

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Title: Houston Community Council Ordinary Meeting

Ref: HCC/15/11/2023

Location: Carrick Centre, Houston

Date: 15th November 2023

Time: 7:30pm

Sheet: 1 of 16

Present

Ian Andrew (IA)

Kathy McFall (KM)

Trevor Hillman (TH)

Barry Walker (BW)

Gillian White (GW)

Graham Donald (GD)

David Dunlop (DD)

Marie White (MW)

David O'Neill (DO)

June McCrae (JMc)

Mary O'Brien (MO)

William Haddow (WH)

Richard McKay (RM)

Cllr Audrey Doig (AD)

PC Brian Dick (BD).

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Renfrewshire Council (RC)

Police Scotland (PS)

Apologies

Janet Mason (JM)

May Patrick (MP)

Cllr Alison Ann-Dowling (AAD)

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Renfrewshire Council (RC)

Chaired By

Ian Andrew

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Minutes taken by

Ramsay McLeod (RM)

Representing

Houston Community Council (HCC)

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
1.0	Apologies Apologies were noted.	Note	
2.0	Approval of Minutes of Meeting from 18th Oct 2023		
2.1	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record of that meeting.	Note	
2.2	Approved: Kathy McFall. Seconded: David Dunlop		
3.0	Matters Arising not otherwise listed in agenda.		
3.1	No matters arising.		
4.0	Police Report		
4.1	PS/BD provided a report detailing 5 offences, all detected (Appendix A). They involved a minor assault in a house between brothers and a broken traffic mirror perpetrated by two females who were also in possession of offensive weapons.	Note	
4.2	Police are aware there are issues with speeding in various areas of the village and PS/BD has sought assistance from the Traffic Department to address this.	Note	
4.3	PS/BD announced that he will be retiring before the next meeting in January. However, if his replacement is in place, he will come along to introduce them. KM thanked him for his service to the community and to HCC.	Note	
5.0	Gryffe High School Report		
5.1	No representative present, no report.	Note	
6.0	Councillor's Reports <u>Cllr Audrey Doig</u>		
6.1	Reported that she has received several enquiries about the solar farm which have been referred to the planning process.	Note	
6.2	Several complaints have been made about the increased traffic within the village due to the Bridge of Weir main road being shut. She had advised those who complained to contact HCC to take complaints forward if appropriate, HCC have received no complaints.	Note	
6.3	Complaints received about streetlights being out following a road crash, this has been reported and is being worked on.	Note	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
6.4	RC/AD referred to the upcoming Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. Local Place Plans (LPP) will be important and will need to be completed and submitted before the LDP is progressed. She gave some suggestions on the issues that can be covered in an LPP, to be discussed further in dedicated agenda item.	Note	
7.0	<p>Treasurer's report</p> <p>7.1 KM provided an overview of the accounts (Appendix B). As part of the Christmas light switch on many sponsorship donations have been received and payments made, which has greatly increased turnover. Published report to be redacted to remove identity of individual sponsors. Further donations will be included in next report.</p> <p>No questions.</p>	Note	
8.0	<p>Residents Issues</p> <p>No residents present.</p>		
9.0	<p>Bridge at Ardgyffe Crescent</p> <p>9.1 IA reported that contact had been received from a resident regarding the safety of the bridge from Ardgyffe Crescent across the Gryffe to join with core footpaths. The resident was concerned that the metal parapet had become corroded to the point that a small child or dog could fall through or be injured. IA had inspected the bridge, and it is heavily corroded to the point that there is a risk. There is also concern regarding the structure of the bridge if that level of corrosion has continued under the roadbed.</p> <p>9.2 RC/AD commented that the bridge was still the responsibility of Taylor Wimpey. IA confirmed that in 2021 site visits had been carried out between Taylor Wimpey and Renfrewshire Council and HCC had been informed that an agreement had been reached whereby Taylor Wimpey would repair or replace the bridge to a standard where it could be adopted by Renfrewshire Council, the work was to be completed that year. Some work was carried out, but it is unlikely it meets the standard required.</p> <p>9.3 RC/AD will raise the issue with the relevant officers and IA will write to Renfrewshire Council on behalf of HCC.</p>	RC/AD & IA	ASAP
10.0	<p>Action Log Review/Update – IA</p> <p>10.1 IA provided an overview of the live Action Log (Appendix C) raising those matters requiring discussion at this meeting.</p>		

