

Scottish Community Council's April Hashtag celebrating Community Councils across Scotland

FHMCC's ACTIVITIES - When a Community comes together, anything is possible

#CelebrateCCs Forehill, Holmston & Masonhill Community Council have had a busy twelve months. In the spring of 2017 we were involved with our local Secondary School's Spring Garden Project when we helped pupils find local households in need of a hand in to tidy their gardens for the spring. Our local residents were very impressed with the work the pupils carried out and were delighted with all the help they were given.

#CelebrateCCs FHMCC hosted a meeting in September 2016 when we welcomed SAC, ARA, local press and over 150 local residents to discuss the cycle lane on Holmston Road. You can view a copy of the minutes of that meeting on our website at <http://fhmcc.org.uk/documents-2016.php>

The Cycle Lane initiative remains live and FHMCC welcome Ayrshire Roads Alliance to our April 2018 meeting.

Our September 2016 meeting resulted in the following statement from SAC :-

Report by: Lesley Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment

Event/Incident: Removal of bi-directional cycle lane on Holmston Road, Ayr

Date and Time of Report: 11/10/2016 14:00:00

Details:

Following the decision taken on Thursday 6 October at South Ayrshire Council, work will be undertaken by ARA to remove the bi-directional cycle lane on Holmston Road, Ayr and restore the carriageway to its original condition. These works will start on Monday 24 October in line with the notice period required for the Scottish Road Works Register.

The works are expected to take around three weeks to complete – subject to weather conditions – and traffic management measures will be in place throughout to help ensure the safety of operatives and all road users.

The work will be carried out on a phased basis, starting with the removal of the rubber edging kerbs and bollards, and moving on to the extended bus bays. The final stage will be to lift the blue surfacing and remove the lining, before reinstating road markings to their original position.

As agreed by members, we will be reviewing elements of the existing arrangements in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council and presenting recommendations to Councillors in due course

Responsible Officer/Contact: Lesley Bloomer, Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment
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#CelebrateCCs In April 2017 FHMCC were delighted to donate Environmental Award Shields to Kyle Academy, Southcraig School and Forehill and Holmston Primary Schools. The shields will be awarded at the school's annual prize giving to the pupil or pupils group who have worked to improve our local environment.

#CelebrateCCs In 2017, following concerns voiced by local residents about the disrepair of the roads and footpaths at Forehill Shopping Precinct, FHMCC met with the Ayrshire Roads Alliance, Officers of South Ayrshire Council, and SAC Councillors to discuss what actions could be taken. As a result, road works and pavement repairs were carried out. The question of street lighting was raised at our February 2018 meeting and an email request was sent to ARA voicing those concerns. FHMCC is very pleased to report that the street lighting in the central footway in front of the shops has been doubled from single pendants to double pendants. Thanks to everyone involved with all of the above.

#CelebrateCCs Last August Stagecoach proposed that our local bus route would change to one bus an hour. Thanks go to two of our Community Councillors, Sarah Gamble and Mary Elliot, who got out and about with a petition against Stagecoach's proposed changes to the bus timetables. They collected signatures from hundreds of local Residents by posting the petitions at local shops, boarding buses armed with their paperwork and by posting an online petition. They submitted the petition to the Stagecoach office in Ayr who, after consideration, opted to make minor changes to the route but to keep the half hourly bus service. When a community comes together anything can be achieved.

#CelebrateCCs Last Christmas FHMCC hosted a Christmas tea party in Forehill Library. We also gave gifts to all the households in our local sheltered housing units at Orchard and Hamilton houses. This April 25th we are hosting a daffodil tea for local Residents in Forehill Library from 2.15pm till 3.30pm.

#CelebrateCCs Castlehill Pathways Project - From comments made by local residents, it became clear that action needed to be taken to make Castlehill Woods a more enjoyable walk, and one which would enable all of our residents, young, elderly, Mums with prams and people who may have mobility problems to enjoy a walk through the woods. We began in Phase I by taking a survey to establish who uses the Estate, when and how often. Using this information we were able to bid for and secure a grant of almost two and a half thousand pounds to begin work on Phase II, laying a proper circuit pathway through the woodlands. This project is ongoing and we will keep everyone informed of its progress through our meeting minutes and our website and FB pages.

#CelebrateCCs In January 2018 FHMCC installed an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which is situated on the wall of Forehill Library, Mt. Oliphant Crescent. Funding for the project was raised through a grant and Community Council fundraising events. FHMCC will also pay for any consumables which may be needed in the future. The AED is very simple to use with instructions clearly visible on the housing unit.

We are also very pleased to announce that we will install a second AED this summer on the wall of the SPAR shop on Hillfoot Road.

FHMCC are very proud to have been able to offer these lifesaving devices to our community - although we hope neither machine will ever be needed.

#CelebrateCCs Last October and in April this year FHMCC held fundraisers at our local outdoor bowling club. Thanks to our wonder fundraising team of Samantha, Sarah and Mary, the nights were a great success. We spend our raised funds in the community and over the last 12 months we have met costs and made financial donations to many local groups, including, the school environmental award shields, (£156), the AED installations (£1200), the ongoing Castlehill Wood project, (£59), the proposed new cycle path leaflets (£159), the Knit and natter group (wool), Christmas gifts to Orchard and Hamilton Houses, (£73), donations to local residents who fundraised for a variety of charities (£126), the Forehill Textiles Group whose stock was decimated by a recent fire, (£100) and Holmston Primary following vandalism to the pupils garden area. We have also endorsed several Ayrshire wide initiatives: the A77 upgrade group, Galloway National Forest, Ayrshire Litter Picking network, and the PSP Carers group to name a few.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came along to our fundraisers, our local businesses including both of our Spar shops, and local people who donated to our raffles. Without your help none of this would have been possible.

#CelebrateCCs. That's all of our hashtag posts for this April's Scottish Community Council's hashtag event celebrating Community Councils all over Scotland. Thanks to everyone for reading, sharing and commenting on our achievements over the last year. The compiled list will be available to view our website FHMCC.org.uk within the next couple of days. Select the About Us tag at the top of the page.