**Whitehills and District Community Council**

**Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 16th June 2022 at 6.30 pm at the St Brandon Centre

**Present:** Duncan Leece, Chas Findlay, Jill Clark, Brian Wilkie, Anne Balharry, Bill Bain, Mike Duncan, Audrey Cameron, Billy Gatt

**Also attending:** Cllr John Cox, Cllr Stewart Adams, Rebecca Ross, Janette Sheard, John Clayton, Alison Jenkins, Gordon Donald, David West, Anne Oakes

**Apologies:** Cllr Glen Reynolds, Alan Stewart.

**Minutes of the last AGM held 17th June 2021** – Proposed – Mike Duncan Seconded – Anne Balharry

**Chairman’s report:** Such a lot has happened in the past year; it is hard sometimes to reflect back on it. We have had another difficult year as a community and as a community council, but we are here, and in good fettle.

We have maintained our work throughout and met using TEAMS, which none of us much

liked, then at Boyndie and finally back here in the village.

Our community has faced the challenges of COVID and then Storms, that created real

problems and hardships for many, to say nothing of worry and uncertainty. But adversity

brought out the good in many members of our community too, and we should all be proud of

that.

And just as many of us are seeing a brighter future, we need to keep in mind fuel poverty

and mental health challenges that many of the more vulnerable members of our community

are facing, or soon will.

As usual, many of the things we have done have not been seen by the majority of our

community members, but rest assured, they are appreciated, and people soon would notice if we didn’t do them!

Alongside the monthly list of chores, whether keeping the Red Well tamed, or paths maintained, signs repaired or doggie poo bags provided, our linked groups of volunteers have ensured Xmas lights went up (and down eventually!) toilets are open and cleaned, floral displays brighten our lives, and the ‘welcome’ banner greets those coming to the village. Well done and Thank You to everyone

We have been greatly involved in ensuring key projects within the village keep progressing,

such as the flooding prevention work, and we have encouraged and helped the Ladysbridge

team in their efforts too. We have agreed about £40k of funding to groups, and our relationship with Falck remains excellent.

As a community council, we are consulted about planning applications, which we always

consider, and we have fed back our local knowledge into wider consultations connected to

the impact of COVID and the storms. We know that our measured and sensible approach

ensures Whitehill’s views are given credibility and our wee community’s is properly heard.... we genuinely value the good relationship built with Aberdeenshire Council staff and Elected Members.

We have said goodbye, and thanks, to some long-standing members, and are delighted to

welcome some new ones, meaning that we have a healthy mix of experience and fresh

ideas for the coming year.

So, we are placed well for another year of work, but also looking forward greatly to our

summer break......but of course, much work will go on during that too, by our willing

volunteers.

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Best wishes and thank you all again.

Duncan

**Finance Report & approval of accounts:**The accounts have been audited and returned by Robin Maddock. The accounts were approved unanimously. Duncan expressed his and the Community Councils thanks to Anne for all her hard work again this year.

**Election of office bearers.**

Duncan went through the election procedure. 5 places had come up as a result of retirements and existing vacancies and 1 Community Councillor was due for re-election. Therefore 3 new Community Councillors were elected.

Brian Wilkie

Billy Gatt

Audrey Cameron

One Community Councillor was re-elected: Chas Findlay

Duncan then handed the Chair over to Cllr John Cox who proceeded to thank the Community Council for all their hard work.

Cllr Cox took nominations for the office bearers.

Chairman: Duncan Leece: Proposed by Anne Balharry Seconded by Chas Findlay. Unanimously voted in.

Vice Chair: Chas Findlay: Proposed by Duncan Leece Seconded by Mike Duncan. Unanimously voted in.

Treasurer: Anne Balharry: Proposed by Duncan Leece Seconded by Jill Clark. Unanimously voted in.

Secretary: Rebecca Ross: Proposed by Anne Balharry Seconded by Duncan Leece. Unanimously voted in.

**Review of Constitution**

Duncan reminded that there was an option at each AGM to request change to our constitution. After discussion, no change required this time, but CC will contemplate its maximum number given growing population and interest in CC matters, and this could be a matter for 2023 AGM. Given a number of new CC members, electronic versions of Constitution and Code of Conduct would be circulated, and Duncan can advise on training opportunities. Agreed unanimously.

**Agree dates of meetings 2022/23.**

It was agreed to stay with the current meeting timetable: 6.30pm on third Thursday of each month, with a possible summer break in July and August. Meetings will be held at the St Brandon Hall. ***Action: Rebecca will circulate meeting dates.***

There being no further business, the AGM was concluded.