

BCIC NEWSLETTER

Barrhill Community Interest Company

A WARM WELCOME

We hope you enjoy this new BCIC Newsletter which is being circulated to all Barrhill residents. For those who may be new to the village the 'Barrhill Community Interest Company' was set up to oversee the development of Barrhill through the management of windfarm monies allocated to the community. The outline of this development is detailed in the Barrhill Community Action Plan which is available to view at www.barrhill.org.uk

The next issue of the BCIC Newsletter will be circulated to BCIC Members only – so if you'd like to keep up to date with everything that's happening then please become a member. Please also let us know if you'd like to receive the BCIC Newsletter via email instead of in paper copy.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE BCIC?

Any person who lives in the Barrhill Community or owns a property in Barrhill can apply to be a member.



HOW DOES BEING A MEMBER BENEFIT ME?

If you become a member then you can vote on policies or issues raised by the BCIC. You can also apply to become a Director on the BCIC Board if you really want to be hands on. Being a member means you can vote on who you would like to join the Board each year.

HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER?

It's simple, just contact Angela Blackstock on 821402 or at 59 Main Street and ask for an application form. If wish to apply to be a future Director on the BCIC Board then Angela has the forms for that too. If this is something you are considering then please attend this year's AGM to be held on Wednesday 19th August 2015 in the Memorial Hall at 19.00 to see how the process works and then apply for next year. Each Director serves a term of three years only so there is always a need for new people to put themselves forward. If you'd like to chat to us before completing your application for 2016 then we would be delighted to hear from you and help in any way we can.

BCIC NEWS

ARNSHEEN PARK

It was with great excitement that Arnsheen Activity Park was officially opened on Saturday 18th July – a joint celebration with Barrhill's annual Gala Day. As you can see from the following photographs (*with thanks to Linda Wild*) a great time was had by all.



The refurbished Arnsheen Park features a 20m by 10m multi-use games arena which is big enough to play five-a-side football, an adventure trail, a double zip line which children and adults can race down and a playground which is the centrepiece of the refurbishment and the only one of its kind in Scotland.

Not only can all members of the public enjoy this marvellous facility – it benefits the school too.



Pupils and staff at Barrhill Primary can now enjoy an outdoor classroom area along with a stage, seating and sheltered area. There is an outdoor BBQ and picnic area for people to enjoy whilst there is also a specialised toddler play zone featuring a slide and many other pieces of equipment.

We would enjoy hearing how the community is making use of this wonderful new facility so please do get in touch.

The background of this project - the BCIC purchased the land from Solway Precast on behalf of the community and then spent the past six months working with design teams and contractors to come up with options for its design. These designs were then laid out to the community in the Memorial Hall with the meeting being attended by more than 40 people. A clear winner was chosen with exciting plans set to be developed by the UK's leading play-park developers Hags SMP in conjunction with the BCIC. The winning design chosen by villagers was for a park clearly designed with children in mind!.



SCHOOL TRIP

On Thursday 25th June 2015, the pupils of Barrhill Primary School and Nursery went a-hunting for ice cream and go-karts at Cream O' Galloway all thanks to funding from the BCIC. This is just one of the many exciting things the BCIC is able to support in the community, read on to hear all about the fantastic time our children had:

When we arrived, we firstly took all our things into the dining area in front of the Smuggler's Warren. Then, we all went down through the play area and up to the large (and bouncy) Go Boing. We all had a lot of fun bouncing around and knocking over parents and teachers. As we jumped and leapt around, the sky decided we were having too much fun and started to spit on us. However, we were undeterred, and some of us split off and decided to go into the 3d Maze. While everyone else was on Go Boing, we were running around playing in the twisting corridors of the maze. Soon after, a few of us decided to climb to the very top of the Viewing Tower. After spending a good few minutes feeling like kites on wooden strings, we clambered back down to the bottom again.



We were all very tired by then, so we went inside to try some ice cream. We were taken upstairs into a small room full of chairs, which overlooked the ice cream factory. We were shown how the ice cream was made, and how it used to be done when the factory first opened. Somebody was stirring a large vat, making cheese, when we got there. Next, we were given little glass bowls of ice cream to try, and a little wooden spoon that looked like a lollipop stick. We guessed the flavours by tasting, smelling and looking at them. Also, we were given a free ice cream coupon to buy an ice cream of our choice later!

After that, we decided that we would spend some time in the Smugglers' Warren, which is Cream O' Galloway's indoor play area. We were running up and down the wooden corridors, and popping down into the basement. Time passed so fast, we barely noticed it was lunch time!

After we'd eaten, we went round the go-kart track for about half an hour. Lots of fast pedalling was required!. We spent lots of time daring to go down the steepest ramps and racing each other, and we really didn't want it to end.

All too soon however, we had to bring the go-karts in, and before long we were back on the coach and heading for home sweet home. There was endless laughing and joking on the coach, but who can blame us? It was the best day EVER!.

Please feel free to contact the BCIC with ideas for potential day trips, educational visits or pleasure outings you would enjoy – we would like to hear from you.



