



PROVOST'S REPORT

For the period covering: 7 May 2019 – 16 June
2019

The attached report gives a summary and brief details to Council, of
meetings and events attended by the Provost of North Ayrshire
Council, Councillor Ian Clarkson.

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Since the last meeting of the Council I have attended various events throughout North Ayrshire.

Launch of 2019 Marymass Festival, Harbour Arts Centre, Irvine, 9 May

I was delighted to attend the official launch of the 2019 Marymass Festival in the Harbour Arts Centre, Irvine. The Festival runs from 15-26 August and the organisers presented the programme highlights for this year as well as launching their new website.

Superhero Day, North Ayrshire, 10 May

Staff across the Council took part in Cash for Kids Superhero Day on 10 May. Many people dressed up as their favourite superhero to raise funds to help children in Ayrshire. My thanks go to everyone who took part.

Polish National Day Reception, St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, 10 May

On 10 May, I attended a reception hosted by Consul General of Poland to mark Polish National Day. The event was held in St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh and among the guest were Provosts from several other local authorities.

Robert Burns World Federation Schools Junior Finals, Irvine Royal Academy, 11 May

It was a great honour that the Robert Burns World Federation chose to host their National Schools Junior competition this year in Irvine Royal Academy on 11 May. I was delighted to officially welcome the competitors who travelled from all over Scotland. This was an excellent and well-attended event.

Citizenship Ceremony, Saltcoats Town Hall, 15 May

On 15 May, I had the pleasure of welcoming new UK citizens to North Ayrshire at a special citizenship ceremony held in Saltcoats Town Hall. These events mark the end of what can be an arduous journey for those applying for UK citizenship.

1st Largs Boys Brigade – End of Session Display and Presentation, Barrfields, Largs, 17 May

1st Largs Boys Brigade held their end of session display and presentation in Barrfields, Largs on 18 May. I was delighted to have been invited along. The display was extra special this year as the Company celebrated 30 years' service by Mr and Mrs Lamont.

Opening of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Edinburgh, 18 May

On 18 May, I was in Edinburgh for the opening of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Nearly all local authorities were represented at the annual event which started with a reception hosted by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh then afterwards a parade to the Assembly Hall for the opening session.

Automated External Defibrillator Launch, Irvine, 27 May

On 27 May, I attended an event to mark the launch of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). More than £2000 was raised by staff at the Chuck Wagon, Irvine to cover the cost of the AED and to make it available to the public. It is vital for anyone who suffers sudden cardiac arrest to be treated at the earliest possible time and equipment like the AED makes a huge difference.

Unforgotten Forces Information Event, Ayr Town Hall, 31 May

On 31 May, I attended the Unforgotten Forces Information Event in Ayr Town Hall. The event highlighted the support and services available for older veterans aged 65 and above. Various organisations attended the event to promote the services that they offer and to raise awareness of these services within the armed forces community.

Keep Scotland Beautiful Award, Irvine Beach, 1 June

I was delighted to join members of Irvine Clean Up Crew, Coastwatch and our Streetscene Team on 1 June to mark the beach being accredited with the Keep Scotland Beautiful – Beach Award. This is an excellent achievement and a great reward for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes.

Music in the Park, McGavin Park, Kilwinning 2 June

On 2 June, I officially opened Music in the Park which took place in McGavin Park, Kilwinning. The event featured our talented young musicians from schools throughout North Ayrshire who were able to showcase their musical ability to a wider audience and in a lovely setting. The event was arranged by Kilwinning Community Events.

Scottish Junior Cup Final, Hamilton, 2 June

Largs Thistle were up against Auchinleck Talbot in the Scottish Junior Cup Final which took place on 2 June in Hamilton. I was delighted to attend the match and show our support to Largs Thistle. To get to the final was a fantastic achievement and I was delighted to show our appreciation.

The Wee Mermaid Performance, Corsehill Primary, Kilwinning 4 June

I was delighted to attend the performance of “The Wee Mermaid” at Corsehill Primary School in Kilwinning. Congratulations to pupils and staff for their hardwork and effort in producing the show which was enjoyed by all.

The Ayrshire Community Trust Oscars, Saltcoats Town Hall, 4 June

It is always a pleasure to be able to officially recognise the amazing work carried out by volunteers in our communities. The Ayrshire Community Trust Oscars do just that and I was delighted to be able to attend their awards ceremony on 4 June.

Photocall – Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the D Day Landings, Barrfields, Largs, 6 June

On the 6 June, we commemorated the 75th anniversary of the D Day Landings, focusing on the role Largs played. This was a time to reflect and remember. To mark this special anniversary a large outdoor information panel, complete with augmented reality, featuring a Catalina seaplane, was installed on the shorefront opposite Barrfields.

North Ayrshire Sports Academy Graduation Evening, Saltcoats Town Hall, 6 June

On 6 June, I was privileged to present certificates to graduates of the North Ayrshire Sports Academy which is a coach education, leadership and personal development course aimed at senior pupils.

The aim of the Academy was for senior pupils to promote, deliver and provide opportunities for younger pupils to participate in sport and physical activity in their school and local community.

We also heard about young people's journeys and the positive impact the programme has had on their lives.

Greenwood Academy Barista Bar Launch, Greenwood Academy, Dreghorn, 7 June

I was at Greenwood Academy on 4 June for the official launch of their Barista Bar. The project, which is supported by Princes' Trust Scotland and Developing Young Workforce, provides students with additional employability skills.

Community Visits with Council Leader, 7 June

I joined the Leader of the Council on 7 June on a visit to Stevenson where I met Mr Ian Cassidy at Stevenston Beach to chat about the excellent voluntary work carried out to keep the area litter free. From there we visited the Three Town Growers in Ardrossan and then finally met with the Ardrossan Community Trust. The amount of work that goes on in North Ayrshire by volunteers is amazing and it was good to get the opportunity to thank those people who make North Ayrshire a better place for all of us.

Day of Celebration – Stevenston Environment Group, Stevenston Beach, 9 June

On 9 June, I attended the Stevenston Environment Group's Day of Celebration at Stevenston Beach to recognise the ongoing community commitment to Stevenston Beach Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and Ardeer Quarry LNR. I was delighted to present a plaque to the group which will be displayed on the information board at the beach.

Panel Member Award Ceremony, East Ayrshire Council, Kilmarnock, 11 June

On 11 June, I attended the Area Support Team – Panel Award Ceremony. The event recognised all those who dedicate their time to serve on the Children's Panel. It was an honour to present certificates to the long-serving panel members from North Ayrshire.

Sir Tom Hunter Challenge, Marathon House, Dundonald, 12 June

I attended the Sir Tom Hunter Enterprise Challenge held in Marathon House, Dundonald. The Challenge was open to all schools in North, East and South Ayrshire with two teams representing each local authority in the final. Largs Academy and Kilwinning Academy represented North Ayrshire in the final with Largs Academy coming joint first and Kilwinning Academy fourth.

Family Open Day – Dalry & Millour Community Wind Farms, 16 June

On 15 June, I attended the Family Open Day at the Dalry & Millour Community Wind Farms. This annual event was attended and enjoyed by many and included children's entertainment, displays, stalls from local businesses and a barbeque.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Clarkson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Councillor Ian Clarkson
Provost North Ayrshire Council