

WHAT'S NEW IN BALDERNOCK in June 2020– Baldernock Community Council in conjunction with other community groups in Baldernock.

Please remember to print this newsletter for those unable to receive it via email. We would also ask for help in gathering emails to add to our database.

We are still aware that members of our community may need support during this challenging time to please use the contact details listed in this newsletter.

The foodbanks – Kelly appreciates all the contributions gathered in the box at Colbeg for the Springburn food bank. They continue to be in urgent need of food and children's activity material. [Eastdunbartonshire.foodbank.org.uk](http://Eastdunbartonshire.foodbank.org.uk) also needs our support. Donations can be made on-line.

Protect Local Farmers – with additional visitors to the area please be alert to possible damage to crops and animals. Please remember if you are opening gates use hand sanitiser.

Gavin's Mill, Milngavie (formally the Balmore Coach House) – now have on-line shop to click and collect or deliveries can be made.

Other food outlets and information on [www.baldernock.org.uk](http://www.baldernock.org.uk)

## Diary

Sunday 7th and following Sundays. Baldernock Parish Church – Services can be heard through the following link  
<http://www.stpaulsmilngavie.org.uk>

Prayers – some local families and individuals are gathering together on-line to pray for our community and beyond. This has grown from a group that used to have prayer and meditation in Baldernock Church. If you would like to join this group or contact them please email [baldernockprayers@gmail.com](mailto:baldernockprayers@gmail.com)

## Points of Contact

Phone – Celia Burns 01360 620220, Jane Logan 01360 620563, Mags Harwood 01360 622369, Jean Langhorne 01360 620300 , Catriona Gemmell

07543734971 Linda Whitehall 01360 621803

Email – [baldernockcc@googlemail.com](mailto:baldernockcc@googlemail.com) [baldernockcdt@gmail.com](mailto:baldernockcdt@gmail.com)

Facebook – Baldernock Community Development Trust – including the Trusts Swop and Share Facility

Twitter - @Baldernock

### General Information

Over the weeks useful information is being added to the Web-site - [www.Baldernock.org.uk](http://www.Baldernock.org.uk). This includes information regarding shops providing delivery services, libraries, etc. Please keep us informed if you have discovered other avenues for food, garden plants, general supplies etc. Our web-site is in the process of being updated thanks to Fiona Howie and Anna Orr.

East Dunbartonshire Council – recycling is back but check their website for changes. Mavis Valley will re-open on Monday 1st June. In anticipation of high demand, the council has sourced a second facility at ATR Skip Hire, on the same road and very near to the site at Mavis Valley. Further information [www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/council-democracy/covid-19-waste-update](http://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/council-democracy/covid-19-waste-update)

Scrubs, Bags and Facemasks – if anybody in the community is making or know of anybody who is, a member of the community has spare material. Contact this email to be put in touch.

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Baldernock Community Council - Contact [baldernockcc@googlemail.com](mailto:baldernockcc@googlemail.com)  
Please continue to keep us informed of your concerns. Our next meeting is on July 13th. Details of this will be in the next newsletter.

Broadband problems in Baldernock Many residents of Baldernock residents suffer from slow broadband speeds, some less than 2mbps. Lesley Wiseman is collating information on which households/businesses have inadequate connectivity. If you do not have the broadband speeds you need please let her know by emailing her at [lesley.wiseman@hotmail.com](mailto:lesley.wiseman@hotmail.com) or calling/texting her on 07810698678.

For some time now and for the foreseeable future many will be working and learning from home, with the Scottish Government announcing a 'blended model' for learning from 11th August 2020. Very slow broadband speeds will continue to make this frustratingly difficult or impossible for some families. Lesley and other residents have been in

touch with our elected representatives seeking clarity about when they will be provided with superfast broadband (at least 30Mbps) and expedited provision of speeds that are minimally acceptable in the current circumstances. Note that East Dunbartonshire Council is responsible for the education of children throughout East Dunbartonshire, which will use blended learning (some online learning at home) from August 2020.

If you wish to write to your elected representatives detailing your specific needs and issues, their email addresses are given below, followed by other information that you may find useful.

