



Galashiels Community Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 14th June 2017
Burgh Chambers
6.00pm

MINUTES

Present

Judith Cleghorn, Tracey Alder, Rick Kenney, Tom Ingoldsby, Eileen Frame, Drew Tulley, Helen Calder, Celeste Di Vito, Liz Jardine

In Attendance

Cllr Euan Jardine, Cllr Andy Anderson, Cllr Sandy Aitchison
Callum Hodgson – Border Telegraph,
Kevin Janiak – Southern Reporter
4 Members of Public

1. Chair's Welcome and Apologies

Judith Cleghorn welcomed everyone to the Community Council AGM 14th June 2017 and took apologies from Cllr Harry Scott, Tony Brown, Kevin Ryalls, Marion Romeril, Claire Howden, Pauline Ward

2. Chairs Report 2017

Good evening everyone.

Ladies and gentlemen, first of all I have people to thank – the Vice Chair, Rick, for all his help and advice – Rick is always a good sounding board – thank you Rick.

To Tracey, whose minutes are always accurate and timeously produced: Tracey also looks after the mechanics of the community council, ensuring that we work within the parameters of our constitution, and does much of the unseen work that happens behind the scenes: Thank you Tracey.

To Tom, who ensures our budget is properly spent and audited, and who advises on any financial matters – thank you Tom. To the rest of the community councillors, thank you – your input is essential to enable us to run properly, and for those of you who attend other groups on behalf of this community council – to you all – thank you.

To the elected members who attend our meetings – gentlemen, we appreciate your sound advice and assistance. I know that most of you are newly elected, but I have already has reason to call on one of you for assistance – and that matter is now successfully resolved – so long may that continue – and thank you, mostly in advance, for your continued service to this community council and to this town.

And finally to the public – usually the same welcome faces on the public benches; thank you for coming, for supporting your community council and I assure you that we shall, with your support, continue to do the best we can for our town.

I would also like to thank the press for their reporting – not always very timeously – I note that last month's CC meeting is reported in today's paper – but I know other news can take precedence and I appreciate what you do.

It has not been the easiest of years for the community council – we have Tony Brown who has been off sick since May 2016 – we keep in touch and wish him well; he will be returning to the table within a few months.

We have lost Karen Lawson through other interests and Dougie Johnston because of his job, and Kevin Drum who is now a councillor at Melrose. Our thanks go to them for their input too. We have welcomed two new members, Liz Jardine and Pauline Ward, and I am sure that they will prove to be a great asset to us, as we go forward.

We have also been saddened by the recent tragedies in London and Manchester. The sympathies of this Community Council representing the people of Galashiels have been sent to the relevant community leaders of those areas sadly affected. In due course, we shall do the same for the tragedy that has taken place in London today.

The Community Council sub groups have had a busy year – Waterways continue to have their monthly cleanups – and are

always looking for more volunteers; Gala in Bloom are as busy as ever, now looking after the station planters, the gardens at Old Gala House, Braw Lad's Brae and the Focus Centre – and I'm sure I have missed some out too. The Events Group have been working towards events on the town on 27th August and 2nd December.

In April, we held the mini walking festival – this seems to be becoming an annual event, led as usual, by Tracey. It was a great weekend, the weather was good and our walkers seemed to have enjoyed themselves immensely.

We had a presence at the Remembrance Parade and Service on Remembrance Sunday, and I had the honour of laying the wreath on behalf of the Community Council.

Community Councillors have continued to attend associated meetings: for instance Eildon Area Forum, the A7 Action Group and the Common Good fund, to mention but three.

Going forward, we have several events at the planning stage, and we shall be resurrecting the Resilient Communities project, working with SBC and led on our behalf, by Tom Ingoldsby.

So we can look forward with confidence and positivity to continue building a strong Community Council to work for the benefit of the town that we all care so much about.

3. Minutes of AGM 14th June 2017

Minutes of the AGM 1st June 2016 were approved by Tom Ingoldsby and Seconded by Drew Tulley

4. Treasurers Report and Accounts Update

Tom gave an accurate update of the Community Council Account. The balance in the account being £1071.77

Approval of the Accounts was proposed by Eileen Frame and Seconded by Drew Tulley

5. Appointment of Auditors

The Community Council accounts are audited by an Independent Financial Verifier Alison Gray at Selkirk

All Agreed that Alison Gray remain the Auditor of the Community Council Accounts and Finances.

6. All Members of the Community Council agreed for Office Bearers to remain in their roles until the AGM of 2019

7. Agree to Abide by Code of Conduct

All Members of the Community Council that were present agreed to abide by the Community Council Code of Conduct.

8. AOB

n/a

9. Date of Next AGM

The date of the Next AGM is 6th June 2018