

JOHNSTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR THE E.G.M. HELD ON THURSDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2016
AT 7.30PM in the Johnstonebridge Centre

PRESENT

Mr Richard Mann (RM) Chair	Mrs Sylvia Harper (SH)
Mr Richard Bray (RB) Vice Chair	Mr Tony Thomson (TT)
Ms Anita Cooper (AC) Secretary	Mrs Marion Bell (MB)
Mrs Margaret Currie (MC)	Mr Tom Halliday (TH)
Mrs Heather Robb (HR)	Mrs Sharon Bell (SB) Treasurer
5 members of the public	

APOLOGIES

Councillor Peter Diggle,

Items to be discussed:

Johnstone Community Council Constitution

The date of the AGM would need to be changed in the constitution as the wrong date had been entered in January 2016.

It was agreed that the AGM should be held in November annually, and the constitution should be amended accordingly.

A.G.M

TREASURER'S REPORT

All books had been balanced and audited.
The Community Council Account was holding £9226.77.
The Hall Account was holding £6159.75.
The Lottery profit was £251.72.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

RM reported a quiet year.

MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2016
AT 7.30PM in the Johnstonebridge Centre

PRESENT

As above plus Councillor Stephen Thomson, PC Cowan

APOLOGIES

Councillor Peter Diggle,

Matters Arising

Two alterations to be made from the previous minutes.

1. The children's Christmas Party is to be 22nd December and not 14th December, as stated.
2. The Seniors Christmas Lunch is to be held on 17th December and not the 16th as stated.

With these alterations made Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 27th October 2016 were read and proposed as true and correct by TT and seconded by MB.

TREASURER'S REPORT

SB had reported that the Community Council account was standing at £ 5067.02. £2000 had come in from Harestanes funding.

Cash box has £74.54.

The Hall Account balance was £5030.10, which includes £768.79 from the race night.

The payment of £30 was agreed for the annual accounts to be audited.

POLICE REPORT

As attached.

PC Cowan also reported that there is a possibility of Police Station closures-8 including Moffat, but no decision had been made at present.

There will be car checks available at Lockerbie Academy on 26.11.16 from 10am to 3pm.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The B7020 – suggestions of rumble strips from old hall to crossroads to slow traffic down.

Bus shelter sides – SWTrans will hopefully be able to swap the current shelter for one with sides.

The council are filling all the salt bins in the area in preparation for bad weather.

B7076 – suggestion of speed monitoring again before it goes back to the area committee, and then changes can be suggested.

JOHNSTONEBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT TRUST - THE WAY FORWARD

Lord David Johnstone, Lady Julia Barnard, Mr Billy Lockhart & Mr John Graham were invited to the meeting to discuss the way forward for the Community Centre.

Lord Johnstone stated that there has been a gap in any information coming from the Trust to the community and the Trust are hoping to bridge that gap. Many thanks were to go to Richard Mann for his help over the last four or five months to maintain the running and upkeep of the centre. There had been a journey of understanding about what's been happening and working with the Lottery, as there had been a lot of problems and concerns of sustainability of the Trust, Hall, with Architects etc. There were challenges being faced with snagging, building & running costs, the heating system (which has now turned out not to be low maintenance and cost), insurances are high on the hall and the MUGA, Licensing, and generating income. There is a shortfall on generating income to cover costs. Electric bills were coming in at £5-6000 per annum. The retention funds were unable to be released to the builders until the centre had been snagged. The Lottery has stated that we are not unique at Johnstonebridge, and that the business plan had been unrealistic and any funding awarded had to be used in a new way to make the hall sustainable and this may take up to 5/6/7 years of running the hall.

He asked for ideas and thoughts on how to proceed forward. The hall had to be priced to compete with other local venues. Any suggestions for the old shop space or the storage space within the hall – treadmills or gym equipment?

Lord David stated that Trust meetings would be open in future and a member of the Community Council would be invited to attend and vice versa.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Alison Fergusson – A & E Sports Awards. There are eight categories. The closing date for nominations is 17th December 2016.

Annandale Transport Initiative Autumn newsletter.

Letter from the licensing board. Agreed to renew SH - £20.

Letter from Johnstone & District Curling Club requesting a donation towards the 50th Anniversary celebrations cost of £400. It was agreed to donate £250.

Letter from A & N Community Benefit Co. re membership renewal and two members. TH & RM agreed to stand.

AOCB

AC & MC attended a meeting on Wednesday 9th November to meet with Derek Crichton, Director of Communities & representatives from local community councils, to discuss practice, knowledge and skills of our community councils. One suggestion was to have a nominated person for the Community Council email e-service. RB agreed to do this. Any enquiries or complaints would be sent to RB as the nominated person to forward. Colin Holmes is the Community Council Liaison Officer at present.

SB to organise mulled wine for the Christmas Carol Service.

TT reported that the Johnstonebridge Surgery is not open every day at present. A letter and poster detailing surgeries and opening times will be sent and put up in the Johnstonebridge Centre and at the surgery. The Drs will keep us informed.

Christmas decorations to be put up on Sunday 11th December at 2pm.

Annandale Estates had agreed to donate a Christmas tree for the community centre.

The question was asked about the costs involved re the Post Office. RM asked for this to be discussed at the next meeting.

All raffles tickets had been sold.

A vote of thanks goes to John & Sally Graham & George Muirhead for all their help at the Johnstonebridge Centre and also to Richard Mann for all his work with the Trust.

LOTTERY

October – 1st Colin Lill 2nd – George Braid 3rd – Sheila Mullen

November – 1st Countess of Annandale 2nd – Pat Strawhorn 3rd – Maxine Knight

There will be no meeting in December.

Date and Time of the next meeting is Thursday 26th January 2017 at 7.30pm at the Johnstonebridge Centre.