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
<p>10.2</p> <p>10.3</p> <p>10.4</p>	<p><u>McGills Buses</u></p> <p>As actioned at the last meeting, IA and JM completed a letter to Renfrewshire Council to inform their consultation process (Appendix D) and circulated it to all members for consideration. Agreed it should be forwarded and copied to local councillors. Amended versions will be sent to the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and the Scottish Minister for Transport, copied to local MSPs and MP.</p> <p><u>Stewart Milne Development</u></p> <p>From RC/AD still no movement towards planning board, developer also seems to have stepped back from other applications in the area.</p> <p><u>Houston Solar Farm</u></p> <p>The developer had carried out an early consultation process including a public meeting, which was well attended. Further consultation is being carried out in line with planning requirements, documents are held at the Carrick Centre and information has been published in local press and across social media. HCC had met with the developers during their initial consultation process and had afterwards carried out their own public consultation which received no negative comment, but the developer advised they had received a few neighbour objections which have been addressed by a reduction in the number of panels. HCC had raised environmental and visual impact concerns, which appear to have been addressed similarly, and were assured they will be consulted regarding footpaths and other open areas through the development. IA has contacted the developers and invited them to attend another meeting to discuss environmental impact, mitigation plans and community benefits.</p>	<p>IA</p> <p>Note</p> <p>IA</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
<p>11.0</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p>	<p>Connecting Houston Update</p> <p>IA and DD met with Peter Leslie who is happy to continue to support the project.</p> <p>DD has contacted Houston Farms regarding the land required to progress the cycle path and is awaiting a response.</p>	<p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>	
<p>12.0</p> <p>12.1</p>	<p>Local Place Plan</p> <p>Members agreed that HCC should produce a Local Place Plan (LPP) laying out a vision for how the area should develop in future years. This will allow HCC to be proactive and positive in areas such as planning rather than reacting to individual plans. DD will lead but IA pointed out that he</p>		

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
12.2	has a large portfolio and will require assistance. IA, RM, GD, MO, and TH agreed to help on a subgroup. DD pointed out that the next Renfrewshire Local Development Plan will be for ten years, so it is important that HCC have their views included in that document.	DD	
12.3	The cost of preparing an LPP can run to £25,000 but that could be reduced to circa £10,000 if work can be done in house and with local support. MO will investigate potential funding sources. RC/AD confirmed there is no funding available from the local authority.	MO	
12.4	Members discussed the form of a report to include an emphasis on sustainability and a greener environment. Demographics and previous survey and consultation work should be reviewed, and a community consultation process put in place.		
12.5	DD will review and circulate LPPs from other areas and lay out a template.	DD	
12.6	Agreed a meeting of the subgroup would be required before the January HCC meeting to ensure the project is progressed on time.	DD	
13.0	Renfrewshire Community Council Forum Update - IA		
13.1	Last meeting did not take place and next meeting has also been cancelled by Renfrewshire Council.		
14.0	Christmas Lights Display and Switch On		
14.1	TH stated that he is very pleased with how hard all the members of the subgroup have worked to keep the project on track.	Note	
14.2	The following items have been completed and relevant licences obtained: Road Closures Entertainment Licence Fireworks Schools involvement Salvation Army Christmas Lights Sponsorship - £3,340.00 Trailer DJ and PA Generators Police and First Aid Publications and posters	Note	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
14.3	As a result of overwhelming support from local businesses, it will not be necessary to charge an entry fee. A raffle will be held and there will be the opportunity for individuals to donate if they wish. After all sponsorship is deposited and bills paid a shortfall of £222.40 will apply but, with the raffle, it is anticipated the event will be cost neutral. Sponsors will be thanked on social media and on the night.	TH	
14.4	TH commented that HCC cannot afford to miss grant application deadlines in the coming year, members agreed.	Note	
14.5	Members agreed to the spend for two St John's Ambulance First Aiders.	Note	
14.6	Further volunteers will be required on the night to support the subgroup, IA, KM, RM, and JMc volunteered. Gryffe High will be contacted to ask for young volunteers.	TH	
15.0	Future Projects		
15.1	Following an action from the last meeting, posts were raised on social media to engage with residents on proposals for further projects with no responses obtained.	Note	
15.2	IA is trying to obtain documentation and the survey reports relating to previous proposals for a community owned hydroelectric scheme to re-assess its viability.	Note	
15.3	TH suggested that HCC should hold a special meeting to come up with ideas. With time to spare at the end of this meeting an open discussion was held, and it was agreed HCC should consider projects related to the broad headings:	Members	
15.4	<u>Youth related</u> - involving local organisation already providing for youth and engaging with schools to identify needs.		
15.5	<u>Senior citizens</u> - such as seating on walking routes, winter events such as film and social events.		
15.6	<u>Younger children</u> - such as improvements in playparks.		
15.7	<u>Conservation</u> – making conservation more robust as included in a Local Place Plan but also providing infrastructure for active travel such as cycle racks.		
15.8	It was agreed that the first step would be to assess what is already available and where support would be most effective. The headings should also be presented to residents to garner further ideas.	IA	

