

Kilncraigs, Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB (Tel.01259-450000)

# **Petitions Committee**

**Thursday 3 April 2025 at 1.30 pm**

**Venue: Council Chamber, Kilncraigs,  
Greenside Street, Alloa, FK10 1EB**



## **Petitions Committee**

The Petitions Committee has been established for the purpose of hearing petitions submitted by members of the public and businesses within Clackmannanshire in line with the criteria set out in the [Guidance](#).

**Members of the public are welcome to attend our Council and Committee meetings to see how decisions are made.**

**Details of all of our Council and Committee dates and agenda items are published on our website at [www.clacks.gov.uk](http://www.clacks.gov.uk)**

**If you require further information about Council or Committee meetings, please contact Committee Services by e-mail at [committees@clacks.gov.uk](mailto:committees@clacks.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01259 452006 or 452004.**

**26 March 2025**

**A MEETING of the PETITIONS COMMITTEE will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, KILNCRAIGS, ALLOA, on THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2025 at 1.30 PM**



**CHRIS ALLISTON**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Partnership and Performance**

**B U S I N E S S**

	<b>Page No.</b>
1. Apologies	--
2. Declaration of Interests Elected Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any financial or non-financial interest which they may have in any item on this agenda in accordance with the Councillors' Code of Conduct. A Declaration of Interest form should be completed and passed to the Committee Services Officer.	--
3. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair <i>(At the Council Meeting of 30/11/23, it was agreed that that a Chair and Vice Chair of the Petitions Committee will be appointed from within the nominated Committee membership at the first meeting of the Committee)</i>	--
4. Order of Proceedings (Copy herewith)	05
5. Public Petition – report by Monitoring Officer (Copy herewith)	07

**Petition Title:** Tillicoultry RAAC Homeowners

**Principal Petitioner:** Ms Lynsey McQuater (represented by  
Mr Wilson Chowdhry)

## Petitions Committee – Committee Members (Membership 8 – Quorum 4)

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Petitions Committee		Membership: 8	Quorum: 4
Chair	Vice Chair	Members	Substitutes
A Chair and Vice Chair of the Petitions Committee will be appointed from within the Committee membership at the first meeting of the Committee.		Councillor Donald Balsillie	Councillor Phil Fairlie
		Councillor Scott Harrison	Councillor Ellen Forson
		Councillor Fiona Law	Councillor Wendy Hamilton
		Councillor Graham Lindsay	Councillor Jane McTaggart
		Councillor William Keogh	Councillor Kenneth Earle
		Councillor Mark McLuckie	Councillor Kathleen Martin
		Councillor Martha Benny	Councillor Denis Coyne
		Councillor Bryan Quinn	-



## **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS:**

### **MEETING OF THE PETITIONS COMMITTEE – THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2025 AT 1.30 PM**

The format of the Petitions Committee to hear the petition is as follows:

1. The Chair will ask if there any apologies from Elected Members.
2. The Chair will check if any Elected Member wishes to declare an interest in the item being discussed.
3. The Chair will outline the procedure that will be followed.
4. The Monitoring Officer will present the report to the Committee.
5. The Principal Petitioner (or their representative) will then be introduced by the Chair and will present the petition to Committee (the presentation of the petition should be no longer than 5 minutes although this timing is at the discretion of the Chair).
6. Elected Members will be entitled to ask questions of the Principal Petitioner (as well as the agreed number of petition supporters). Council officers will be present and Elected Members can also ask these officers questions.
7. Elected Members will then enter into debate and will make a recommendation to Council.
8. Following on the decision in Clause 7 the Chair will bring the meeting to a close.
9. The Committee's recommendation to Council on the Petition will be notified in writing to the Principal Petitioner within 7 working days of the date of the Committee Meeting.
10. In the event of any conflict between the Order of Proceedings contained herein and the Council's Standing Orders then the Council's Standing Orders will take precedence.