Scottish Parliament:

[Rona.Mackay.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:Rona.Mackay.msp@parliament.scot)

UK Parliament:

[Amy.Callaghan.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Amy.Callaghan.mp@parliament.uk)

East Dunbartonshire Council:

[Gary.Pews@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:Gary.Pews@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

[Paul.Ferretti@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Ferretti@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

[Mohrag.Fischer@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:Mohrag.Fischer@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

[Billy.Hendry@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:Billy.Hendry@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

R100 programme (attending Baldernock Community Council meeting, 13th July)

The Scottish Government's R100 programme

(<https://www.scotlandsuperfast.com/how-can-i-get-it/reaching-100-superfast-coverage/>)

is committed to ensuring that superfast broadband is available to all homes and businesses in Scotland by the end of 2021. As a result of approaches by Baldernock Community Council, Councillor Gary Pews and several members of the community, Duncan Nisbet (Stakeholder Director, R100 programme) has offered to attend the next Community Council meeting to discuss the detail of that programme and to answer questions about it.

You are encouraged to attend that meeting (which may be virtual), to ask when and how your particular home or business will be provided with superfast broadband. The meeting will be on Monday 13th July: please see details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Rona Mackay MSP - has also been in touch with the R100 programme on our behalf, and Lesley has now asked her to raise with all relevant decision-makers in the Scottish Government the urgent issue of inadequate connectivity in parts of Scotland including our own. The blended learning approach to Scottish education from 11th August announced recently would seem to require all Scottish homes to have a decent broadband connection by that date. Ofcom research shows that 10Mb is the minimum speed currently needed to meet an average household's digital needs. (See Universal Service Obligation, below.)

Amy Callaghan MP Telecommunications is entirely reserved to the UK Government (although the Scottish Government is funding the R100 programme – see above). She, asks that anyone with broadband issues in Baldernock email her with their full name, address and contact details so that she can take up this issue on their behalf (her email address is above).

Universal Service Obligation - In March this year, the UK Government announced a Universal Service Obligation (USO) for broadband. Regulated by Ofcom, you have a legal right to request a broadband connection of at least 10Mbps. Details are at: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/broadband-uso-need-to-know>.

BT is the Universal Service Provider for Scotland – further detail on applying for a connection are available here: <https://www.bt.com/broadband/USO>. Under this programme, if the required network upgrade costs £3400 (ex VAT) or less, the household doesn't pay anything. If the estimated cost for the network upgrade is more than £3400 + VAT the household is responsible to pay the balance which can be many thousands of pounds. (BT has provided one Baldernock resident with an estimate of almost £18,000 for such a network upgrade which would take up to 18 months to complete.)

Options for superfast broadband that don't use the BT/Openreach network Some Baldernock residents may have strong and reliable enough 4G mobile phone signal to be able to use this to access faster broadband, but not all do. Similarly, satellite broadband is not an option for all Baldernock residents, though it may be for some. Bear in mind that there may be technical limitations associated with both 4G and satellite broadband compared with a fixed line connection. Depending on your needs, the cost may also be more than the Ofcom/USO's 'affordable connection' definition of no more than £46.10 per month.

.Baldernock Childcare - we have furloughed three of the salaried staff and have fingers crossed we will be able to meet again as soon as is possible, although it is hard to know when (and how) restrictions will be lifted. Clearly this has been a difficult time

for everyone, and we are hoping that numbers of children attending in the next school year will be enough to balance the books. It is hard on the staff as we had just had a successful inspection earlier in the year with very positive feedback and had hoped to appoint a new staff member this term. Also, to note that our much-valued administrator Paula Brown, will be leaving her post this month and is planning to return to the US, although clearly travel is tricky! Kate Currie will be picking up most of the admin role moving forwards and we are very grateful for that.

Baldernock Community Development Trust - You can find notes of our meetings on the Baldernock website at [www.baldernock.org.uk](http://www.baldernock.org.uk) along with more information about the Trust and its work. In a community like ours, everyone will be helping each other as much as we can, but if you use Facebook you might also like to use the Trust's Swap & Share facility to seek or offer help and support. Our insurance is due for renewal. We would like to invite small contributions to Trust funds and are developing an easy way to make those online or by phone. If you would like to know more, please contact us at [baldernockcdt@gmail.com](mailto:baldernockcdt@gmail.com).

Stories from around the Parish.

Please remember that we are still interested in collecting stories from around the Parish. If you would like to take part in this project, or know more, please email [baldernockccc@gmail.com](mailto:baldernockccc@gmail.com)

Note from the Editors: If you have anything to include in future editions please contact the editor at this email address ([baldernockccc@gmail.com](mailto:baldernockccc@gmail.com)) or call Celia on 01360 620220. Please get in touch if you move or your email address changes, or if you would like us to remove your email address from our database. If you know of anyone who would like to receive the newsletter, please put them in touch with us. If they don't use email, please consider printing a copy of the newsletter for them or let us know and we will deliver one. Thank you.