

## **Whitehills and District Community Council**

### **Annual General Meeting**

held Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 6.30 pm in the St Brandon's Centre, Whitehills.

**Present:** Ross Balharry (Chairman), Anne Balharry, Stuart Ironside, Duncan Leece, Chas Findlay, Mick Moloney, Robert Mackie, Alistair Wiseman, Alan Stewart and Mattie Verster.

**Also attending:** Cllr Michael Roy, Cllr John Cox and Gordon Patterson.

**Apologies:** Cllr Glen Reynolds and Karen Wiles (Interim) Area Manager Aberdeenshire Council.

**Minutes of the last AGM held 21 June 2018**, were approved as correct, proposed by Duncan and seconded by Alistair.

### **Whitehills and District Community Council Annual Report for period ending 31st May 2019.**

The overriding issue once again throughout the past year has been the ongoing flooding problem in Reidhaven Street. Scottish Water and Aberdeenshire Council continue to try to identify the problems, and the latter have invested £10k in the past financial year with a further £40k committed to the 2019/2020 budget to endeavour to find a satisfactory solution. Meetings have been held including one called by local residents in an endeavour to clarify responsibilities. The assistance of Local Councillors has been greatly appreciated.

This is the first AGM since inception of the new Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils and adoption of our finalised document and we trust that Aberdeenshire Council will be able to cope with the new Election and Nomination process.

Our new Community Action Plan was completed by Banffshire Partnership Limited in December last year highlighting comments and ideas from the local community for improvements they would like to see in our area, and in response we have already undertaken some of the suggestions.

Continuation of a safe walking pathway to Ladysbridge Village from the end of our recently completed popular pathway, from the village to Annie's Woods, remains a priority and a recent meeting with Aberdeenshire Council officers will hopefully allow some progress to be made to what is a complicated project.

Bullet points of some of the actions taken throughout the year follow.

Emergency Services Access to Reidhaven Street to be aided by new Road markings on Reidhaven Street and Seafield Street.

Discussions held with Ab. Council re maintenance of the Cemetery

Damage to the RAF Strike Wing Memorial remedied

New Christmas Lights purchased

Clearance of drains on to the beach at Low Shore to alleviate flooding

Remembrance Day Services at the Cemetery and the Memorial

Flower displays/Maintenance of Public Loos/filling doggy bag dispensers

Many thanks as always to my fellow Community Councillors and to our Elected Councillors for their help and support throughout the year.

Ross Balharry

Chairman

### **Review and approval of independently verified Statement of Accounts**

Anne, distributed copies of the full accounts which have been certified correct by Robin Maddock, whom the Community Council had formally nominated. Anne briefly went through the accounts and confirmed that they will be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council for scrutiny and recording. The 2018 Admin grant of £387.70 grant was received from Aberdeenshire Council. Collections for the toilet was £100 less than last year but the Christmas lights collection had a good increase. Poppy wreath expenses were up as some wreaths went missing after being laid and had to be replaced.

The Community Council's finances remained sound, and at the end of its financial year, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019, the organisation had balances of £ 5503.80 in its working current account, and £ 30227.78 in its Gift account. The fixed term deposit was reinvested in Bank of Scotland. With the new regulations, the accounts for 2020 need to be changed to end at the end of March instead of April. There were no questions. Anne was thanked for her report and her work greatly appreciated.

### **Election of office bearers under New Scheme of Establishment**

The review of the constitution was agreed. All procedures had been followed and notices given as per the new scheme.

Ross handed the Chair over to Cllr John Cox who proceeded to thank Ross and the CC for all the hard work and being a model CC with a good spirit, working hard for the community and working well together.

Cllr Cox took nominations for the office bearers.

Nomination was made for Ross Balharry as Chairman and seconded. There were no further nominations and Cllr Cox was delighted to announce Ross as chairman by unanimous decision and congratulated him.

Nominations were asked for Vice-chairman. Duncan Leece was nominated and seconded. There were no further nominations and Cllr Cox announced Duncan to be vice-chairman by unanimous decision and congratulated him.

Nominations were asked for secretary and Mattie Verster was nominated and seconded. There were no further nominations and Cllr Cox announced Mattie to be secretary by unanimous decision and congratulated her.

Nominations were asked for Treasurer and Anne Balharry was nominated and seconded. There were no further nominations and Cllr Cox dually announced Anne to be treasurer by unanimous decision and congratulated her.

Cllr Cox handed the chair back to Ross who thanked the cllrs. John Cox and Mike Roy for their much appreciated support and work.

The appropriate procedure and notices was given for the election of three retiring Community Councillors. The applications were sent to AB Council as required. No other names came forward and Mick Molony, Alistair Wiseman and Charles Findlay received letters from Angela Keith to say they are re-installed as councillors. Ross congratulated them and thanked them for their work.

There being no further business, the AGM was concluded, and the June monthly meeting begun.