' issues

McGill's buses parking up in Glen Doll Road: Stephen Moffat brought the CC's attention to the issue of McGill's buses using the stop in Glen Doll Road near the junction with Uplawmoor Road as a 'time stop' when it should be only for picking up/dropping off passengers. This has caused a range of problems for the residents and traffic flow including:

- blocking access to residents' properties
- leaving engines running unnecessarily
- leaving buses unattended with engines running
- other buses mounting the opposite kerb to get past
- other traffic having difficulties manoeuvring past
- occasionally drivers using the hedges nearby to relieve themselves
- the newer buses are longer and the junction isn't suitable for them, other traffic having to stop and make way
- road surface is being damaged

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Stephen had provided a number of photos that illustrated the issues plus a full account of the history. Informing the Police was discussed and it was felt useful to involve them. Using their online form to do this would build up a record of the issues and raise their awareness.

NCC will write to McGill's and invite them to attend the next meeting to allow discussion with them around this topic and the topic of timetabling issues for the No.3 (see August minutes) and will raise awareness of the issue with Police Scotland. [Action: Gail]

School Campus illuminated sign: Douglas Currie explained that the lights were now illuminated from 7am to 9pm although it had been agreed previously that they need not be lit. As the school has advised that the control of this is at ERC, it is clear a decision has been taken by someone at ERC to illuminate the sign at these times. This sign has been clearly shown to be completely unnecessary: it does not illuminate a dark area, it is not needed to show where the campus is as there is other adequate signage, it causes light pollution issues for neighbouring residents, it is not compatible with the green agenda, and it is costing the community money for no benefit or purpose. NCC will write to ERC Education. [Action: Gail]

5. Matters Arising

McGill's No.3 Bus timetabling issues

NCC have written to McGill's and they have indicated that there will be no change. NCC will write to ask them to attend a meeting to discuss this and the Glen Doll Rd issues. [Action: Gail]

Steps between the Killoch/Chippy

NCC wrote to ERC and they have replied that the steps belong to ERC Housing and that they will be inspected and repairs put in place, but there is no timescale yet. NCC will monitor and follow up if no activity soon. [Action: Gail]

Electronic noticeboard: the info on the criteria for who can use this (voluntary groups) and the process for getting info posted on it (email communications@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk) will be put on NCC's Facebook page. [Action: Malcolm]

Grass maintenance: NCC had written to ERC and received info back that

- maintenance of the grass in the school campus is now the duty of the Parks Department, but the banking is too steep in one area to cut because of health & safety issues. It was pointed out that ERC had created this steep banking themselves when the campus was being developed.
- ERC staff don't collect cut grass as it is left to replenish the soil, however, they are supposed to keep it to the grassy areas and avoid it gathering on roads and walkways by using blowers etc. As it was clear that this is not being done properly, the issue will be followed up. [Action: Julie]

Crudens housing development Kirkton Rd: NCC had written to Jason Steele of Crudens about the issues of roads and access but he could not provide the information yet and will update us when he can. NCC will take up some of these issues at the forthcoming meeting with ERC Environment. Carried forward to the October meeting.

Defibrillator at the school campus: NCC are keen to contribute to the fundraising for this and will investigate further. Carried forward to the October meeting. [Action: Margaret Pettigrew]

Repairs to perimeter fence at school campus: Carried forward to the October meeting for update from Cllr Buchanan.

Neilston Windfarm Legacy: following the visit from NWL in August, it was agreed to promote their board vacancies on NCC's Facebook page. [Action: Malcolm]

6. Standing Items

Expansion of CCTV: the camera at Brig O'Lea stadium is a redeployable camera and was installed as a temporary measure in 2019 but had been forgotten about and will now be removed. They also advised that they do not use redeployable cameras currently.

There was discussion about the welcome plans to install CCTV at the Library which is much needed but there were questions about the range of view it will have and will it address the need in the area from the cross to the leisure centre which NCC has been promoting with ERC for some months. Stephen Bell at ERC to be contacted re these queries. [Action: Gail]

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Dareduff Quarry Traffic: Speed is the main danger and the new build outs on Kingston Rd do not seem to be having much impact on this as yet. This will be addressed at the rescheduled meeting with ERC Environment.

