



**FORT, SEAFIELD & WALLACETOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL (FSWCC)**

**Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday 11th March 2026, 6.30pm**

Working for Wallacetown (“hub”), 37 George Street, Ayr, KA8 0AH

Chair: **Ian MacLeod (acting)**

Minutes: **Transcript by Apple; processed through MS Copilot and edited by Ian MacLeod**

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**Attendees / Panel**

- **Voting Members:**  
David Connelly, Carol Fisher, Michael Hitchon, Ian MacLeod, Alan Roseweir, Robert Singer, Forbes Watson
- **Ex-Officio Members:**  
Cllr George Weir, Cllr Bob Shields
- **South Ayrshire Council (SAC):**  
Paul Dougall and Fiona Ross (both re: item 10. Public Bins); David Porte (Link Officer)

**Members of the Public:**

Margaret Anderson, Ian Borland, Katrina Glennie, Simon McCrindle, Beryl McKinlay, Sharon McSkimming, John Monaghan, Nathawadee Sanglar

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**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Acting Chair Ian MacLeod opened the meeting, noting apologies from Chair Denise Sommerville.

Members of the public were welcomed and advised they would be invited to contribute during relevant agenda items.

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**2. Apologies**

Voting Members: Eric Armstrong, Denise Sommerville

Ex-Officio Members: Siobhian Brown MSP

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**3. Declarations of Interest**

- **Item 7.6.1. Dalblair Road Speeding:** David Connelly
- **Item 7.10.1. Burns Statue Square:** Cllr Bob Shields
- **Item 8. Pride in Place Programme:** Alan Roseweir & Robert Singer
- **Item 10.1.3. Sand Ingress – Northern Promenade:** Alan Roseweir

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**4. Approval of Minutes (11 February 2026)**

Minutes approved without amendment.

**Proposed:** Forbes Watson. **Seconded:** Alan Roseweir.

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## 5. Matters Arising

Matters not scheduled elsewhere on the agenda:

### 5.1 International Air Show – [2025 Economic Impact Report](#)

Cllr Weir reported that the economic impact report has now been published. (see [hyperlink](#))

### 5.3 Ayr Bus Station – Performance and Sufficiency of Facilities

No update from Eric Armstrong since the matter was raised in October 2025.

Members agreed the matter is now **lapsed**.

### 6.10.03 Arran Mall & Hourstons – Non-Residential Disposal Option

Ian MacLeod confirmed that an email was sent to all SAC councillors urging inclusion of a non-residential option.

### 6.10.04 Loudon Hall – Offer of Support

No response from trustees therefore action discharged.

### 6.12 Ex-Officio Members – Clarification to MP

Secretary confirmed that Elaine Stewart MP's office has been informed of ex-officio status.

### 8.01 Wallacetown North – Boundary Inclusion

Denise Sommerville has submitted ratified minutes to SAC and awaits outcome of their consultation.

*note: Monitor as required.*

### 9.01 Community Noticeboard

Carol Fisher continues to collate factors for deciding which ward receives the funded noticeboard.

### 11.01 Station Hotel

No update.

*note: Monitor as required.*

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## 6. Correspondence

A submission from resident **Katrina Glennie** regarding anti-social behaviour at Blackburn Road / Esplanade car park was noted (see item **7.6.3**).

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## 7. Reports

### 7.1 Treasurer – M. Hitchon

#### 7.1.1 Monthly Statement

Insurance and ICO registration renewed.

Balance remaining for FY 2025–26: **£474**.

#### 7.1.2 Scope for Making Charitable Donations

Members agreed (Ian MacLeod abstained) to allocate **three £50 donations** to:

- Riverside Early Years

- Street Pastors
- Newton Primary food support

**Action:** *Treasurer to issue donations by 31/03/2026.*

### **7.1.3 Request for Hi-Visibility Vests**

Proposal for up to £30 for branded hi-vis vests: **Not seconded – proposal rejected.**

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## **7.2 Planning**

### **7.2.1 Savoy 5 Building Works**

Still under SAC enforcement and licensing scrutiny.

**Action:** *Forbes Watson and Councillors Shields and Weir to report to FSWCC 08/04/2026*

### **7.2.2 Ayr Town Centre Shop Fronts – Signage Compliance**

Members discussed inconsistent enforcement and the need for clarity.

