

Response to MCC complaint

1. Lack of Impartiality: Ms Renfrew has consistently demonstrated an inability to represent the full range of views within the community in an objective and balanced manner.

As secretary of the KCC I have conveyed and represented only positions which have been agreed by the members of KCC about the rally. Our submission to the Argyll and Bute Council in April 2025 was signed off by all Community Councillors, as was our subsequent follow up to the Council. Our discussions about the rally are clearly minuted and the documents agreed by KCC are available on our website for public scrutiny.

2. Pursuit of a Personal Agenda: It is clear that she is using her role within the Community Council to advance her own opposition to the rally, rather than acting in the broader interests of the community she represents.

I have not used my role within the KCC to advance my own opinions about the rally. Our CC has been active in getting community views and has accurately represented those views. I have never used the KCC secretary account to pursue my personal opinions and issues with regard to the rally. I am entitled as a resident effected by the rally to express my personal views; I do so quite separately and distinctly from my role on KCC and always use my personal email address.

3. Undemocratic Conduct: Ms Renfrew has established a group which exists solely to oppose the rally. While this group is said to have 50 members, no substantiating evidence of this claim has ever been provided.

B8000 Against the Rally Stages (BARS) was formed in Spring 2024. It is simply an email communication group of people who live or work on the B8000 and oppose the closure of the road for the rally. The group has no formal status and has never met. It was established through people chatting to each other and wanting to have a collective voice to engage with MCC and the Council when there was no community council.

When the community council was established, I asked Hailey O'Hara to take the lead on communicating for the group and I have made no representation on its behalf since. For example, Hailey submitted the BARS position to the community council consultation.

Sam has never asked for a list of people who are engaged in BARs but I am sure Hailey could provide a list of people in the group, with their permission.

I struggle to see what is undemocratic about the folk in a community coming together in an entirely informal way to oppose a road closure which disrupts their community.

4. Involvement of Legal Counsel: Ms Renfrew has included a solicitor in email correspondence to challenge the terms of the Motor Sport Order, particularly in relation to pedestrian access — actions which appear to go beyond the remit of her role as Secretary and which further indicate a personal campaign against the event.

I am perfectly entitled to seek personal legal advice about the disruption of access to my property caused by the rally road closures. My lawyer's letter to the Council explicitly stated she was acting for me in a personal capacity. All correspondence in that regard was from my personal email. At no point could there have been any suggestion I was acting as secretary of the community council.

5. Unacceptable Behaviour Towards Volunteers and Officials: We regret to report instances where Ms Renfrew has verbally abused volunteers involved in the rally.

There have also been occasions where her behaviour towards officials and competitors has been threatening in nature.

I utterly refute these allegations; they are a disgraceful smear. MCC should either report their allegations to the police, for investigation, or withdraw them and make a formal apology to me.

I had only one substantive interface with the rally marshals. The marshals' parked motor homes in two of the passing places on the B8000 adjacent to the access road to my property. I pointed out to them that passing places should not be used for parking while the road was open. They refused to move and I asked if they objected to my photographing their vehicles as I intended reporting the matter to the police. They did not object. I spoke with the police officers stationed at the Oystercatcher and they agreed to speak to the owners of the vehicles. They went off and did so, I chatted to them again on their return and they did not raise any concerns about my interaction with the marshals. Presumably if I had abused or threatened the marshals they would have taken the opportunity to inform the police, at that point, in the same way as I had reported my concerns about obstructions to the passing places.

Catriona Renfrew

19th July 2025