RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of AGM on 9 October 2025, Ralston Community Centre

Present: Allan Thompson (Chair), Fergal McCauley (Treasurer), Simon Hall (Secretary), Grace Berry, Bill Gray, Scott McFarlane, Rod McLelland, Alison Scott, Bill Whyte.

In attendance: Cllr Graeme Clark, Cllr Neill Graham, 2 residents interested in becoming Community Council members, 4 representatives of Gleniffer Thistle.

Apologies: Heather Masterton.

Not in attendance: Cllr Jennifer Adam.

Action

Welcome from the Chair: Chair welcomed all to the AGM.

Appointment of Office Bearers: Nominations for position of Chairperson: Allan Thompson. Proposed: Simon, Seconded: Bill G.
Nominations for position of Secretary: Simon Hall, Proposed: Alison, Seconded: Bill G.
Nominations for position of Treasurer: To be confirmed.

Allan advised that this would be his final year as Chair.
Simon advised that this would be his final year as Secretary.

Minutes of previous AGM held on 10 October 2024: Proposed: Fergal, Seconded: Alison.

Chair's Remarks: Once again it's been a busy year.
October '24:

- The Hawkhead/Arkleston/Glasgow Road Filter has been improved and is much safer
- Newtyle/Gartmore/Lanfine Roads getting Yellow lines was delayed due to objections and completed approximately 6 months later
- Proposal for Scottish Constituency Changes
- Review of scheme of establishment of CC's
- Local Place Plan Survey was introduced to CC's – initial thoughts included: the Protection of our limited green space(s), Sports Fields, Honeybog Hill and the Golf Course. We then attended 'drop -in' sessions at Renfrewshire Council, were advised about funding and how to appoint a Planner (Nick Wright Planning) with knowledge, skills and experience to support the CC

November '24:

- Speeding was highlighted as an issue on some roads and speed and volume survey was instructed
- CC attended the school Fayre and gained several new members

December ’24:

- Christmas Newsletter issued and new members confirmed to attend initial meeting (s)

January ’25:

- The Pedestrian crossing at Glasgow/Penilee Roads - was highlighted that the lights only last long enough to get halfway across the road. Cllr Clark actioned

February ‘25:

- Enforcement of national pavement parking ban - 2 weeks notification period from 17 March. Enforcement from 1 April - £100 fine, reduced to £50 if paid in 14 days. Focus on hotspot areas, main routes and reports by public.

March ’25:

- Briefed on ‘Open spaces, £800k for improvements to land & buildings to support CATs, £100k to support local place plans and, £292m for 5-year investment in housing.
- Consultation on Review of Scheme of Establishments of Community Councils concluded by CC and was due to Council by 17 March. Summary of feedback: grammatical changes, CCs, Council and Members develop good working relationships, CC contact details rather than personal details, Boundary change to include park (in part)
- ROAR contacted us regarding the funding cuts and asked if we could support/work with them given that they have/had approx. 25 members from Ralston. St Marks Church worked with those involved and the Ralston members are now based in the Church

April ’25:

- We applied for £10k for professional support on how we develop the Ralston Local plan. Had a presentation from Nickwrightplanning’ and agreed to a timetable from launch to completion.

May ’25:

- We had several new members join at this time. We also had a further presentation on Local Plan form Kevin Dalrymple which was very helpful because ewe had new members who didn’t see the presentation from Alan Williamson earlier in the year

June ’25:

- June was about the newsletter and the planning of the Local Plan launch, the Community Fayre planning, the newsletter being written up, then printed and distributed. We also arranged to have a meeting in July (during the summer recess) so that nick (NickWrightPlanning) and his colleague, Alex could meet with us (CC) and representatives who could attend from groups and organisations in Ralston.

July ’25:

- The following month was about the newsletter and the planning of

the Local Plan launch at the Fayre (23rd August) , the Community Fayre planning, the newsletter being written up, then printed and distributed. We also distributed 2500-3000 paper surveys to every household in Ralston.

I feel it's even more important this year to thank the CC members for getting through another tough year. This year looks to be challenging with the Local Plan, issues with speeding and another 2 Community Asset Transfers (CATS). It's also important to mention -

- Rod McClelland who has done a magnificent job of introducing classes to Ralston. It started many years ago on the back of the One ren telling us that the Sports Centre was very underutilised. We challenged this over many months and the looming possibility of a CAT. The sheer number of residents attending over the last few years is the best evidence to support that Ralston Community Sports Centre is a well-used and integral part of Ralston (Thanks also for the work Rod does with Ralston in Bloom – the length of Glasgow has never looked as good
- May Fernie who resigned after many years on the CC. Big thanks for all her hard work within the CC and in leading/managing Ralston Art Club at the same time
- Fergal McCauley – who is currently handing over the role of Treasurer after several years. Big thanks for managing our Finances so well, including the additional work generated through the classes
- Simon Hall – who is currently holding the position of Secretary for several years. Big thanks to Simon for managing a huge amount of communications, at the same time as supporting the admin system for the classes, up to 4 newsletters per year and the Facebook page

Ralston Activities Programmes:

Over the past year, the Activities Programme has continued to increase in popularity. During this time we've run three 10-week programmes with 13 classes and the classes have attracted over 200 participants each week. Over the past 2.5 years we've now run over 1000 classes, thanks to funding from Engage Renfrewshire's Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund and through the fees paid by the participants, which covers the cost of hall hires, publicity etc. We've recently applied for multi-year funding to keep the programme running for the next 2 years at least. Importantly, we've also managed to have Ralston Community Sports Centre open for increased hours, which helps ensure the future of the Sports Centre as the hub of activities in our community. Thanks to you all for continuing to support these activities, and to our wonderful instructors as they attempt to make us a little fitter! With the huge demand that these classes are generating, we're looking to possibly extend the programme by introducing 3 more classes on Tuesday mornings, starting in January.

We're also running a 4-week taster in November with the aim of attracting mums and dads as they drop their children off at Primary School in the morning. These drop-off classes will run from 9-9.45am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, and we hope the intense Activity Classes that we're providing, will attract this target group – Power Yoga, Pulse, and Buggy Fit (which is directed towards young mums and their babies). These classes will not be funded by the CMHWB Fund, and so require to be self-funding, and we're charging £20pp for each 4-week class- hopefully the income will balance our costs. If this pilot is successful, then we'd look to incorporate this programme into our 10-week Winter block, starting in January 2026.

Ralston in Bloom:
Our planters have really brightened up the community this year, thanks to the sunny weather, and helped by many rain showers! They continue to bloom even into late Autumn and we'll soon be removing the summer bedding and replacing with winter flowering pansies and spring bulbs. We were delighted to receive additional funding from Renfrewshire Council to keep this programme going for several years, and would seek volunteers who'd like to help plant and maintain these planters during the year – we'd supply the plants and compost, etc.

Annual Accounts: The signed and audited annual accounts for 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 were circulated by Fergal McCauley.

Date of next AGM: 8 October 2026.