

Johnstonebridge Centre & Community Development Trust Ltd

Annual General Meeting 2025

Minutes

Date:	27th May 2025
Time:	1900 hrs
Place:	Johnstonebridge Community Centre, Johnstonebridge.

Attendees:	Lord David Johnstone (Chairman) Lady Julia Barnard, John Graham, Shelby Watson, Billy Lockhart, Noel Howson, Kevin Benison, George Muirhead, Wendy Telford, Kirsty Sloan, Shelby Watson. (Board members) Community Members: Susan Bennison, Eileen Johnson, Elizabeth Haper, Ros Butcher, Sally Graham, Terrt Telford. Jimmy Mcloughlin. Scott Meeken,Shania Scott,Tracy Scott, Brita Carson , Yvonne Beatton ,Hilary Dashper , Rose Robertson & Helen Thornton (Admin)
Apologies:	Kirsty Sloan
Item	Minutes
1	Chairperson Welcome and Introduction David Johnstone welcomed everyone and thanked all for their attendance.
2	Apologies No Apologies. No proxys.
3	Minutes of the Previous AGM JUNE 2023 The minutes from the 2024 AGM were read by all and approved by LDJ. Proposed: Julia Bernard Seconded: George Muirhead
4	Outstanding Matters from the Previous Minutes 1. It was brought up last year about cattle eating over the fences at Kirk Bank, this has not been an issue since but any livestock activity that is unusual can be reported to the hall if needed. Land at present will have no cattle for the next year. 2. We were asked if anything could be done about the dilapidated fence across from the school. The council have come back to say they're only liable for the pavement itself and the fence is not theirs to maintain. Next time DGHP visit , Helen asked if they can do anything on the matter. 3. We talked about the plans for the road and village to be a 20 mile an hour area. This is not set to come into fruition for some time. It was mentioned to add pressure with road department & education department due to increased risk with house development.

5	Chairperson’s Report by Lord David Johnstone The Trust is here to support the community to help, where possible, to keep Johnstonebridge a safe and friendly place to live. With no community council in the village we try and deliver projects they may have been started. We meet around once every month, the meetings are open to anyone to come along, either to listen to what’s going on any input is always welcome. The hall continues to be a good facility for regular groups. This year we were joined by an adult Strength and Balance class run by the NHS. We also now have a regular Pilates instructor. The toddler group has been on hold for some time due to a lack of attendance but we hope to start it up again before the end of the year. The Guild folded and had ran for 100 years but have re formed as friendship group and contiues to stay strong. The hall is for hire to commercial ventures and has regular bookings with CA Taining, Agravista and Jarden Logistics. Steven Thompson, the local councillor also has regular surgeries at the centre , no need to book, you can just come along and speak with him. We have a good team of volunteers helping with the grass-cutting in the village special thanks to Kevin, George, John and Stewart. A special mention needed, year on year we are impressed by the Yarn bombers’ art insilations, the village is given a little lift every time a display is put up, no matter how big or small. Thank you to all who attended the centre’s events. Please continue to share our posts online and any ideas or volunteers are always welcome. An extended thank you to John and George for their continued daily support year on year.												
6	Treasurers Report :Read out by Julia Barnard As per the Financial Statement (audited accounts), the majority of activity is still in the running costs of the hall. The formal format for processing invoices and payments is in place using Sage Accounting as per the previous financial year and the audited accounts are available on Companies House. <table><tr><td>Bank Stands at</td><td>31st July 2024</td><td>27th May 2025</td></tr><tr><td>Revenue -</td><td>£ 12,222.11</td><td>£ 60,677.35</td></tr><tr><td>Capital -</td><td>£ 83,227.15</td><td>£ 68,889.45</td></tr><tr><td>Online save account -</td><td>£ 15,130.43</td><td>£15,545.80</td></tr></table> We would like to express our thanks to Sue Rodgers, our accounts are not straightforward due to the grants we apply for and administer out. Sue plays a huge part in keeping the	Bank Stands at	31st July 2024	27th May 2025	Revenue -	£ 12,222.11	£ 60,677.35	Capital -	£ 83,227.15	£ 68,889.45	Online save account -	£ 15,130.43	£15,545.80
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	records as they should be and is a wealth of knowledge. We are grateful for her time and efforts. Thank you Sue. Despite slightly increasing the hall hire charges last July, we have seen growth in bookings, which is extremely encouraging and is helping take the centre's finances in the right direction. The MUGA pitch has also had an increase in bookings. Minnigap Windfarm have continued its 'community support Micro grant scheme' along with Clyde Wind farm. The purpose of the grant is to help groups establish themselves and help create community spirit. There are remaining funds in both grants, application forms can be down loaded of the web site or from reception in the hall. We strongly encourage individuals and groups to make use of their funds. Residence of the Parish can also apply for funding directly to Foundation Scotland. Large grants have been applied for by the Trust and approved 2024-25 Fencing off the centre building from the front for safety. A significant amount of centre running costs for 2025-2024 Small grants applied for and approved 2024-25 Mower service D-Day memorial tree and plaque Play park, paint and bin Village light switch-on contribution Our thanks go to all grant funders for their continued support to allow this Community to further evolve.
7	Election of Officers: John Graham stepped down as board member and was re-elected. Moved: Selby Watson Seconded: George Muirhead David Johntone stepped down from the Board and was re-elected. Moved: Billy Lockhart Seconded: Yvonne Beaton
8	General business This year, we saw a change in directors; Noel Howson stepped down from the board in June 2024. We would like to thank Noel for his time and input while with the board. We do now have a remaining seat on the Trust Board. Since the last AGM we have had the usual Summer funday, ladies 80's night, 50's evening, Pumpkin day and Christmas light event. At the end of this week, we also