GARDEN MAINTENANCE



As part of BCIC helping the community, a grass cutting service is available from April to October for free. In order to qualify you need to be over the age of 70 years and have health issues that makes cutting your own grass difficult. (This does not apply to people who live in council houses as they will be able to get the council to cut their grass). The grass must be of lawn standard to start and then a local contractor employed by the BCIC will cut your grass approximately every 2 weeks. Please contact the BCIC if you would like to be considered for this scheme – let us help you.

BCIC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year's BCIC Annual General Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 19th August at 19.00 in the Memorial Hall, Barrhill. All residents of Barrhill are welcome to attend and BCIC Members will be able to vote on who they wish to be on the BCIC Board for the forthcoming year.

Diary Date

BCIC ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING
WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST
2015 at 19.00

Memorial Hall, Barrhill

DEFIBRILLATOR (PAD) FOR BARRHILL

Those residents who read the Community Council minutes will be aware that back in November the Secretary applied for a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) through the Scottish Government and Scottish Ambulance Service initiative, for location at the Barrhill Surgery, to be publicly accessible for 24 hours a day/7 days a week. An outdoor cabinet was also applied for.

Due to the overwhelming response from across Scotland to the initiative it was not until April that the decision was notified that the Community Council had been successful in its application for a PAD, but unfortunately unsuccessful in its application for a cabinet. The PAD itself has only just been received and now that the required size is known, an outdoor cabinet has been ordered and delivery is imminent. Barrhill Community Council is most grateful to the Scottish Ambulance Service for supplying the PAD, which is a vital piece of equipment, particularly in a rural area like Barrhill, where it is doubtful an ambulance would be likely to arrive quickly enough to resuscitate most victims of sudden cardiac arrest, the village being 13 miles from the nearest ambulance station. An automated external defibrillator (AED) can be deployed in the community to help resuscitate a victim of sudden cardiac arrest.



Should this occur, an ambulance should be summoned immediately, basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) performed and the AED used to provide a high energy electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm. When an AED is placed where it can be used by lay persons it is referred to as public access defibrillation (PAD).

The PAD can safely be used without training, being designed to be used by lay persons, as the machine guides the operator through the process by verbal instructions and visual prompts. It is, however, important to have sufficient people in the

community, trained to deliver CPR and to use a PAD. It is planned to hold a 'Heartstart' class in Barrhill very shortly and should any resident be interested in becoming a First Responder, the Community Council would be pleased to hear from him/her.

The Ballantrae Medical Practice has fully co-operated with the project, which is much appreciated, and it is anticipated that the PAD will be installed on the external wall of the Barrhill Surgery before too long. Until the installation has been carried out, the PAD is being stored temporarily at the Old Sweet Shop, 15 Main Street, Barrhill. (Contact: James Duffie, Tel. 07768 767083.) Once installation is complete full details will be made available to the community. Further information can be obtained from Community Council Chair, Dave Russell (Tel. 821364) or Secretary, Celia Strain (Tel. 821333).

COMMUNITY BUS TRIPS

The Community Bus trips are free for ALL residents of Barrhill and the surrounding area and now also for non-residents, the £1 nominal charge having been waived. The trips have, however, been reduced from monthly to bi-monthly, due to a fall in demand. So far this year there have only been two: in February to Castle Douglas, which is always a very popular trip, and in April to Dumfries. This trip was also well attended.



The trip scheduled for June, to Stranraer and Soleburn Garden Centre, unfortunately had to be cancelled, due to insufficient numbers. The BCIC have set a minimum number of passengers at six, in order for a trip to go ahead. On this occasion, which was not the first, only four passengers put their names forward. Cancellation of the trip incurred a cancellation fee of £15 from SAYLSA.



Further trips will be arranged and the BCIC would welcome suggestions of locations for these and also which day of the week is preferred. It is difficult to know the best day to suit the majority, with a complaint once being received from a resident that 'outings were only offered to a chosen few'! This was most definitely not the case with ALL age groups welcome, but in spite of the days of trips being varied in recent years (Saturdays or Sundays being chosen latterly), with a very few exceptions it is always the same residents who participate in the trips.

It is hoped to arrange a further trip in late August and the BCIC would ask that all residents who are interested in coming on a trip ensure they keep an eye on the notice board, situated adjacent to the shop window. Posters advertising the trips are placed there at least a fortnight in advance. It transpires that not all residents look at the items on the notice board!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU – THOUGHTS AND IDEAS

Let's hear from you! The BCIC was set up and is run entirely for the benefit of the community and so it's important that we listen to you and act upon what you say. Let us know what's on your mind, what you think of the changes happening in Barrhill and what you'd like to see happen in the future. We depend on you to make your feelings known. Get in touch with any of the BCIC Board and your points will be discussed at our next monthly meeting.

BCIC – HOW TO CONTACT US

For general enquiries, help or information on any of the points raised in this Newsletter then please contact the BCIC using the following email address bcicbarrhill@yahoo.co.uk or by telephoning using the names and numbers listed below:

Angela Blackstock 01465 821402 or at 59 Main Street, Barrhill
Simon Redman 01465 821538 or at Creeside Farm, Barrhill

We hope you've enjoyed reading this copy of the BCIC Newsletter and look forward to getting back in touch with you later this year.

The BCIC Board