

Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council

Meeting Minutes of 2022 AGM

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Monday 6th June 2022

Time: 7pm

Present	Elected Members	Joanna Coghill	(JC)
		Allan Farquhar	(AF1)
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)
		David Dunnett	(DD)
		Doreen Turner	(DT)
		Alastair Ferrier	(AF2)
		Co-opted Members	Allan Bruce
	Roy Mackenzie	(RM)	
Ex-officio Members	Raymond Bremner	(Cllr RB)	
Non-Members	Jayden Alexander	(JA)	
	Alan Hendry	(AH)	

Apologies: Eswyl Fell, Kimberly Miller-Rosie

1. Welcome and Apologies.

JC welcomed everyone present to the AGM and stood down as chair for the time-being, Cllr Raymond Bremner took the chair.

2. Adoption and Approval of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the 2021 AGM had been circulated by the Secretary to members.

These minutes were approved and adopted as follows:

Proposed By: WC

Seconded By: DT

3. Chairperson's Report

JC gave the following report:

"This last year has seen us still abiding by Covid restrictions - until recently, where we find ourselves slowly but surely returning to normal life at last. We continued with Zoom and more recently, this is combined with meeting in person around the table - I for one much prefer face to face discussions.

2021/22 saw a busy CC 12 months - with a good variety of projects being achieved, started and ongoing. Our subgroups - Paths, Friends of the Cemetery, Flower Baskets, Christmas Lights managed to do so much - sadly HAPPY was a no go, but this Hogmanay will see celebrations on the street at long last. The Community Market was resurrected and has seen a good variety of stall holders - encouraging to see more footfall in the town on a Saturday when this market is on and I believe more small ventures will take up pitches for future planned markets here in Wick.

We have to acknowledge the grants from various funding areas and Highland Council – without these, many of our subgroups would not have been able to achieve what they have been able to do this past year. We had a successful town litterpick earlier this year - astounding amount collected and its encouraging to see others taking up this community effort here in Wick and now around Caithness.

Our Common Good Fund for Wick is established and work on this continues - identifying more artefacts and lar etc - discussions with Highland council regarding the running of this continues.

There may well be different opinions on how this CGF operates, but believe me, this CC will do its utmost to get only the best outcome possible for our town - it was denied for too long, with one previous Chair arguing the case a good few years back to no avail but here we are, gathering all that belongs to Wick. Now to the CC members themselves. We have worked hard, knocked on doors and we continue to knock on doors - and I do believe with this determination, we are a CC to be listened to and

acknowledged at the end of the day, we are mere volunteers with busy lives. Our aim, is just to get the best for our town.

This leads me to say thank you to Highland Councillor Raymond. He has been helpful, listened to us and supported us. I think without your attendance at every single meeting (either in person, on zoom or via email long emails) a portion of our CC work would not have been achieved.

We have a new Ward Manager, Mac, who also is supportive. Then our local HC departments here in town – we have established a great working relationship these last few years, thanks from us all. And finally, our roving reporters - the coverage we've had this last year has been great. Keep it up!

On a personal note, I just want to thank you all for putting up with me, my waffle, my losing track of agendas. A few individuals, you know who you are for your support and guidance, keeping me on the right track and for helping me out when I need advice. What a team! Wick really does work well."

4. Treasurer's Report

JA will liaise with the treasurer over the expenditure for the Beatrice Micro-Grants and will add this on the agenda for the July meeting before sending the annual accounts to the HC ward manager.

5. Sub-Group Reports

Flower Baskets:

JC stated that new baskets and planters had been bought throughout the year and new volunteers have been forthcoming.

Wick Paths Group:

AB stated that the group's insurance has yet to be finalised.

HAPPY:

AF1 stated that no events had been organised due to the COVID pandemic.

6. Election of Office Bearers

Chairperson:

- AB proposed Joanna Coghill to be re-elected as Chairperson.
- DT seconded the motion.

Joanna Coghill accepted the post, however, stated that she would not seek re-election at the 2023 AGM.

Vice-Chairperson:

- JC proposed Allan Farquhar to be re-elected as Vice-Chairperson.
- DT seconded the motion.

Allan Farquhar accepted the post.

Secretary:

- JC proposed Jayden Alexander to be re-elected as Secretary.
- WC seconded the motion.

Jayden Alexander accepted the post.

Treasurer:

- Kimberley Miller-Rosie resigned from the post at a previous meeting and no individuals were willing to accept the post.

The post will continue to be advertised.

JC thanked Cllr Raymond Bremner for chairing the meeting and the AGM was concluded.