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**Report to Petitions Committee**

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**Date of Meeting: 3 April 2025**

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**Subject: Public Petition – Tillicoultry RAAC Homeowners**

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**Report by: Monitoring Officer**

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**1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1. The report summarises the petition which has been received from Ms Linsey McQuater on 10 December 2024 (the Principal Petitioner)

**2.0 Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1. Hear the Principal Petitioner or their representative, seek information from them as appropriate; and
- 2.2. Make a recommendation to Council for the disposal of the Petition.

**3.0 Considerations**

- 3.1 The Petition is in electronic form entitled Tillicoultry RAAC Homeowners.
- 3.2 The Petition has been verified with 252 signatures of people residing within the Clackmannanshire area. Please note that during the verification process, a number of signatures were discounted as they were duplicates or incomplete signatories.
- 3.3 The Principal Petitioner is a resident of the Clackmannanshire area and as such meets the relevant criteria for criteria for the submission of a Petition to this Petitions Committee.
- 3.4 The Petition is as follows:

*“1. Provide Pre-RAAC Declaration Valuations We urge councillors to recommend valuations reflecting property values as if the RAAC issue were not present. This approach is critical to ensuring fairness for affected homeowners. We understand that an option for such pre-RAAC declaration valuations will be included in the RAAC Options Report on 30th January. We strongly encourage councillors to adopt this measure, as many homeowners are at risk of financial ruin, including bankruptcy and homelessness.*

*2. Financial Support for RAAC-Related Costs We request financial assistance for homeowners to cover costs incurred due to RAAC issues, including evacuation expenses and disturbance payments, through a voluntary agreement. Such support would provide immediate relief to those grappling with unexpected and significant financial burdens.*

*3. Request a Public Inquiry We call on Clackmannanshire Council to urge the Scottish Government to conduct a transparent public inquiry into the handling of RAAC by Scottish Councils. This inquiry should investigate safety assessments, property transactions, RAAC disclosures, and councils' responses to homeowner concerns.*

*4. Advocate for a National Financial Support Fund We ask the Council to actively and more visibly lobby the Scottish Government for the establishment of a national financial support fund for RAAC-affected homeowners. The recent £3.4 billion funding announcement from Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves presents a timely opportunity to secure much-needed relief. With have the support of our local MP, we believe stronger, more public advocacy from the Council could have a significant impact."*

## **Background**

- 3.5 Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) is a lightweight construction material that was used in the construction of some public buildings like schools and hospitals between the 1950s and 1990s. It was used mostly in flat roofing, but also in some pitched roofs, floors and walls.
- 3.1. Following a structural survey of the buildings of buildings within the Tillicoultry area RAAC was identified in the roof structure of three buildings. Those three buildings were deemed dangerous and at risk of collapse by the Council's structural engineer and building standards officer. Residents were asked to evacuate the buildings as a result of this risk.
- 3.2. The legal basis for the evacuation was in terms of Section 42 of the Building (Scotland) Act 2003 which was served on residents. A Dangerous Building Notice in terms of Sections 29 and 30 of this Act was also served on owners which required the owners to obtain their own structural report.

## **4.0 Sustainability Implications**

- 4.1. This report has no direct sustainability implications. It is possible once the petition has been heard, that there may be financial or sustainability considerations arising from any outcomes.

## **5.0 Resource Implications**

- 5.1. *Financial Details*



- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate.

Not applicable. This is not a decision-making Committee. If there are financial implications to the recommendation by the Committee to Council, the report to Council will provide for that financial information.

- 5.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report.

5.4. *Staffing*

Not applicable

## 6.0 Exempt Reports

- 6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

## 7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box ☒)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- (2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

Petitions policy

## 8.0 Equalities Impact

- 8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations? No X

As confirmed above this is not a decision-making Committee. If there is an impact on equalities in the recommendation by the Committee to Council, the report to Council will provide for equalities impact assessment.

## 9.0 Legality

- 9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Committee is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

## 10.0 Appendices

- 10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None

## 11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

**Petition:** ["Tillicoultry RAAC Homeowners"](#).

### Author(s)

NAME	DESIGNATION	TEL NO / EXTENSION
Sarah Goldberg	Team Leader	45 2084
Lee Robertson	Senior Manager Legal & Governance	45 2087

### Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Lee Robertson	Monitoring Officer	