Double yellow lines High St opposite the garage: It was suggested that these could be painted when parking restrictions are in place during Scottish Water works in October. NCC will contact Roads and Cllr O'Donnell asked to be copied in. [\[Action: Gail\]](#)

Perimeter fence at school campus: Carried forward to October.

Planning Issues

Parcel Locker at 142 Main Street: Decision from ERC Planning due within the next week.

Glenouther Moor wind turbines: Stewarton CC have been contacted but no response as yet. This is at the planning stage currently.

Scottish Water premises on Kingston Rd: up for sale but no planning implications yet.

LDP3: Cllr O'Donnell advised that there will be no activity on this until at least May 2026.

Nova Homes development, Holehouse Brae: Some concern that the gap in Hillside Rd would be used for vehicle access, however the plans presented by Nova Homes to NCC in June showed this to be pedestrian access only.

7. Treasurer's Report

Cash in hand	1.43	
TSB	1449.25	
Bank of Scotland		
O/Bal	520.07	
ERC Grant income	362.66	
Total	882.73	
Cheques	36.53	G.Squires: Printer ink
	50.00	VAER: Annual Audit
	18.00	Church of Scotland: Hall Rental
Charges	4.25	Bank monthly charge
Total expenditure	108.78	
Closing Bal	773.95	
Grand Total	2,224.63	

8. Communications Update

Following meeting with NDT, Malcolm updated that NDT have agreed to administer the 'What's On' grid.

The problem of funding a hard copy newsletter for the village (NCC and NDT collaboration) has been possibly solved with the help of the Good News newspaper who are happy to include articles about Neilston at no cost. The paper is free and copies will be placed in the library. There is also an online version of the paper. They could do a specific issue for Neilston.

The "Community Magazine" that is freely available in East Ren libraries is principally focused on Newton Mearns news but this is another vehicle for communicating with the community that can be explored.

Attention was drawn to the new free app called 'Explore East Ren' for promoting activities in the area, and that it was important to get groups and schools involved to make it useful to the community.

9. Other

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CC Chairs Meeting: Rowena had attended the first meeting and updated on a number of discussions and issues that arose. Meetings will be held quarterly. A copy of Rowena's report will be kept in the filing cabinet at the Glen Halls and on the laptop.

Lorry parking at drop off point in High Street: Janice raised awareness that some lorries and cars have been using the space for overnight and longer-term parking. She stated that this was originally intended to be a drop off point only, however there is no signage to that effect. The fact there are parking spaces painted there, including a disabled space, would indicate it is for the purpose of parking, not just dropping off/picking up and so clarity will be sought at the forthcoming meeting with ERC Environment. [\[carried forward\]](#)

Kirkstyle Lane litter issues: Janice explained that the litter problem had got extremely bad here, particularly the regular dumping of cigarette ends beside the bins that have ash trays built into them for the purpose. It was agreed to be unacceptable littering which is making this part of the village an eyesore. Credit was given to the efforts of our volunteer litter pickers who do such a great job. NCC will follow this up. [\[Action: Rowena\]](#)

Cllr O'Donnell updated that ERC has a new 'Litter Strategy' which will include the provision of bigger bins, simplifying the system for removing the rubbish collected by local litter pickers, and working with shop owners, children, local CCs etc.

10. AOCB

Participatory Budget Funding: Margaret Pettigrew confirmed that a total amount of £100,000 will soon be made available for voluntary groups to bid for in the coming months, and she will keep the CC and the community informed of progress.

Draining of the Long Loch: Scottish Water has drained the Long Loch and as it is not Council owned land, it is unclear at this point if there is anything ERC can do. There are concerns, mainly ecological destruction, that need considered. Any info can be passed on directly to ERC or via NCC.

11. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 28 October 2025, 7-9pm, Glen Halls, Main Street, Neilston.