



Galashiels Community Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 1st June 2016
Burgh Chambers
6.30pm

MINUTES

Present

Judith Cleghorn, Tracey Alder, Rick Kenney, Tom Ingoldsby, Claire Howden, Karen Lawson, Eileen Frame, Drew Tulley, John Hazle, Kevin Drum, Dougie Johnston, Marion Romeril, Helen Calder

In Attendance

Cllr White

Stephen Mahon – Border Telegraph

1 Member of Public

1. Chair's Welcome and Apologies

Judith Cleghorn welcomed everyone to the Community Council AGM and took apologies from Tony Brown, PC Sandy Blacklock, Kevin Ryalls, Celeste di Vito

2. Chairs Report 2016

Good evening everyone.

Thank you for attending this, the 2016 AGM of Galashiels Community Council. It is good to see the AGM so well attended

First of all, I have some thanks to give: to Rick Kenney for being such an able Vice-Chair, and such a support to me. Rick also has the Planning and Licensing responsibility for the community council and carries out the tasks that position demands with both efficiency and promptness. Thanks to you Rick.

To Tracey Alder, our Secretary, for supplying us with regular minutes and agendas, for dealing with mail and for keeping me informed. Thank You Tracey.

To Tom Ingoldsby, our treasurer, thanks are also due. It is Tom's job to make sure that the books balance, and that our meager allowance from Scottish Borders Council is spent as wisely as possible. Thank You Tom.

And to the rest of you: my thanks. Without you all there would not be a community council, we would not have the opportunity to speak out when we think it necessary, to try to make a difference in Galashiels – so thank you all – we need you.

Thank you to all those among you who represent the Community Council on other groups – I think particularly of the Waterways Group, Gala in Bloom, the Events Group and the Walking Festival Group, Eildon Forum, Common Good fund and the Roads Consultation Group. I apologise for any I may have missed.

So, what have we done this year? I am speaking here on behalf of the previous Chair too, but although before my time in this chair, I thought I must mention the Scottish Borders Walking Festival that took place last September and was a huge success. Everyone worked extremely hard, and thanks to have to go to Ian Purvis who, along with Tracey, led the event. I am happy to announce that we made a profit of around £4,000. An excellent effort by everyone, again thank you.

As you are all aware, due to lack of numbers, the community council had to be disbanded in December of last year and was not re-formed until February of this year. I am delighted that we now have a full complement of community councilors and this will give us the opportunity to do things.

Our 'doing things' started in April when we put on a mini walking festival, led by Tracey – again it was a success and something that can be built on in the future. Thank you to everyone who helped.

A couple of weeks ago, we were delighted to welcome the Flying Scotsman to Galashiels, and I think you will agree that we had an amazing day. Everyone worked together to produce a warm and friendly atmosphere for visitors and local people alike. The number of visitors to the town was good to see and once again, thank you all for your help.

On 7th June, the planters that we have been raising funds for will be installed at the Galashiels station; I think when you see them, you will appreciate the amount of work that has gone into them, and how much they have cost. We have raised almost £4,000 to fund the planters and we have enough money within that amount to cover at least the next two plantings. In October, we will be holding a coffee morning at the Trinity Church Hall, to raise funds for Gala in Bloom, to ensure that we have continuing funds for various such projects.

So, all in all, I think we have made a very good start in this last few months and I look forward with excitement and positivity to working with you all in the future to build a strong, resilient and active Community Council

3. Minutes of AGM 3rd June 2015

Minutes of the AGM 3rd June 2015 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 £957.37
Approval of the Accounts was proposed by Claire Howden 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.

At this point in proceedings as there was no re-election of Office Bearers due to the recent full Community Council election in February and there will not be another election until 2019, Judith asked all Members if they were happy with the Office Bearers as they are now and if anyone had any issues. All were happy with the Community Council to remain as it is.

6. Agree to Abide by Code of Conduct

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

7. AOB

n/a

8. Date of Next AGM

The date of the Next AGM is 14th June 6pm 2017