

BARRHILL NEWS

Barrhill Community Interest Company & Barrhill Development Trust

WINTER 2020

Message from the Chairman

To everyone in Barrhill

Amid the flood of Covid-19 information, regulations, polices and advice, on behalf of the Board I send a strong message of solidarity and support to you all.

We are all suddenly learning what a global pandemic means and finding out how to adapt and change to living and working in a 'new' world. We appreciate how difficult it's been for the youngsters of our village, missing out on each other's company and the pleasures of school life; the social exclusion persevered by our older adults who have bravely followed the self-isolation rules for months on end; for parents and families both emotionally and financially who have had to make sacrifices just to keep going. Many people who depend on social events and activities in the Memorial Hall had a lifeline cut off by its closure and feel dismay and uncertainty about when it will open again. We know and understand exactly what you've all been going through - we're all in the same boat.

I'm proud to report that the Board has been continuing to work hard behind the scenes for the benefit of our amazing community. Rest assured we are keeping a very careful eye on the Scottish Government's guidance about coronavirus and following the rules and recommendations to the letter. We are taking no risks. We've been talking to organisations such as the Development Trusts Association Scotland with regards to the logistics of operating the Board during Covid and legal advice where necessary. We feel we've done our best in doing the right thing but at the same time, are determined to keep things afloat and moving forward.

Yes, things we wanted to do and the progress we wanted to make this year has been hindered - but I'm pleased to report The Trout Inn refurbishment continues despite the inevitable hurdles faced with dealing with authorities during the Covid19 restrictions.

The 2020 winter fuel payment programme will be rolled out as usual and this year we plan to distribute a Christmas Hamper to every household in Barrhill. It was a setback that things we usually plan and organise had to be put on hold, but its a small price to pay to stay safe and well. We know you will all agree.

On behalf of us all, I offer our sincere gratitude to those members of our community who have gone the extra mile. We have faced the biggest challenge a village can face, but light is at the end of a very dark tunnel. Together we have pulled through - here's to a New Year filled with joy, health and happiness for us all.

Merry Christmas!
John Thomson
Chairman

THE BOARD

John Thomson - Chair
Richard Brown - Vice Chair
Laura Brown - Secretary
Mark Bradshaw - Treasurer
Kassie Farmery
Pearl McGibbon

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TROUT INN - LATEST NEWS

I want to take this opportunity to outline the current position with the plans for the Trout Inn.

The application for a building warrant for the proposed alterations is with South Ayrshire Council, and has been for some time. Small revisions to the application have been made after consultation with South Ayrshire Environment Officers and we are awaiting the full response to the overall plans.

With planning officers working from home and considering dangerous or unstable buildings as a priority, lockdown has had a serious and prolonged impact on approval of applications of this type. Until the plans are approved, we are not in a position to employ any builders, but we have approached several firms in anticipation of the work being done. It may be the case however, that further changes are required by the Council before approval can be given.

In the meantime, the pub has been cleared as far as possible in preparation for work to proceed. There is some furniture left and this will be offered to the village on a first come first served basis in due course. Pre Covid we did advertise for the pub manager role and we intend to do this again once we have a better defined timescale to work to. Once plans are finally approved we will be publishing them and as soon as there is any further news we will let you know.



Richard Brown
Vice Chairman

Fire and Smoke Alarms: changes to the law



As you may be aware, by February 2022, Scottish Law requires every house to have a connected fire alarm system and, where appropriate, a carbon monoxide detector. The Board of BCIC will be providing free of charge to all homeowners (those renting houses should have had the necessary alarms installed by their landlord) in the village who require it, a set of alarms. The set comprises of three smoke alarms, one heat alarm and a carbon monoxide detector, all wirelessly linked to each other. If you require a set then please let the Board know by emailing:

bcicbarrhill@yahoo.co.uk by 1/1/2021 so that numbers for ordering can be established. If you feel you may have difficulty fitting these please let us know at the same time and we will arrange for Liam to fit them.

For those homeowners who have already installed a compliant alarm system then, on being provided with evidence of the installation, we will pay the equivalent of the above set.

Register for your set today



BCIC Grants & Bursaries

Start here!

Did you know the Barrhill Community Interest Company has a range of grants & bursaries available to Barrhill residents? Take a look at what's on offer below and if you have any questions, need help in accessing the forms or just want to chat over your idea or eligibility then please get in touch. Together let's make 2021 the year Barrhill bounces back and thrives.

Group Minibus Hire



If you are a group or organisation within Barrhill, you are entitled to free minibus hire including fuel and driver, once per calendar year. Terms and Conditions apply.

Download and return the Group Minibus Hire Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

A grant of £150.00 is available to include any type of driving test i.e. car, trailer, HGV or motorbike. Available to permanent residents of Barrhill who have lived in the village for a period of 12 months or more.

Terms and Conditions apply

Download and return the Driving Test Grant Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

Driving Test Grant



Educational Bursary



If you are considering any form of study then consider applying for a BCIC Educational Bursary, covering all types of education from one-day courses to university degree study. Terms and Conditions apply - please read and ensure compliance before submitting a completed Application Form.

Download and return the Educational Bursary Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

The Small Grant Fund (£500 or less) gives groups or individuals a chance to apply for a grant to help fund projects that aim to improve our village and the lives of its residents. We will support a range of educational, environmental and general community amenity projects. You can apply if you are a not for profit/voluntary or community group or organisation.

Terms and Conditions apply.

Download and return the Small Grants Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

Small Grant Funding



Large Grant Funding



The BCIC will consider applications for large grant funding (over £500). Terms and Conditions apply. Contact a Board Director for details and discussion prior to submitting a completed Application Form.

Download a Large Grants Form at:

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

If you are over the age of 65, have a health condition that means you cannot cut your own grass or hedges and do not live with someone who can help, then you may be eligible to apply for grass and or hedge cutting from April to September, every two weeks free of charge. Download and return a Garden Maintenance Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>

Garden Maintenance



Winter Fuel Payment



You may be eligible to apply for the annual Barrhill Winter Fuel Payment scheme.

Download and return a Winter Fuel Payment Form to apply.

<https://bcic.org.uk/forms.php>