Item	Description	Action By	Due Date
16.0	Emails/Communications received.		
16.1	No correspondence requiring action that hasn't been covered in the agenda.	Note	
17.0	AOB		
17.1	A member asked about a recent Renfrewshire Council email on pavement parking. IA confirmed that to bring in the ban, exemptions must be assessed and decided upon. An external consultant has been engaged by Renfrewshire Council to assist with this process, RC/AD confirmed that this was the case. Members discussed issues with poor parking including bin lorries refusing to go into streets, IA suggested that the biggest concern is the difficulty inconsiderate parking would cause for larger emergency service vehicles to attend in some streets.	Note	
17.2	HOST have been granted an extension to their lease on the Carrick Centre.	Note	
17.3	MO asked if there was any information on a proposed direct route to Dargavel from the B790 Houston Road. No notification has been received but it is understood this area is to be a nature reserve at which time there will likely be a connection. IA reminded members that the area from Dargavel House to the B790 all falls within HCCs area.	Note	
18.0	Date and time of next meeting		
	17 th of January 19:30	Note	
	IA closed the meeting at 2104hrs.		
19.0	Remote Approval		
	22 November 2023		
	Approved: Trevor Hillman Seconded: Barry Walker		

Appendix A

OFFICIAL



POLICE SCOTLAND

Keeping people safe
HOUSTON & CROSSLEE
COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 2023

Update from Previous Meeting

Crime Summary

Between 14th October and 15th November there have been a total of five recorded crimes, five have so far been detected.

CRIME/OFFENCES OF NOTE	NUMBER	DETECTED	CONTEXT
Theft by Housebreaking/Attempt	0		
Theft	0		
Robbery	0		
Serious Assault	0		
Common Assault	1	1	1 x minor assault
Drug Offences	0		
Anti-Social (breach of the peace/vandalism/street drinking)	4	4	1 x damage to a mirror, 2 X offensive weapon and 1 x threatening behaviour
Road Traffic Offences	0		
Other	0		

Crime Trends and Policing Priorities

Community Police Report

(Include focus of activity, any initiatives, partnership working)

Reports of speeding throughout the village have been received and this has been passed onto our traffic department.

OFFICIAL

Appendix B Houston Community Council
Treasurer's Report (Redacted)
1st to 31st October 2023

Opening Balance	£9425.30
------------------------	-----------------

Income

Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	300.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	300.00
Sponsorship (Bee Happy)	30.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	150.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	240.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	400.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	150.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	150.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	100.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	150.00
Sponsorship (Christmas Lights)	300.00
Total	£2270.00

Expenditure

Insurance (Keegan & Pennykid)	34.70
HCC secretary	50.00
Road closure	631.20
Fireworks	1500.00
Public Ents License	206.00
Bee Happy	30.00
Total	£2451.90

