

Fairmilehead Community Council Annual Engagement report May 26

Introduction

This is the 4th 'Annual' report on Engagement. Unusually the report only covers the last few months. The AGM for 2025 took place in December of that year having been put back to allow the community council elections to take place and new members to take their place.

As reported in the 25 AGM, engagement has become a whole membership issue for our Community Council as we seek to extend the number of residents we reach in our area.

Providing information to residents in a variety of ways is working well, and we have extended the number of people we reach with our three different modes.

Different modes of Communication

1 We maintain an **email list** which has increased to 120 people (from 95 in December). The list is generally people who have attended a monthly meeting. Papers for the monthly meeting including agenda, previous minutes and other papers are sent to this group along with a monthly information bulletin.

2. Our **Facebook page** has now grown to 300 people (288 in December). This provides notification of upcoming meetings, events and information from local community groups and charities and some short notice repairs causing traffic build ups.

3. Our biggest mode of communication is through our **digital noticeboard : The Fairmile**. This provides summarised information to a growing number of subscribers currently 377 (up from just over 300 in Dec). This is the mode that we believe can reach the biggest number of residents.

4 Our **website** provides a home for documents for meetings and an archive for some older documents.

Key projects where Engagement needs to be across the whole area

Local Place Plan

Our Local Place plan has been a big project for our Community Council, and one in which we have made engagement an important issue. Our survey was issued at the tail end of last year after a significant effort was made by all members to advertise through posters, social media, house to house deliveries and a large advert in the local directory. Despite this effort our respondents were skewed towards the 50+ age group with no one under 18. We are currently addressing the missing groups by negotiating with the local schools to seek views from the pupils.

Scottish Water Site Redevelopment

Scottish Water has publicised their outline plans for the redevelopment of the area in Fairmilehead where their Head Office is situated. This will ultimately be sold on. The Community Council will have a role in the planning application and we are considering the best way to ensure we fully represent the views of local residents, for example a special public meeting.

Many thanks to my fellow members for their help and support
Stella Thomson, Engagement Officer

