

# Annual General Meeting

## Minutes

<b>Date:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> of May 2017
<b>Time:</b>	7pm
<b>Place:</b>	<b>Johnstonebridge Community Centre, Johnstonebridge.</b>

<b>Attendees:</b>	Lord David Johnstone (Vice-Chair) Lady Julia Barnard, John Graham, George Muirhead, Billy Lockhart, Christine Cox.
<b>Apologies:</b>	Ruth Jackson, Lesley Farrall, Michael Dickie.

Item	Minutes
1	<p>David Johnstone began the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance, he went on to thank Sid Coull for his time at the centre as manager and to wish him good health and luck with his future. He also thanked the 3 volunteers John &amp; Sally Graham &amp; George Muirhead for their outstanding dedication. Finally, he thanked the board members and Christine Cox for their help in the smooth running of the centre and some special thanks went to both Richard Mann (CC Chairman) for his invaluable contribution and to Jacky Taylor for her offer to help with the community allotments.</p> <p>Billy Lockhart wished this to be added in the minutes a Thank You to Richard Mann for the acoustics in the hall which were greatly improved by the addition of the sound boards.</p>
2	Apologies were made on behalf of Ruth Jackson, Lesley Farrall, Michael Dickie.
3	Review of actions from previous annual general meeting were discussed by David with the members present and agreed upon.
4	<p>Acceptance of minutes of previous annual general meeting</p> <p>Proposed resolution: That the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015 annual general meeting be accepted.</p> <p><b>Moved: John Graham</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded: George Muirhead</b></span></p> <p style="text-align: right; color: red;"><b>Passed</b></p>
5	<p><b>Chairperson's report by David Johnstone:</b></p> <p>The last AGM was held in November 2015 and this AGM is considerably later than we would otherwise wished to have been. One of the key challenges that we have faced in the last 18 months is that after the huge effort that was put in by everybody involved in securing the funding and overseeing the construction to give us the building that we are sitting in today, was that unfortunately key members of that drive stepped aside.</p> <p>We have now entered the phase of running the hall in a manner as was highlighted in the last chairman's report, that the trust has a duty to ensure stability and longevity for the centre for the benefit of the local community and, to ensure that they are sustainable going forward into the future. This is the rationale under which all the decisions have been made.</p> <p>It has presented a huge challenge in numerous ways.</p>

Firstly, as with any builds of this size, there has been a considerable amount of snagging that has been required to be resolved, and I can confirm that this was concluded two weeks ago.

Secondly, we have been studying in the detail the draft figures for the five-year projections going forward for running the hall, a copy of which is available today. What became apparent quickly, was that the expectations for the income level, both in terms of numbers and rates that could be charged, were not going to be able to be achieved. There are a lot of good facilities in the area that can be hired out for considerably less than originally, we hoped to be able to charge. That has meant that we have had to alter the original expectations, to achieve a sustainable hall going forward into the future.

We will discuss the new budget during the meeting.

Thirdly, we have had to ensure that processes are in place to make sure that we can keep tight control of the budgets and finances and be able to report correctly to both the members and the auditors, and the likes of the lottery and OSCR. This is now in place and I would like to say a huge thank you to both Ruth and Susan helping with this.

Fourthly, it is now about generating interest and excitement in using the new Hall. The lunch club has gone from strength to strength, and there are also other events happening from time to time, as well as local people hiring it out for their own purposes. It is very much now up to the community to make the best use of the hall.

Going forward into the future, the plan is to have the hall used as much as it possibly can for the benefit of local people, including the school next door.

There are one or two issues that we would look to address.

(1) We would like to be able to move the container to the back of the hall closer to where it is needed to store the likes of the Bowling club and School equipment. That would then leave us with the ability to create an overflow car park where the container is currently sitting, during bigger events the lack of parking can be an issue.

(2) The trust itself, is also coordinating with RES on the Minnygap windfarm benefit fund, which will when concluded, aim to have available to the communities of Johnstonebridge, Kirkpatrick Juxta, and Templand, the sum of around £50,000 a year available for local people to apply for projects.