Closing Balance	£9243.40
------------------------	-----------------

As per electronic statement to 31/10/2023

Appendix C

Houston Community Council Action Log Live Items

Raised Date Minute/ID No.	Description	Owner	Date Due	Status
18/05/22 5.0	<p>McGills Buses Houston & Crosslee Timetable – Councillor Doig confirmed if re-elected she would like to revisit a motion passed, but put on hold due to Covid, that the Council would look into public versus private sector bus routes similar to Edinburgh Council which run the buses in the capital / city. Agreed to add to May's HCC agenda.</p> <p>(Update 15/06/22 – Unfortunately RC/ad could not attend tonight's meeting so agreed to retain on action log to be discussed at August's HCC Meeting)</p> <p>(Update 17/08/22 – Agreed HCC/ma shall write to McGills complaining about bus service. HCC/jm to forward details)</p> <p>(Update 19/10/22 – WIP)</p> <p>(Update 16/11/22 – email from Johnstone CC seeking liaison as they also have numerous complaints about the bus service – JM will contact)</p> <p>(Update 12/01/23 From MA no progress on letter)</p> <p>(Update 18/01/23 From JM WIP)</p> <p>(Update 15/02/23 – Cllrs to contact McGills)</p> <p>(Update 15/02/23 – McGills responded to letter, meeting at RDC on 05/04/23 JM attending)</p> <p>(Update 05/04/23 – meeting postponed, public meeting to be arranged)</p> <p>(Update 19/04/23 – public meeting to be arranged and held at start of next HCC meeting)</p> <p>(Update 17/05/23 public meeting held, 3 members of public attended. MA writing to Renfrewshire Council about services, cc Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Scottish Government)</p> <p>(Update 16/08/23 – Last action not complete WIP)</p> <p>(Update 20/09/23 – No update)</p> <p>(Update 30/09/23 – Last action not completed)</p>	<p>MA</p> <p>MA – RC/AD JM – MA</p> <p>JM</p> <p>MA/JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>JM</p> <p>IA WH RC/DM</p> <p>MA</p> <p>MA</p>	<p>May</p> <p>17/08/22 ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>19/04/23</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>	

Raised Date Minute/ID No.	Description	Owner	Date Due	Status
	(Update 18/10/23 – last action to be completed) (Update 15/11/23 – wording of letter approved)	IA/JM IA	ASAP	
15/06/22 2.0	Website/Social Media - It was suggested previously that someone from Gryffe High School could help with this. Agreed to liaise with Kevin Christie HT to see if this would be possible. (Update 17/08/22 – GHS have now confirmed they can help. HCC/km and HCC/ia to take lead with GHS to progress) (Update 19/10/22 – WIP) (Update 16-11-22 – WIP) (Update 12-1-23 – WIP) (Update 18/01/23 – IA discussed with KC will be put in touch with computing teacher) (Update 5/2/23 – IA and KM in touch with computing teacher, progressing) (Update 5/3/23 WIP) (Update 14/04/23 WIP) (Update 15/05/23 Carry over to next school year) (Update 16/08/23 - Discussed with Mr Christie contact computing Dept after IA returns from holiday) (Update 20/09/23 – Murdo MacKinnon at GHS has been emailed. GW offered her assistance with web page) (Update 03/11/23 – Murdo MacKinnon arranging meeting with students)	IA KM – IA KM - IA KM - IA KM – IA KM – IA KM/IA KM/IA KM/IA KM/IA KM/IA KM/IA KM/IA/GW IA	ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP	
21/09/22 3.0	Barochan Road Stewart Milne Development RC/aad also confirmed we may wish to liaise with Marjorie Love of Brookfield who has experience of writing to the Scottish Government’s Reporter regarding a similar development outside the village of Brookfield. (Update 19/10/22 – WIP) (Update 16/11/22 – WIP) No update ... (Update 12/01/23 - No progress made over the period.) Open until we hear feedback from RC re –	HCC MA MA MA	ASAP ASAP ASAP ASAP	

