

Giffordtown & District Community Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting on 5th November 2018

1. Chairs Welcome:

Neil Brooks was co-opted onto the council.

Monique was proposed as Treasurer by Sandy Brydon and seconded by Jan Wightman.

Neil was proposed as Secretary by Monique Sanders and seconded.

2. Present: Jane Hutchison, John Arbuckle, Sandy Brydon, Monique Sanders, Angie Emler, John Kennet, Jan Wightman; Councillors Donald Lothian and Andy Heer. Also present were three members of the public.

3. **Apologies:** None.

4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2017 having been distributed after that meeting and approved in January were duly signed.

5. **Chairs Report:**

This year has been fairly quiet. Happily several long-standing issues have been resolved:

1. The Q63 junction has been vastly improved, thanks to the help of the Forestry Commission Scotland and Fife Council
2. The restoration of the Right of Way at Edentown is now complete. The footpath was opened with a small ceremony
3. Walls have been repaired and damaged road signs replaced. Gravel was purchased to level the path on the B937
4. Again, our Spring and Autumn cleanups took place. Thanks go to our volunteers.
5. All is quiet with regard to Kinloch quarry. Works to widen the road were supposed to start this year but there has been a delay due to legal problems.
6. Sadly, Graham Buchanan left the community council and our secretary, John Arbuckle announced he was not seeking re-election. John has been on the council for 18 years, and secretary for 16. He will be missed immensely. His knowledge of local affairs and his contacts with farmers has been invaluable.

I would like to thank all Council members for their attendance and support throughout the year. In particular, I thank John for his thorough and diligent work, not just this year but for many years. Thanks also go to our local Councillors Donald and Andy for helping us with our many difficult problems.

6. Treasurers Report:
Monique reported that funds are healthy with a balance that is well in the black.

7. Donald's Few Words – Donald chosen to express his remarks in the form of an anecdote from the past which demonstrates the power of 'Partnership Working'. It used to be that there was a problem with discipline on the school buses from Auchtermuchty. Children were getting excited during the journey and this was spilling over in to the classroom; causing a detrimental effect to education of all concerned. At that time, it was difficult to get any effective remedy as one agency after another passed the responsibility to 'someone else'. No one took responsibility and everyone passed the buck, which in turn made everyone the 'losers'. Nowadays there are regular meetings between interested parties resulting in interdisciplinary co-operation. Anti social behavior in Auchtermuchty has all but been eliminated and the quality of life has improved for all. The children on the bus are all well behaved. This is a great example of how working together can have a positive impact and it makes it worthwhile to be a councillor and work in partnerships.

8. Chair Closing Remarks

John Arbuckle mentioned that he has a laptop and a printer, which was given to him to be used for council business so as not to place a burden on the secretary having to have his own equipment. But everyone has this sort of equipment nowadays. Need to look into what to do with this equipment and it was suggested it could be recycled in some way.

John made the point that he had two boxes of documents relating to previous council business. Neil did not want to take ownership of these boxes and asked whether they could be scanned. It was asked whether the council keep a copy of the minutes so did we need to in addition. Neil and John to look into whether we can scan them. John said he would keep the boxes in the meantime.