The meeting accepted that the proposed budget presented challenges that need to be addressed and the draft 5-year budget was accepted

### **Treasurer's report: - 31st July 2016**

As per the Financial Statement (audited accounts) which is available on request, the majority of the finances (restricted) were utilised to cover the costs for the building and equipping of the hall up to July 2015. This was mainly funded by the Big Lottery and Dumfries and Galloway council (for the car park) following the Trust raising the required amount for match funding.

Thank you to everyone who participated to raise funds, it has benefited the community immensely.

Grants have been utilised as designated by the funders.

Unfortunately, because we have had construction costs this last year of over £500000, we must undergo a higher level of auditing which has resulted in an increased cost. This will not be repeated next year,

We continue to have obligations with the Big Lottery restricted funding for staffing and the running costs.

	<p>Thank you, all the grant funders, for their support and allowing for the positive outcome for the community facilities. They include Johnstonebridge community council, Keep Scotland Beautiful, Cumberland Building Society, Moffat Charitable Trust, Red Nose Day, and Comic Relief.</p> <p>Moving forward we have established a formal format for processing invoices utilising Sage therefore, ensuring governance is of the highest standard.</p> <p>A personal vote of thanks to Susan Rodgers for her time, patience and effort.</p> <p>Bank Stands as at: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017</p> <p>Revenue - £10,370.99</p> <p>Main - £45,049.52</p>
7	<p><b>Questions to directors on AOB:</b></p> <p>After studying the proposed budgets for the next 5 years questions were raised by members of the community;</p> <p>SC – Put forward possible ways to generate at least £1000 per month for the running of the centre, he suggested that more events be held and the possibility of running the bar on a more social level be considered.</p> <p>He told the board that he received enquiries regularly about events, it was suggested to him by the board that he forwarded the enquiries to Christine Cox who is now running the centre.</p> <p>BMc – Answered SC by stating that £1000 a month was “pie in the sky” unfortunately the village has only so many residents and most not on a high wage so disposable income was non-existent, and that it was always the same 8 to 10 folk who attended the events. More events wouldn’t necessarily generate more income because folk only had so much to spend.</p> <p>SC – Asked about advertising to a larger audience out with the area, CC responded to this stating that we already advertise to a far greater area now than before including, Moffat, Lockerbie &amp; Dumfries &amp; Galloway and not just on 1 social media site as was in the past.</p> <p>BMc – Also brought to the board the issue of the dropped kerbs at the front door, he feels in the darker nights these are potentially dangerous – The board advised that security lighting was being considered on top of the lighting in place and the possibility of a hand rail. BL – to action this.</p> <p>BA – Indicated to the meeting that the lack of support shown by the Community Council for events held was an issue and that in his opinion they didn’t want the hall to succeed. The community council members responded to this and asked for it to be minuted that in the past few years they had raised a substantial amount for the community.</p> <p>WA – Addressed the Board and the community most eloquently suggesting that we had a fantastic facility within the centre, something that many other communities are envious of. So, can’t we draw a line under past disagreements and hostilities and work for the good of the community with one aim “To Succeed” for the future of everyone. – She received a huge applause from all present.</p> <p>TH – Spoke to the board about the removal of the Millennium tree from the old village hall to the Centre. This is to be considered as soon as lambing is over.</p> <p>SH – Put forward to the board the question of future Trust meetings being open to the public? this was agreed and forthwith Trust meetings will be open meetings.</p>
8	<p><b>Acceptance of financial statements:</b></p> <p>Proposed resolution: That the financial statements tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.</p> <p><b>Moved: John Graham</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded: George Muirhead</b></span></p> <p style="text-align: right; color: red;"><b>Passed</b></p>

9	<p><b>Acceptance of annual report:</b></p> <p>Proposed resolution: That the annual report tabled at the annual general meeting be accepted.</p> <p><b>Moved: John Graham</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Seconded: George Muirhead</b></span></p> <p style="text-align: right; color: red;"><b>Passed</b></p>
10	<p><b>Results of the general election:</b></p> <p>As the board had received 3 resignations since the last AGM the board of directors will remain the same. No new members joined the board and the membership had 4 new members join on the night.</p>
11	<p>Meeting close: David Johnstone thanked everyone for their continued support and wished every success to all future events held here at the hall. Future Dates for meetings will be advertised.</p>

<b>Minute taker:</b>	Christine Cox
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<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	