**Action:** *Forbes Watson & Michael Hitchon to pursue SAC Planning for clarity by 08/04/2026.*

### **7.2.3 Monthly Planning List**

One change-of-use application noted; no objections.

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## **7.3 Licensing**

### **7.3.1 Monthly Application List**

No applications of concern.

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## **7.4 Short Term Lets (STLs)**

### **7.4.1 Monthly Application List**

Members noted a recent Aberdeen Sheriff Court ruling strengthening planning-based objections.

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## **7.5 Police**

### **7.5.1 Monthly Report**

Report circulated; no major incidents.

Members queried whether STL activity may be influencing disturbance patterns.

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## **7.6 Roads**

### **7.6.1 Dalblair Road Speeding**

ARA confirmed signage meets standards; repeater markings to be refreshed.

Cllr Weir will forward ARA correspondence to the Secretary.

**Action:** *FSWCC to pursue ARA for date of the speed survey to assess effectiveness of measures.*

### 7.6.2 Ayr Grammar Primary School

Update from SAC Link Officer David Porte:

- Junior Road Safety Officers deployed
- Pupil-designed posters for parents
- SAC exploring volunteer-supported “walking bus” options

### 7.6.3 Blackburn Road / Esplanade Car Park – Anti-Social Behaviour

Resident Katrina Glennie outlined persistent issues:

- Vehicles accessing via pavements
- Damaged barriers
- Late-night gatherings and noise
- Missing bollards/gates
- Intermittent mobile CCTV
- Unclear timetables for remedial works

Members agreed escalation was required.

**Action:** Carol Fisher, Alan Roseweir to escalate with Cllrs Weir & Shields by **08/04/2026**.

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### 7.7 Common Good

Awaiting SAC’s March committee papers regarding fund records.

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### 7.8 Wallacetown Community Energy Project – A. Roseweir

- Successful launch event
- Three buildings generating energy
- Smart-meter delays affecting billing
- Plans for advisory panel for community fund distribution

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### 7.9 Place Planning – Ayr South/West

Members noted SAC’s delay in considering the draft CAP.

A private discussion (post-public business) concluded:

- The draft CAP **misrepresents FSWCC positions**
- It assigns **delivery responsibilities** inappropriate for a community council
- FSWCC will **not sign off** the draft CAP unless revised to remove these issues

**Proposed:** Ian MacLeod

**Seconded:** Robert Singer

**Decision:** Unanimous

**Action:** Await SAC officer’s indication on whether CAP can progress.

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## 7.10 Ayr Town Centre Regeneration

### 7.10.1 Burns Statue Square

FSWCC examined [a record from SAC full council meeting May 2025](#) where [a proposal by Cllr. Bob Shields was carried to feasibility/ planning stage](#).

Several members of the public attending tonight have listed the Burns Statue Square redevelopment proposal as their item of public concern.

Ian MacLeod reported that he contacted a named contact from Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA) that was on the report that was the basis of Cllr. Shield's proposal at the May 2025 SAC meeting. The ARA officer explained that the project is a 'place-making' idea, with road reconfiguration a necessary by-product to accommodate the prime purpose of a pedestrian plaza on the east side of the 'square'. Likely, the project is to be considered again at SAC full council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Substantial discussion took place involving members of the public such as local traders, community councillors, and elected councillors. Traders concerns can be categorised as:

- dismay that the decision has been made, or **plan developed, without proof of benefit for town centre trading**, let alone fact-finding/ consultation with traders or public
- fear that the proposed **development will reduce or divert traffic and/ or footfall from flowing into the town centre**
- fear about the **likely severe detrimental effect of disruption during construction**

Councillors Shields and Weir accepted request to provide insight to the process:

- **Cllr Shields** said the proposal's intention is to make Burns Statue Square a 'destination' and that he envisages his business – a pub on the square – benefitting from the development. Cllr Shields thinks the proposal has been approved – In effect, that it will happen.
- **Cllr Weir** thinks the proposal is 'in principle' so far – That it has not yet progressed to decision nor planning process. Cllr Weir would be appalled if the project is implemented without consultation of traders/ residents in the area.