Raised Date Minute/ID No.	Description	Owner	Date Due	Status
	<p>Application (Update 19/04/23 application apparently now scheduled for 23/5 meeting; Cllr DM will check) (Update 17/05/23 – from RC/AD still with RC officers, not yet referred to planning board – Action to remain open) (Update 21/06/23 – all community consultation information now posted on RC site. Majority oppose the development) (Update 16/08/23 – From MA RC report still under consideration awaiting input from other bodies) (Update 20/09/23 – no update still awaiting planning board) (Update 18/10/23 – awaiting planning board, RC/AD advises developer keeps pulling it)</p>	<p>RC/DM</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	
<p>19/10/22 5.0</p>	<p>Houston solar farm and BESS PAC (raised by HCC/jmc) – Agreed to invite the energy company (Elgin Energy) to November’s HCC meeting to give us a presentation on the proposed development and we should in the interim monitor residents’ views both positive and negative before taking a Community Council view and stance on the project once we establish a clear mandate from the community. (16/11/22 – Elgin attended meeting as per minutes. No clear mandate from community, keep action open and assess any further feedback) (17/1/23 Action Remains Open) (Update 16/07/25 Scottish Government have submitted planning application to RC for impact assessment 23/0363/EA) (Update 20/09/23 – Remain Open for updates) (Update 25/09/23 – Elgin have submitted screening letter to Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and just received response. Planning application now to be submitted) (Update 13/10/23 – application to ECU submitted, consultation notifications to be produced)</p>	<p>JMc</p> <p>JMc – IA JMc – IA</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Note</p>	<p>Nov 22</p>	

Raised Date Minute/ID No.	Description	Owner	Date Due	Status
	(Update 30/10/23 – with Energy Consents Unit, RC have 4 months to respond with any objections) (Update 06/11/23 – contact with Elgin, will arrange to attend HCC in early new year to discuss community benefits)			
15/02/23 8.1	Speed of traffic on Bridge of Weir Road After some discussion, the following was concluded. RC/RI to ask the road department what they have planned regarding the control of speeding at the four entrance points to the village. (Update 19/04/23 from RC/DM. Police requested to carry out speed checks. Near miss involving cyclist at River Inn HCC/KM to post on Facebook about cycle awareness) (Update 17/05/23 – RC/AAD working with RC Officers and parents in area to come up with traffic calming in Main Street, will liaise with IA and link to Connecting Houston) (Update 21/07/23 – HCC response to SWECO report on traffic calming measures at gateways to Houston including Main Street) (Update 16/08/23 – RC Officers attended meeting and took away comments and proposals) (Update 15/09/23 – B of W Road not included in RC proposals)	RC/RI KM RC/AAD IA IA IA	ASAP ASAP ASAP Note	
15/02/23 9.3	Crosslee Phone Box Defibrillator DG to look at ongoing maintenance (14/04/23 from DG installation appears in order, will watch for issues) (Update 19/04/23 – From KM, Sharon Chambers wishes to pass responsibility back to HCC, to be approached) (Update 21/06/23 WIP) (Update 16/08/23 – WIP) (Update 20/09/23 – carry to next meeting) (Update 18/10/23 – carry to next meeting)	DG DG DG DG	ASAP ASAP ASAP	
15/03/23 8.2	Christmas Lights It was confirmed that this deadline for this is 10 th April. It was agreed to proceed with LAP funding for the Christmas lights only. HCC/ma to progress the application. (19/04/23 – MA will update later)	MA	10/04/23	

