

# BARRHILL DEVELOPMENT TRUST

## Autumn Newsletter

### Contact Information

Email: [enquiries@barrhilldevtrust.org](mailto:enquiries@barrhilldevtrust.org) Telephone: 07437 484526 Mon - Thurs 9:30am to 2:30pm

### Introduction

At the Annual General Meeting in July 2024 the existing board of trustees of the Barrhill Development Trust (BDT) resigned without prior notice and there appeared to be no-one stepping up to take their place. As a result of this an EGM had to be called at the end of the month to elect a new board in order to prevent BDT ceasing to operate.

In view of the seriousness of the situation, the following people agreed to be nominated to the board with the purpose of running the BDT:

Patrick Buck, Jamie Burgess - Chair, Andrew Clegg - Treasurer, Rod Ekern, William Ottaway, Jean Shaw

The succeeding months have been rather hectic as the new board wrestled with the problems of picking up where the old board left off.

### How It Works

To try and make things clear to the community let us be open about our situation.

The BDT does not have any funds of its own.

In order to operate we have to apply for a grant, in advance, to the BCIC for funding to cover running costs, wages etc. This can cause difficulties when unexpected expenses occur. This is not the fault of the BCIC but just a result of meeting accountancy requirements imposed by SPR who provide the Community Benefit Fund from the windfarms.

The BDT is made up of 6 volunteers who oversee the maintenance of the pub, the hall, the playpark and the public toilets.

Any other projects need to be identified and then funding applied for before they can be addressed.

Currently the BDT only has the capacity to contend with the existing projects. Without further trustees it is not practical to take on additional projects.

### Trustees

As already stated there are currently 6 trustees. The articles state there can be 15 and that there needs to be 5 in order to make any decisions at meetings.

Currently with just 6 trustees we can struggle to be quorate in meetings.

Do you think you can offer the BDT something more? Application forms to be a trustee can be accessed on the website.

[www.barrhilldevtrust.org/join.php](http://www.barrhilldevtrust.org/join.php)

### Staffing

Following the retirement of Caretaker Pat O'Connor in June, Angela McDonald, who has been Relief Caretaker since 2020 took over as Hall Caretaker. The BDT are pleased to have appointed Gemma Horrod to the vacant position of Relief Caretaker following a successful interview, her induction and training began on 10<sup>th</sup> October. Dean Horrod continues in the role of Handyman.

To run the administration successfully there was a need for someone to handle the day to day administrative tasks in the office. We are pleased to announce that Linda Wild was appointed with effect from 1st October.

### Keeping You Informed

The primary source of information about the BDT is via the website [www.barrhilldevtrust.org](http://www.barrhilldevtrust.org). From the website there is a link to our facebook page. Responses to queries may be posted there. Minutes and other notices are also posted on the noticeboard outside the Memorial Hall.

## The Crosswater

Everybody wants to know when the Crosswater will open. The present Trustees are no different. When we took over it was said that the work would be completed in a few weeks. Every time we asked the builders we got the same answer. What can we say. We have told the builders they need to be out by the 15th November.

There are things still to complete but we cannot let this drag on any longer. In general most of the work will be completed. The snagging list is also finished.

What is not done is the kitchen. The BDT have applied to the Barrhill Community Interest Company (BCIC) for £18,000 to equip the kitchen. Some items have already been ordered but for the remaining there is a delivery time of up to 10 weeks.

The trustees who are leading the pub project recently visited the Kenmuir Arms in New Luce to gather information on getting a suitable tennant for the Crosswater. This was something of an eye opener as regards the costs involved.

Suffice to say it will not be completed in less than 3 months.

## The Playpark

The Play Park is a wonderful asset for the village for use by all ages. Please remember that to keep the children playing in the park safe, no dogs are allowed in the park except for service dogs.

You may have noticed recently that some park equipment has been taped off for safety reasons. This is the result of the annual safety check carried out on all park equipment by The Playpark Inspection Company. Work is underway to repair the damaged equipment. Over the year regular checks of equipment are carried out by the BDT and the handyman.

If you spot any problems with park equipment please report them to the BDT either by email at [enquiries@barrhilldevtrust.org](mailto:enquiries@barrhilldevtrust.org) or telephone 07437 484526

## Open Day

The Crosswater may not be ready to open but the BDT would like to offer the community an opportunity to see the work that has been completed over the past 4 years. As such we intend to hold an open day on Saturday 14th December from 2pm to 6pm.

The BDT will provide drinks and nibbles and guided tours around the Crosswater.

There is still a lot of work to be completed before it is ready to open but we should not lose sight of what has already been accomplished.

## Upcoming Events

At the end of the last trustees tenure the Barrhill Activities and Attractions group split from the BDT and formed a new group the Barrhill Events Group. They are now taking over the running of events in Barrhill. The following are events planned for rest of this year.

Saturday 23rd November:  
Christmas Fayre 10am to 3pm followed from 6pm by a fireworks celebration of the Memorial Hall's centenary.

Saturday 30th November:  
St. Andrew's Night Ceilidh with the Barstools (7pm)

Saturday 14th December:  
Barrhill Seniors Christmas Dinner

Friday 20th December:  
Children's Christmas Party

Friday 20th December:  
Carols Around the Tree (7:30pm)

Saturday 21st December:  
Christmas Dance with Kippy & Co. (8pm)

## Regular Events in the Hall

Group	Day & Time	Frequency
Book Group – Open to all	Monday 2pm-3pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of the month
Badminton – Open to all	Tuesday 6pm-8pm	Weekly
Wee Whist – Open to all	Tuesday 7.30pm – 10pm	Every 2 weeks
Pilates Style Class – Open to all	Thursday 7pm-9pm	Weekly
Coffee morning – Open to all	Friday 10am–12 noon drop in	Weekly
Men's Group	Friday 6pm-9pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month