**Proposed:** Carol Fisher – FSWCC demand SAC consult traders/residents before any final decision.

**Seconded:** Ian MacLeod

**Decision:** Unanimous

**Action:** FSWCC to write formally to SAC by **08/04/2026**.

### **7.10.2 High Street Aesthetic**

Beryl McKinlay updated members on SAC responses regarding flowerbeds, derelict frontage, and cleansing.

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### **7.11 Fundraising & Grants**

Deferred due to Chair's absence.

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### **7.12 Elected Members**

Cllr Weir is querying SAC regarding Common Good income treatment for events at Rozelle.

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## **8. Pride in Place Programme**

Alan Rosewier provided update on Town Board meetings, website development, and project alignment reviews. Public-facing information expected soon.

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## **9. Venue(s) for 2026–2027 Meetings**

Secretary reported ongoing discussions with SAC regarding venue options.

**Action:** Secretary to confirm venue by **08/04/2026**.

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## **10. Public Bins – Southern Esplanade & Seafield Section of Belleisle Park**

### **10.1 SAC Neighbourhood Services Q&A**

SAC officers Fiona Ross and Paul Dougall's response to matters raised in letter from Ian MacLeod (Seafield ward member) to SAC about scarcity of public bins in the named areas:

- Southern promenade cannot support bin lorry weight so SAC bins removed except at short pathway at foot of Carwinshoch View
- No bins in Belleisle Park (Seafield section) due to lack of hard standing
- "Dog-poo pyramid" incident attributed to misuse, not insufficient capacity
- SAC will install two additional bins on Seafield Drive near the Carwinshoch View access pathway

### **10.1.2 Compaction Bins – Northern Promenade**

SAC officers Fiona Ross and Paul Dougall's informed us:

- These are 'compaction' bins that crush rubbish which enables denser loads to be accommodated thereby reducing the frequency that the bins need emptied
- These often-characterised 'talking bins' are a misinterpretation of the bins' capacity being monitored remotely and scheduled for emptying only when necessary.
- Highest-use bin is at Pavilion Road disabled bays

### **10.1.3 Sand Ingress – Northern Promenade**

Alan Roseweir requested urgent mitigation of sand accumulation near beachfront residences. SAC officers acknowledged. (Alan Roseweir declared that he is a resident within the beachfront properties).

### **10.2 Proposal for Additional Bins South of Seafield Road**

Given SAC's firm position on hard-standing pre-requisite for locations of bins, Ian MacLeod withdrew the proposal for the time being.

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## **11. Questions from the Floor**

(Integrated into relevant agenda items)

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## **12. Any Other Competent Business**

(None raised.)

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## **13. Date of Next Meeting**

**Wednesday 8 April 2026, 18:30 (AGM first, then ordinary meeting)**

AGM will precede the ordinary meeting.

**Venue: [The Grain Exchange \(SAC Thriving Communities entrance – Newmarket Street\), 81 High Street, Ayr, KA7 1QL](#)**

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## ACTION POINTS SUMMARY

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Main Item</b>	<b>Sub-Item No.</b>	<b>Sub-Item Name / Action Wording</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
7.1	Treasurer	7.1.2	<i>Issue three £50 donations</i>	Treasurer	31/03/2026 <i>(as stated in minutes)</i>
7.2	Planning	7.2.1	<i>Report to FSWCC on Savoy 5 enforcement/licensing status</i>	F. Watson, Cllr Shields, Cllr Weir	08/04/2026
7.2	Planning	7.2.2	<i>Pursue SAC Planning re: shopfront signage clarity</i>	F. Watson & M. Hitchon	08/04/2026
7.6	Roads	7.6.1	<i>Pursue ARA for Dalblair Road speed survey date</i>	FSWCC	08/04/2026
7.6	Roads	7.6.3	<i>Escalate Blackburn Road ASB with council leaders</i>	C. Fisher, A. Roseweir,	08/04/2026
7.9	Place Planning – Ayr South/West	—	<i>Await SAC officer's indication on whether CAP can progress</i>	(No named individual)	Not specified
7.10	Ayr Town Centre Regeneration	7.10.1	<i>Write formally to SAC re: Burns Statue Square consultation</i>	FSWCC	08/04/2026
9	Meeting Venues	—	<i>Confirm venue for 2026–27 meetings</i>	Secretary	08/04/2026

**END OF MINUTES**