

MINUTES OF THE BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM HELD ON MONDAY 20 MARCH 2017 AT 7PM IN THE BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY HALL

Present: Sharon Robertson (Chair), Fiona Roper (Secretary), Linden Hunt (Treasurer and Horticultural Society), Mhairi McKenna (Community Council), Andy McAlpine (Development Group), Gwen Campbell (Country Dancers), Karen Teller (Toddlers Group), Maraid Anderson (Patchworkers), Wendy McKechan (Scout Group), Pat Allsop (RVS), M Hamilton (WRI), Stacey Stewart (Children's Party Committee), Anna Kosak and Gemma Laverty (Fireworks Committee), L Nield, Natalie Thomson, Sheila Mason, Kim Mawer, and Claire Erskine (members of the public)

Apologies: had been received from Stephen Ogston (Church), Cathy Lopez (Drop in) and Jessie Brown (Church Guild). No other apologies had been received.

Sharon Robertson welcomed everyone to the AGM and noted that South Ayrshire Council (SAC) were not represented at the meeting. She had received a text message that morning from Ronnie Sinclair SAC asking when the AGM was being held. She informed him it was scheduled for that evening at 7pm. Fiona Roper confirmed that notification of the AGM (form C1 and accounts) had been sent to SAC around 3 weeks ago.

Minutes of the last AGM held on 21 March 2016. No minutes were available.

Chairperson's Report: Sharon confirmed this would be her last AGM as she was standing down as Chairperson along with her two colleagues. She was proud of what the Community Association had achieved during their time in office. These achievements not only included successful galas but fundraising to make improvements to the Community Hall and for other projects. [A detailed list can be found at Annex A.]

Secretary's Report: Fiona Roper echoed Sharon's comments and confirmed that she too would be standing down. She explained, in a bit more detail, the various roles involved that would need to be filled - Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Hall Bookings Secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Linden Hunt presented the accounts for the period 1 February 2016 to 31 January 2017 which showed a balance of £1,629.59. Linden invited questions but there were none. The accounts were unanimously accepted.

Election of Officebearers: Sharon confirmed that she, Fiona, and Linden had given notice a year ago that they would be stepping down at the 2017 AGM. Sharon and Fiona will no longer be members of the Community Association but Linden will remain a member representing the Horticultural Society. The 3 office bearers were thanked for all of the work they had done over many years.

Normally at this stage the SAC representative would assume the Chair and conduct the election of the new office bearers, but in the absence of an SAC representative, it was suggested **and agreed** that as Sharon would no longer be a member of the Association she should continue to Chair the meeting for the election of a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Nominations for the position of Treasurer: There were none
Nominations for the position of Secretary: There were none
Nominations for the position of Chairperson: There were none

The meeting then went on to discuss what should happen next. **There was general agreement** there were 2 main issues (a) the ongoing issues with SAC regarding the Community Hall and utility bills and (b) issues with SAC relating to the Gala and the withdrawal of the provision of gala stalls. The uncertainty surrounding both of these issues had put people off from volunteering to take on the key roles. **It was agreed** by those present, because of the uncertainty around (a) and (b), there would be no Gala Day in 2017. Looking beyond that, there were members who would be prepared

to become involved - particularly with the organising of events - but only after the issues with SAC have been resolved.

On (a) Andy McAlpine said that there had been rumours that if new office bearers could not be found the Community Hall would be closed by SAC. He said he could not stand by and see that happen. The Community Hall is the hub of the community. He explained the work the Ballantrae Development Group (BDG) and the Ballantrae Community Council (BCC) are currently doing to set up a Development Trust in Ballantrae within the next few months to replace and build on the work done by the BDG over the last 6 years. The reasons for this were publicised in the January Ballantrae News and the recent edition of the Stinchar Valley Magazine. A meeting of the BDG was scheduled for the next day (21 March) and he was prepared to discuss the issues raised at tonight's meeting to see whether the BDG (and then the Trust) might be able to find a way to work through the issues with SAC to try to find a mutually acceptable solution for the future and to report back to CA members. **This was agreed.** Andy encouraged everyone present, and their groups, to attend the public meetings that would be held during the coming months to hear more about the plans for the Trust, the benefits it will bring to the village, and to contribute their thoughts on priority actions for the Trust.

There was general agreement that separating the issues of the hall and the Gala which had in recent times both been dealt with by the Community Association might provide a way forward.

Linden asked group representatives to go back to their groups and ask their members whether any of them would be prepared to take on the vacant Community Association roles.

It was agreed Sharon would email SAC informing them of the outcome of the AGM, and in particular, that the meeting had been unable to appoint office bearers for the forthcoming year and that the BDG would be in touch to discuss the way forward regarding the Community Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ACHIEVEMENTS

At the Community hall:

Fence
Flagpole
Gate
Planters
Blinds in the Kitchen, Hall and Buffet Room
Stage Curtains
Sound System
New tables and Chairs
Recovered Buffet Room benches
Decorated the Buffet Room
Cooker hot plate and tea urn
Microwave
Fridge
Dishwasher
Dishes and Roasting tins
Cutlery
Kitchen utensils
Outside plug
Christmas tree
Christmas decorations and lights

Other:

Gazebos
Extension cables
Inflatable Marquee and Trailer
Community Noticeboard
£200 towards the renovation of the Community Garden
Free Party at Christmas for the children
Fireworks Display for the last 2 years
£1242 at the Charity Darts