have Drag bingo. Tickets still available if anyone would like to attend. We also teamed up with the school for what has become our annual scarecrow competition.

We are keen to get ideas for new events or ways to improve our activities, so please do come into the centre and share your thoughts.

Our funding proposal for the bouncy castle was agreed, however, we rejected the offer due to high insurance costs and the volunteer time that would be needed.

We were granted the full amount for our extra solar panel and battery project to help with the running cost on the hall. We are now waiting on a start date from the contractor and hoping for late August.

We were granted a significant contribution of £10429, by Foundation Scotland, which was to cover some of the large running costs at the hall, items such as Mower insurance, building and contents insurance, cleaning costs and heat pump service.

In January, Storm Eowyn caused such devastation that the Centre became a safe place for quite a few locals, the council provided much-appreciated soup, tea, coffee and water. We provided a safe warm space with showers for anyone who needed. We are looking at the possibility of getting a generator to help in case of a similar event in the future.

The village allotments have 7 residents this year all growing impressive fruit and veg. Last year we grew pumpkins for Pumpkin Day however, we were unsuccessful. this year they have very kindly been started off by John Graham we are hoping we do better than last year. There are still plots if anyone is interested in a spot.

Last year we talked about a potential 'Community project officer role working alongside Templand and Beattock. This project did not work out in the end , each community are now seeing what might work best for them individually.

The hall timbers are planned to be painted this summer, the cost of taking the wood back and protecting is too high. The decision was made to paint the timbers in a 'grey black'; this colour was chosen by majority vote by people who regularly use the centre.

We plan to fence of the front of the hall from the back. This was a resident's request; the main purpose was to stop children from running around the hall when parents are in the play park. We hope it will make for a safer environment, it also means that if people hire the hall venue, the grassed area will be more private.

The play park is partly cordoned off due to a rotten timber lengths; we are still in warranty for the frame. Wicksteeds are on with getting the correct parts to replace.

Summer Funday at the hall will be on Saturday, **9th August** we hope you can attend with friends and family.

The Village show was well organised as always with a great turnout in 2024, we hope to encourage people to support again on the **16th August** this year.

	AOB The Johnstonebridge Dog Group have shown interest in using part of the right-hand corner of the back play field. They hope to create a fenced-off sensory garden for dogs and their owners. David requested that the area be marked in some way to show how much of the space will be used.
9	Date of next AGM and Meeting close: David Johnstone thanked everyone for attending the AGM. The next AGM would be in spring 2025, the date to be confirmed nearer the time.
Minute taker:	Helen Thornton