



KILMACOLM & QUARRIERS CIVIC TRUST

NEWSLETTER No. 1 - NOVEMBER 2025

It is hoped that the Civic Trust will now produce a newsletter every three months, for members and others, via our website.

This will contain updates on current business and items of interest from the Civic Trust website itself, with an explanation on how to access the various features such as the oral histories and the extensive archive - with examples given.

In the first issue the Chairman's report is quite comprehensive, so the section on the use of the website will appear in the next issue. However, please experiment by going to "kilmacolmcivictrust.org" and looking at the various sections.

Chairman's Report

[The Kilmacolm/Quarriers 'Place Plan' Project.](#)

You will recall, from my Report at the KCT AGM on 30th April, that the Scottish Government had instructed all Councils in Scotland that Planning in their areas was to be devolved to Local Communities, and that that these Communities must involve their Local Populations in the production of submissions of their own 'Place Plans' to their superior Administrative Councils for consideration by them when they prepare future Formal 4 Year Local Development Plans to the Scottish Government.

You will also recall that we and the Kilmacolm Community Council commissioned Edward Taylor of "Taylor Architecture and Urbanism" in Edinburgh to give us professional advice, and set up a small 'Kilmacolm/Quarriers Place Plan "Steering Group" of 7 people to investigate all aspects of life in Kilmacolm, Quarriers and the Surrounding Countryside and submit our Place Report to Inverclyde Council by the due date of 31 July 2025. Ed Taylor has been extremely active in liaising with Inverclyde Council and helping us to establish what is required.

We, the "Steering Group" and Ed Taylor held two separate two hour Public Meetings on 21 June 2025 in St Columba's Church Hall to advise everyone who attended what a 'Place Plan' is, and to participate in active discussion, floating of ideas, and map marking and at 9 separate tables. Both meetings were extremely successful. Altogether, a total of 150 people attended.

For a variety of reasons imposed on Inverclyde Council by the Scottish Government, the date for Inverclyde Council to submit their next 4-year Local Development Plan to the Government for approval is now to be the Spring next year (2026).

Ed Taylor has now analysed the outcomes of the two Public Meetings, and his frequent discussions with the Inverclyde Council Planning Team, and is going to meet-up with our Kilmacolm/Quarriers 'Steering Group' during the first week of November to present us with his conclusions and recommendations. We aim to hold two more Public Meetings in the second half of November to get their reactions and present our Formal Place Plan submission to Inverclyde Council in January 2026.

[Proposed sales of significant properties in Kilmacolm.](#)

We have been keeping a very close eye on the attempts by St Columba's School to sell 'Shallott' (the former St Columba's Junior School on Knockbuckle Road); and the attempt by the Church of Scotland to sell the St Columba Church and Church Hall on Duchal Road and Bridge of Weir Road respectively.

We have also been trying to find out what the Easdale brothers are proposing to do with Balrossie.

Alas, we have had no success in finding out anything, so far.

[Planning Applications](#)

We have considered 61 x Planning Applications since 1st Jan 2025:

- Quarriers Village - 9 x Applications (We objected to the conversion of Cottage 19 (Ashgrove, Church Road) to a 'House of Multiple Occupancy'. Inverclyde Council have REFUSED the Application. The Applicant has just submitted an Appeal against Refusal to the Scottish Government
- Local Farms - 2 x Applications. No Objections.
- Battery Storage Electricity Storage Sites (BESS) - 2 x Applications near High Mathernock (1 x 700MW; 1 x 400MW, Both very large). We OBJECTED direct to the Scottish Govt to both these sites.