

A large crowd of people, mostly young women, are gathered outdoors. In the foreground, a person is wearing a long, shaggy purple furry costume. The background shows more people and some colorful structures, possibly part of a festival or event.

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Neighbourhood Board Meeting for Kilmarnock

CentreStage, Circle Lounge
2:00pm – 4:00pm 4th September 2026

Attendees

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Fiona McKenzie (Chair)

Billy Bowie

Craig Hume

Lilian Jones MP

Alan Brown MSP

Councillor Barry Douglas

Councillor Douglas Reid

Joe McLachlan

David Cameron

Barry Morton

Stuart Dougan (Deputy for Susie Chow)

Also Attending:

Siobhan McGale

Norman Gill

Karen Purves

Barbara McNaughton

David Mitchell

Alan Foster

Apologies:

Lynne McNiven

Chris McMail

Susie Chow

Agenda

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- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | Welcome | FMc |
| 2 | Chair Update | FMc |
| | - 2a Appointment of Vice Chair | FMc |
| | - 2b Process for appointing Chair/additional board members | KP |
| | - 2c Actions from Previous Meeting | FMc |
| 3 | Resourcing | KP/NG |
| 4 | Masterplan Update | SMc |
| 5 | Workstream Update | AF |
| | - 5a Town Centre (Shop Development Grants) | |
| | - 5b Town Centre (Shop Front Pilot) | |
| | - 5c Public Art | |
| | - 5d Brighten Up / Tidy Up | |
| | - 5e Street Furniture | |
| | - 5f Alliances | |
| 6 | Role of CentreStage in WMK | NG |
| 8 | Decisions Required | All |
| 9 | AOB | All |
| | - Meeting Schedule to Jan 2027 | |

Item 3 - Actions Arising From Previous Meeting

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Barry Morton will be permanently representing Ayrshire College on the Board instead of Angela Cox.

Action: Amend Board membership - KP

FMcK will stand down after next Board meeting. Proposal for Vice Chair position to be created with aim for appointment by September and discussions around new Chair to commence – FMcK / KP

Item 5 – Workstream Update

Business Case Timetable

		Funding Starts	Y1 Funding	Mar-26	May-26	Jul-26	Sep-26	Nov-26	Jan-27	Mar-27	May-27
Platform Projects	Communications Strategy	26/27	£20k								
	Events	26/27	£50k								
	Neighbourhood Board Fund	26/27	£40k								
	Alliance Funding	26/27	£50k								
Early Impact Initiatives	Town Centre (Shop Front Pilot)	26/27	£100k		X						
	Town Centre (Shop Dev Grants)	26/27	£50k		X						
	Town Centre (Brighten Up)	26/27	£10k	X							
	Town Centre (Street Furniture)	26/27	£25k			X					
	Town Centre (Foregate)	26/27	£100k				?				
	Public Art	26/27	£25k		X						
	Addressing Anti Social Behaviour	27/28	£10k						X		
Major Projects	Town Centre (Retail Revival)	29/30	£1800k								
	Town Centre (Multi Storey Site)	28/29	£750k								
	Parks (Experiential Train)	27/28	£10k								
	Parks (Building Restoration)	28/29	£250k								
	Parks (Bandstand)	33/34	£100k								
	Parks (Youth Hub)	29/30	£40k								
Third Horizon Initiatives	Town Centre Living	28/29	£50k								
	River Development	34/35	£650k								

These are the board meetings to which we expect to bring the relevant Business Cases for Early Impact Initiatives

Item 5 Workstream Update

Item 5a – Shop Development Grants

- Initial Comms will go out mid September with launch being 1st October
- Potential applicants will make an expression of interest and then receive an information pack and be asked to attend a webinar before making a formal application
- We expect to close the fund by end of November and WMK Board will be presented with recommendations for approval at the meeting on 22nd January 2027

Item 5b – Retail Showcase Grant (Shop Front Pilot)

- 11 out of 14 surveys have now been completed
- Final three will be done shortly and communications issues with owners are progressing
- Next stage will be to produce designs and seek retailer views.

Item 5c – Public Art

- AF has met with Hugh Mulgrew who is keen to get started on his own premises. This will give us a good test case as will require cherry picker and road closures. Further meeting being planned to discuss the next steps.
- Work starting to identify owners of other buildings discussed for possible colour blocking.

Item 5 Workstream Update

Item 5d - Brighten Up/Tidy Up

- First project (Kay Park Church) now complete.
- Next project to be decided but keen to get this underway soon. Areas have already been identified.
- Review of procurement process and H&S to be done.
- Discussions ongoing on how to expand the volunteer network.

