# RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of AGM on 8 October 2026, Ralston Community Centre**

**Present:** Allan Thompson (Chair & Treasurer), Simon Hall (Secretary), Grace Berry, Robert Elliot, Bill Gray, Rod McLelland, Alan McNeill, Alison Scott.

**In attendance:** Cllr Graeme Clark, Cllr Neill Graham, 3 residents.

**Apologies:** None.

**Not in attendance:** Cllr Jennifer Adam, Scott McFarlane, Ashleigh Pieraccini, Sandra Porter.

**Action**

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

**Appointment of Office Bearers:**

- Nominations for position of Chairperson: None. Allan Thompson agreed to serve as Acting Chair temporarily.
- Nominations for position of Vice Chairperson: Rod McLelland. Proposed: Robert Elliot, Seconded: Bill Gray.
- Nominations for position of Secretary: None. Alison Scott agreed to manage emails and advise Renfrewshire Council of any membership changes.
- Nominations for position of Treasurer: Alan McNeill, Proposed: Alison Scott, Seconded: Rod McLelland.

**Minutes of previous AGM held on 9 October 2025**: Proposed: Grace Berry, Seconded: Bill Gray.

**Chair's Remarks**:

CAT: We had 2 football organisations (Glennifer Thistle, FC United Juniors) contact us to present their interest in Ralston Community Sports Centre. Whilst none proceeded, a great deal of time is spent in facilitating this.

Local Plan: In the past year we worked with the community to develop a Local Plan for Ralston for the next 10 years. We received £10,000 funding from Renfrewshire Council and appointed Nick Wright Planning to help us develop the plan. We established a working group, who met several times, with representation from different groups and organisations across Ralston. We took the Local Place Plan to Treemendous (St Marks), worked closely with Ralston Primary, updated in our Newsletters, included Local Plan in the Community Event /Fun day hosted a final event at the Community Centre. It was great to learn from the findings, especially that 'Community' was at the top of resident opinions.

OneRen: Ralston Fayre in August was a success, though slightly quieter than previous years.

We have had meetings with OneRen about the Sports Centre and Playing fields, in terms of maintenance etc.

Community Police: Attended a few meetings and were instrumental in improving speed management - specifically on Glasgow Road and several other local roads. There has been some improvement but, fairly inconsistent. Electric bikes have been highlighted now because they are often on roads and pavements at high speed, and the police have little power to deal with this.

Pavement Parking: No exemptions were made after the Council's site visits.

Hawkhead/Glasgow Road junction: We've seen some improvements, but still not completely resolved.

Ralston Activities Programmes: Over the past year our Activities Programme has continued to flourish. We increased the number of classes from 13 to 16 per ten week programme; running a total of 480 classes per year, with in excess of 250 participants each week . Over the past 3½ years we've now run around 1500 classes, thanks to funding from Engage Renfrewshire's Community Mental Health and Wellbeing fund, and the £30 per block fees paid by the participants.

Our application for 2-year funding to support the class from the CMHWB fund resulted in us receiving single year funding, and we're now applying for another single year grant for 2027.

The condition of Ralston Sports Centre continues to concern us. We recently met with OneRen's Chief Executive about the heating, the blinds, the CCTV system, the defibrillator, repairs to the Astro, and possible installation of a MUGA. We've also asked OneRen and Renfrewshire Council to consider the use of the Community Facilities Fund in order to carry out these repairs and improvements.

We were recently successful in receiving a substantial grant from The National Lottery Communities Fund to increase our programme with new activities, and in the past week our Autumn Programme has started with Tai Chi, Dance Fit, Line Dancing, Couch to 5k, Sculpt Yoga and Walking Football now introduced, and we now have upwards of 450 participants. We now have 24 classes per week, totalling 720 classes per year.

Grateful thanks to our Councillors for supporting this project, to Simon for his great work in producing the advertising posters, flyers and the booking system, and to Allan for dealing with all financial payments.

**Annual Accounts:** Alan advised that we started the year with approximately £31k in the bank and finish the year with £38k. balances have been fairly stable throughout the year, with the main income sources being Rendrewshire Council, Engage Renfrewshire and Fees from Activity Classes. Main expenditures are from Instructors fees and from Nick Wright

Planning . The annual accounts for 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026 have been prepared by Alan McNeill and will be signed and audited shortly.

**Date of next AGM:** 14 October 2026.