Raised Date Minute/ID No.	Description	Owner	Date Due	Status
	<p>(Update 15/05/23 – from MA – deadline for LAP funding missed)</p> <p>(Update 17/05/23 – MA to seek events grant)</p> <p>(Update 21/06/23 – from KM, MA has applied for events grant. From RC/AD, there may be LAP funding left over and worth trying for late application. MA has all the details, IA to alert him to possibility)</p> <p>(Update 22/06/23 – email to MA)</p> <p>(Update 16/08/23 – both identified funding streams now unavailable. MA has set in motion the school competition. New organiser needs to be identified)</p> <p>(Update 17/09/23 – TH organising event – all matters in progress – sub committee to be formed at next meeting)</p> <p>(Update 20/09/23 – planning already well advanced as minuted)</p> <p>(Update 18/10/23 – full update minuted)</p>	<p>MA</p> <p>MA</p> <p>IA</p> <p>MA/IA</p> <p>TH</p> <p>TH</p>	<p>Closing date</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>	
<p>21/06/23 9.12</p>	<p>Speeding and Parking Whirlees Road</p> <p>Resident raised issue of irresponsible drivers speeding and parking without consideration for pedestrians and other road users. RC/ DM and RC/AD will discuss with Renfrewshire Officers to seek a solution</p> <p>(Update 21/07/23 included in HCC response to SWECO report on traffic calming measures)</p> <p>(Update 16/08/23 – brought to attention of RC Roads Officers attending meeting)</p> <p>(Update 20/09/23 – this matter will remain an action for HCC in liaison with RC and police)</p>	<p>RC/DM &AD</p> <p>IA</p> <p>IA</p> <p>Note</p>	<p>ASAP</p>	

Appendix D

It is apparent to Houston Community Council that there are serious shortfalls in the bus services covering Houston. In the last twenty years there has been a steady erosion of routes serving Houston, and all remaining services are now provided by one operator, McGills, where there was previously a healthy level of competition. Residents frequently copy us into complaints to the company relating to late and cancelled services, and we have the advantage that we can see the stock response from McGills across complaints is inexperienced drivers or matters beyond their control.

As always, it is the vulnerable members of our community, the elderly and disabled, who suffer most from late or cancelled services. They are more likely to use the services outside peak hours in the first instance and they are also those least able to wait for lengthy periods in inclement conditions until a bus does turn up. It is common for passengers to wait over an hour on the X7 service which is timetabled to run every 30 minutes.

We do accept that there are peak periods and other times where services run almost empty, and we recognise that the X7 is a purely commercial route which requires to make a profit but suggest that one solution is to put smaller buses on at those times rather than cancelling a service completely, particularly at short notice. Commuters to Glasgow cannot be confident that a return service home will be available if they are required to work beyond peak periods so take cars instead. Equally, those travelling outwith peak times in both directions such as students cannot be sure a service will run to take them to university or college in Glasgow and, instead, drive or compete for the limited accommodation available in the city when they should be able to rely on public transport.

Notwithstanding the poor levels of service provided by McGills, it is apparent that the timetables and routes do not provide anything like an effective service. The greatest shortfalls are that previous routes direct to Paisley, our nearest town, and the location of the nearest hospital care, and those via the B790 Houston Road and Inchinnan have been removed. There are connecting services from Linwood to Paisley, but it is common for passengers on the X7 arriving at Linwood Clippens to see the 7 or 7A they could connect with pulling away, requiring them to wait for the next, which can take some time with cancelled services. Should the passenger need to attend the Royal Alexandra Hospital, they must again change in Paisley and repeat on the return journey, not the best option for someone attending for medical care and we have reports of people waiting an hour to return from Paisley with no guarantee of a connection back to Houston at Linwood.

The 1/1A and 2/2A services passing through Houston to and from Johnstone Station are subsidised services but operate on timetables that make little sense. Using the stop at Magnus Road, Houston, for the purposes of example, the 2 arrives on the hour every odd hour while the 1 arrives 22 minutes later meaning there is then a wait of 1 hour and 38 minutes until the next bus arrives, provided they run to time. The return journey on the 1A and 2A have the same time spacing. Surely a simple alteration to the timetables would allow for a bus every hour, it may even be possible for one of them to connect to the same rail service at Paisley rather than Johnstone, thereby allowing a direct route into Paisley, if only a very limited one.

Houston Community Council are committed to promoting active travel, encouraging people to walk or cycle in the local area rather than take a car and driving projects to improve options but using a car is still the norm. Houston is a popular area, ideally located for ease of travel to Glasgow, Paisley and other surrounding workplaces and it is common for a household to have two cars with both being required for daily commutes, a lack of suitable and reliable public transport is often cited as a main reason for this. Government policy is to increase active travel and the use of public transport to

remove vehicles from the roads and Houston Community Council strive to do what we can to support these policies, but it is difficult to change public behaviour on the use of cars when the public transport services are unsuitable and unreliable.