Item 5e – Street Furniture

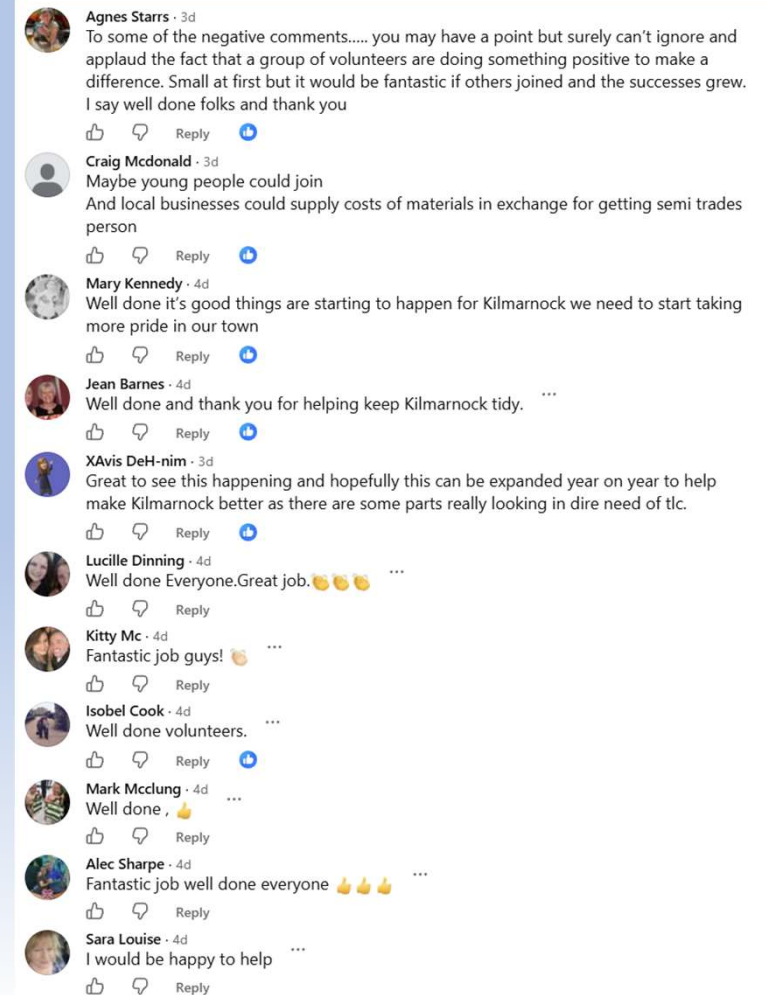
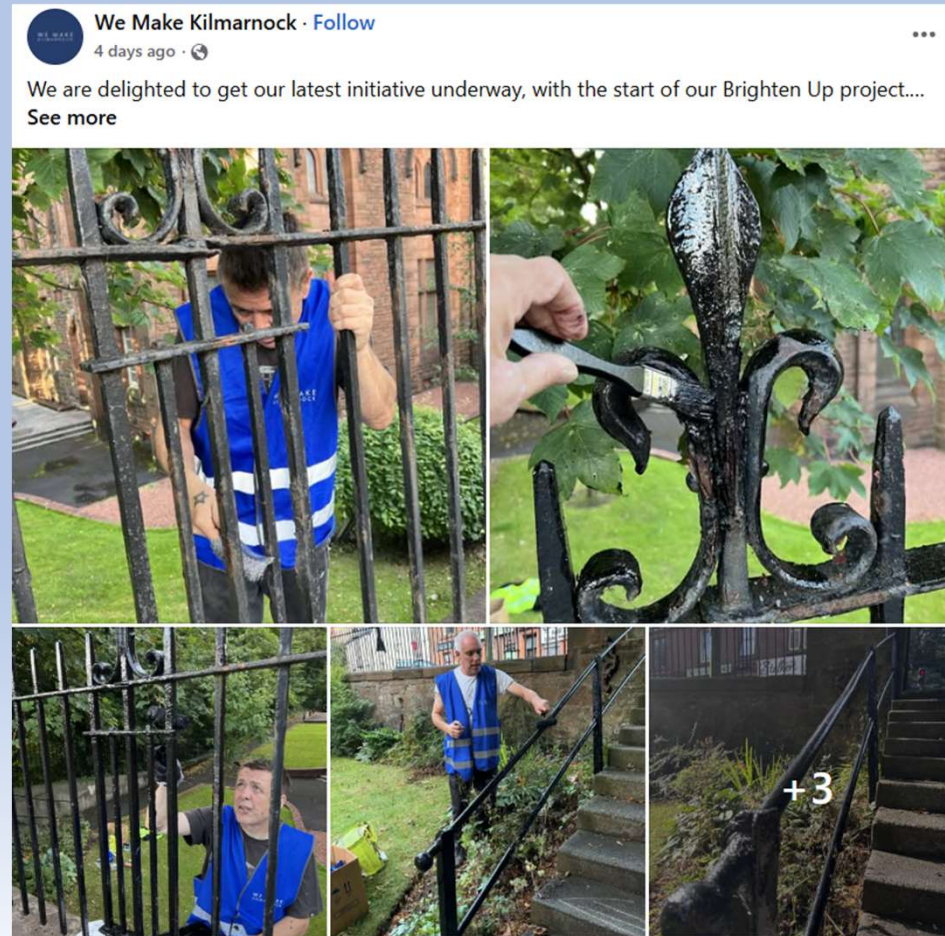
- Business Case being prepared and will be circulated to board for approval.

Item 5f – Alliances

- MMc attending a number of strategic forums (e.g. East Ayrshire Tenants and Residents Association and East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership) and following up with local TARA's and Locality Planning Forums
- MMc Facilitating 1-2-1 meetings with key community stakeholders within the Alliance areas (currently 20+ individuals)
- Engaging with community groups and voluntary organisations who want more info on WMK (currently 10+ organisations)

Item 5c Brighten Up/Tidy Up

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Item 8 – AOB

Proposed dates of future meetings:

- Wednesday 11 November 2026
- Friday 22 January 2027