

BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (BCA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 26 MARCH 2018

Present: Jessie Brown (Church Guild & WRI); Mhairi McKenna (Community Council & Development Group / Development Trust); Lynn Nield (Country Dancers); Andy McAlpine (Development Group / Trust); Linden Hunt (Horticultural Society); Pat Allsop (RVS); Cathy Lopez (Youth Club); Stacey Stewart (Scout Group); Mauraid Anderson (Quilting & Patchwork); Laura Cunningham (Parent Council & WRI); Ronnie Sinclair (South Ayrshire Council).

Apologies: Aylie McIlwraith (Parent & Toddlers); Agnes Hamilton (WRI) & Fiona Stevenson (Play Park Development Group)

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Laura opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending.
- 2. Minutes of the last AGM held on 20 March 2017 and EGM held on 22 June 2017:** These had already been approved at the meetings held on 22 June and 18 September respectively.
- 3. Matters Arising:** These had already been dealt with at the meetings in June & September.
- 4. Chairperson's Report:** Laura reported that 2017-18 had been a challenging year for the Association largely as a result of the uncertainties surrounding the withdrawal by South Ayrshire Council (SAC) of gala stall funding and the plans to pass on utility bill charges. Both of these issues had now been dealt with following local council elections in May. On 22 June new BCA office bearers were appointed with a good turnout of groups at the meeting. We now have "General meetings" (which deal with hall and general issues) and "Events" meetings (which concentrate on planning fund raising events).

In addition to groups holding their weekly meetings the Association continues to host coffee mornings, the church fair, the flower show, dances, school concerts and parent council events, Councilor, MSP and MP surgeries, and charity events. From time to time we also take bookings for birthdays and weddings. In addition the Ballantrae Trust is bringing Ayrshire Rural Touring Network productions and an outreach concert by Girvan Traditional Folk Music festival to the hall (although sadly the latter had to be cancelled because of road closures). Local groups benefit from selling refreshments at these events and the Association benefits from rental income.

Ballantrae Primary School is being upgraded during the period August to December 2018 and they will have sole use of the hall during that period (with the exception of the Buffet Room and the kitchen which will be available from the end of the school day). SAC has agreed to replace the windows during July (avoiding dates on which bookings have already been received) and the hall will be handed over to SAC on 13 August. Laura stressed that she is keen to ensure that no group has to stop meeting during the period August to December and urged any group experiencing difficulties with making alternative arrangements to contact her as soon as possible.

Laura thanked Andy (Secretary & Vice Chair), Linden (Treasurer) and Lynn (Hall Bookings Secretary) for their work during the year; Sharon Robertson & Fiona Roper for their willingness to share their experiences and give advice; Roy the Caretaker for his professionalism and flexibility; and the Association's groups and representatives who have attended meetings and helped to get the Association back on track after an uncertain year.

Laura's **Chairperson's Report** was **proposed** by Cathy and **seconded** by Mhairi

- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Linden reported that the funds were healthier this financial year than last. At the end of the financial year we had a surplus of £1,181.07. Looking ahead we will lose income from bookings during the period August to December.

In response to questions about insurance, Linden explained that our previous insurance company had passed us on to another company who had honoured our existing cover and premium for the current year. This will be reviewed in November when the policy is due for renewal.

Linden thanked Colin McNally for externally verifying the accounts.

Linden's **Treasurer's Report** was **proposed** by Laura and **seconded** by Stacey.

6. **Appointment of Auditor:** Laura suggested that we continue to ask Colin to externally verify the BCA accounts.

This was **proposed** by Jessie and **seconded** by Lynn.

7. **Election of Office bearers:** Laura handed over to Ronnie Sinclair of SAC to manage the election. Ronnie thanked all four office bearers for having stepped forward to fill the vacancies created during 2017 and for overcoming the hurdles that had provided a challenge for the Association.

The following office bearers were elected for 2018-19:

Chair: Laura Cunningham **proposed** by Cathy and **seconded** by Mhairi

Secretary (and Vice Chair): Andy McAlpine **proposed** by Laura and **seconded** by Stacey

Bookings Secretary: Lynn Nield **proposed** by Stacey and **seconded** by Linden

Treasurer: Linden Hunt **proposed** by Laura and **seconded** by Jessie

Linden indicated that she will continue but would like to give up the role of Treasurer during the year. Stacey had indicated that she would be prepared to take over after she had shadowed Linden for a period. **It was agreed** that Stacey should take over from Linden when she and Linden think the time is right.

Stacey taking over during the year was **proposed** by Mhairi and **seconded** by Lynn

8. Any Other Business:

(a) Linden mentioned that SAC seem to be sending BCA correspondence to former office bearers despite being informed of changes. Ronnie Sinclair undertook to ensure that SAC departments are informed of the contact details of BCA office bearers for 2018-19 and that address lists are updated.

(b) Ronnie was asked to do the draw for the Gala Party for 2018. The following were selected:

Gala Queen: Millie Littlejohn

Gala King: Hayden Stewart

Attendants: Mae Littlejohn and Kelsey Edwards

Page Boys: Noah Holmes and Jason McKay

9. Date and Time of the next meeting:

Next Hall & General Meeting: 10 May at 7pm

AGM: March 2019 - date and time to be decided.