

ROYAL BURGH OF WICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Location: Held via Zoom.
Date: 7:00pm
Time: Monday 5th July 2021

Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting.

Officiated by Cllr Raymond Bremner | Minutes recorded by Jayden Alexander (Council Secretary)

Present

Elected members: Joanna Coghill (*JC*)
Allan Farquhar (*AF1*)
Wendy Campbell (*WC*)
Alastair Ferrier (*AF2*)
David Dunnett (*DD*)
Doreen Turner (*DT*)

Co-opted members: Allan Bruce (*AB*)
Eswyl Fell (*EF*)
Roy Mackenzie (*RM*)
Claire Mackenzie (*CM*)

Ex-officio members: Cllr Raymond Bremner (*Cllr RB*) Highland Councillor

Non-members/Public: Jayden Alexander (*JA*) Secretary
Paul Cannop (*PC*)
Jonathan Miller (*JM*)
David Scott (*DS*). Press Reporter (NOSN Newspapers)

Apologies

Kimberley Miller-Rosie

1. Welcome and apologies.

JC thanked everyone for joining RBWCC on Zoom and opened the meeting as the AGM for 2021. JC handed over to Cllr RB to officiate.

Cllr RB thanked JC and gave a warm welcome to all attendees. Cllr RB gave a vote of thanks to the members of RBWCC for putting their faith and trust in him as a Highland Councillor and praised the council for being such a pro-active and passionate group of people working for the benefit of the town and the people of Wick.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

JA advised that he along with the members of RBWCC were in the process of locating the minutes of the 2020 AGM and advised that once located he would circulate to members for approval and adoption.

3. Chairperson's report.

JC stated that RBWCC had a very busy year and that she was very proud of it. Despite the impact COVID has had it never stopped RBWCC and its members from doing great work in fighting for Wick and doing the best possible for the town. The fountain area is now looking its best although parts of the area are still a work in progress. JC thanked AB and WC for their efforts in the dog fouling campaign for selecting the winning posters to be the face of the campaign. Wick Flower Baskets group achieved getting flowers planted in the summers of 2020 and 2021 despite the pandemic and Wick was and is full of colour with thanks to the volunteers of the flower baskets. Wick Paths Group achieved the completion of many projects this past year and have plans for another exiting future project, with thanks to its members also who are working in conjunction with HC. JC gave a vote of thanks to former Highland Councillor Nicola Sinclair who worked tirelessly with Cllr RB in getting the Sustrans redevelopment of the town centre underway and the demolition of both the Pavilion and Dominoes sites. JC stated that Ms Sinclair would be very much missed but RBWCC wish her all the best and for her future in journalism. JC thanked Cllr RB, WC and the other volunteers who help at Wick Cemetery for making it look good again and for their efforts every Saturday. JC once again thanked all members and said "onwards and upwards" for another busy year.

Cllr RB thanked JC for her kind words and thanked RM for the important work he is carrying out for the Wick Common Good Fund in locating many of the lost historic items belonging to Wick.

4. Treasurer's report.

Due to the absence of Kimberley-Miller Rosie, no report was given.

JA advised that he would circulate this to all members once received.

5. Sub-group reports.

Wick Christmas Lights: CM stated that she had nothing to report due to the impact of the current pandemic.

Wick Flower Baskets: EF reported that the volunteers have been busy planting the new flowers and painting the planters; however, stated that the group are in need of new volunteers to help with the moving and placing of the heavy flower planters.

Wick Paths Group: The following report was received from John Bogle (secretary) prior to the meeting. *There were reports that overnight campers had been using the area beside the new bench at the North Head despite boulders being positioned beside the WWTW entrance to deter this. Willie Watt has now installed a lockable bollard, see photo. A sign stating "No overnight camping or parking" has been made and will soon be attached to the Scottish Water fence (they have given permission). We are still waiting to hear about our Planning application for 3 new panels and 1 relocation on the South side of Wick Bay. The Community Payback Team have started work on refurbishing the benches upstream from the Coghill Bridge, see photo. The Paths Group intend to upgrade the path through the South Head Quarries, an initial scoping visit has taken place and a project plan will be drawn up. Wick Harbour Authority have agreed to clear a drain at the Cairndhuna Well in an attempt to alleviate flooding beside the well. Wick Paths Group chairman, Willie Watt, coordinated the recent clear out of the baths and valve refurbishment, the work has been praised by many and the baths are being well used.*

HAPPY: AF1 stated that he had nothing to report due to the impact of the current pandemic, however, the group will wait until September before deciding to host an event depending on the circumstances.

6. Election of Office Bearers.

- Chairperson: WC Nominated JC.
JC accepted the nomination, however, stated that she would fulfil the role on a temporary basis for the 2021-22 term.
DT seconded the nomination.
JC was re-elected as chairperson.
- Vice-chairperson: JC nominated AF1.
AF1 accepted the nomination.
WC seconded the nomination.
AF1 was re-elected as vice-chairperson.
- Secretary: JC nominated JA.
JA accepted the nomination.
WC seconded the nomination.
JA was re-elected as secretary.
It was re-iterated for the public's knowledge that the secretary is not a member of the community council and is merely employed to carry out the role.
- Treasurer: Due to the absence of the current treasurer, Kimberley Miller-Rosie, it was agreed that if re-elected to serve as treasurer, JA would inform her of the outcome and seek confirmation that she would be happy to continue in that role.
JC nominated KMR.
WC seconded KMR.
KMR accepted this motion on 07/07/2021 and was re-elected as treasurer on this date.

Cllr RB thanked everyone for their attendance and dedication and wished RBWCC all the best for the next year.

The AGM was drawn to a close and the July meeting of RBWCC commenced.