



BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: 19th June 2023 Teams Call-in

Chair: David Wallace; **Vice Chair:** Alex McIntyre **Treasurer:** Ewan Phipps
Secretary: John Fletcher **Planning Reporter:** Graham Middleton
Communications Coordinator: Carlyne Wood

Members Present: C Wood, H. Foxen, J. Fletcher, D McKendrick, H Foxen, D. Wallace, G. Drummond
Apologies: A McIntyre, E Phipps, G Middleton

Formartine Area Councillors Present: Cllr A Hassan, Cllr Nicol
Apologies: Cllr Johnstone, Cllr Ritchie

Visitors: A Burr (Potterton)

1. Opening Address (Retiring Chairman)

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting, asked that all matters be addressed through the chair, also all participants to mute their microphone when listening so we can avoid background noises and feedback echo and only have it ON when talking. If a person would like to speak, there is a hands button to press on the small control panel on your screen, failing that put your hand up and C Wood will monitor who requires to speak.

No requests were made to record the meeting therefore no recording to take place

Thanks was given to Cllr Andrew Hassan from Mid Formartine for agreeing to chair the proceedings and perform the duties of returning officer

Cllr A Hassan started with thanks for the invitation as returning Officer for the BCC AGM. He thanked all BCC Office Bearers and Community Councillors for their efforts during 2022-23 for all their efforts in supporting the differing projects that they have been involved in. The BCC has embraced technology with the monthly meetings online, this has been successful as it allowed other members of the community to get involved whereas they normally could not.

2. Introduction of All Attendees

Cllr A Hassan noted that all attendees introduced themselves and were present as above.

3. Matters Arising from Previous AGM Minutes (2021-22)

No matters arising

The Draft AGM MOM for 20th June 2022 were reviewed at the 16th June 2023 CC Meeting they were slightly altered, then proposed for approval by **D McKendrick** and seconded by **D Wallace**

4. Retiring Chairman's Report

(Remarks cover the period since our previous AGM which was held on June 20th 2022)

Since our last AGM we have continued to conduct our monthly meetings on-line along with the re-introduction of F2F meetings in November. We also continued to operate in alignment to our Constitution which was modelled around the Scottish Government's Scheme of Establishment. Membership during the past year had the following changes with Adam Brown (Potterton) resigning, but we were delighted to welcome Gavin Drummond (Whitecairns area) to Council membership. Sadly our attempts to attract more members from our communities have fallen on deaf ears with no self-nominations received. We were also joined by our locally elected Formartine Ward councillors namely, Jenny Nicol, Andrew Hassan, Paul Johnston and Derek Ritchie and I would like to acknowledge their valued participation in our meetings along with their guidance and counsel. I would also like to thank our Office Bearers Alex McIntyre (Vice Chair), John Fletcher (Secretary & Minute taker), Ewan Phipps (Treasurer) Graham Middleton (Planning Reporter) and Carlyne Wood (Communications Co-ordinator) and our Council Members, Hilary Foxen, David McKendrick and the afore mentioned Gavin Drummond for all your hard work, dedication and the willingness to give up your time to enhance the living conditions in our community. **THANK YOU ALL.**

We continued our interaction and support to all the other local Resident groups and Committees in our area which continues to improve both the standing and reputation of the Community Council. I would like to thank all the Council members who have also given up their time to attend these other meetings. We have also been ever present at the quarterly Formartine Area Community Council Forums where we get our chance to

interface with all the other CC's in Aberdeenshire. We continued to review all the proposed housing developments through the review of their associated Planning Applications and where agreed, provided comment to the AC Planning Authority . Special mention to our Planning Reporter Graham Middleton for his excellent work in co-ordinating this very sensitive activity. We have continued to co-ordinate the Village Enhancement Scheme which has demonstrated its success with the improved appearance of all our living spaces. Thanks to our Secretary John Fletcher for his work on that one along with the timely generation of all our meeting minutes. We continue to work hard on making our communities safer, especially for our children, through our continued efforts promote speed dampening initiatives in and around all our villages. Thanks to Dave McKendrick and Cllr Hassan for their persistence on this issue which continues to be one of our major challenges. Getting project funding has always been a tough task but given the prevailing cost of living crisis our Treasurer Ewan Phipps has once again recorded a number of credible successes in this area over the past year. His efforts related to the Balmedie Leisure Centre Projects have already been acknowledged by the BLC and the success with funding applications have facilitated the purchase of 8 rest seats and 3 replacement notice boards. Ewan also co-ordinated our COVID resilience fund, essentially providing taxis for community residents to get to/from the numerous vaccination centres. We continued to provide BCC input to the Belhelvie Banter magazine. Thanks to our Communications Co-ordinator Carolyne Wood for her sterling work with that and for all her communicational efforts around maintaining contact with all our statutory interfaces. I would also like to thank Gavin Drummond (and his team) along with Graham Middleton for their hard work around getting our rest benches positioned and installed. A demonstrable example of the good work the BCC continues to do.

In closing I just want to thank each and every one of you who have contributed to these successes, for giving up your free time to attend meetings and for chasing things down in an effort to make our communities a better place to live within, sadly there continues to be little appreciation of our efforts from within our communities with plenty of people having lots to say and complain about but little willingness to do anything about it themselves. Many of them believe we work for them and should do exactly what they want personally. They also believe we receive payment for what we do. These views, whilst not universal, continue to be the biggest frustration for us all in serving on the Community Council. Is it any wonder we find it difficult to attract new members, I am also concerned with the amount of tangible support we receive from the Aberdeenshire Council who also appear to want to load up our community council with initiatives and work that they, quite frankly, are paid to deliver themselves. We will always be willing to assist but they need to take the lead with driving these initiatives.

5. Retiring Treasurers Report (E Phipps)

E Phipps submitted signed 22/23 accounts to AC w/c July, see spreadsheet attached

6. Address by Returning Officer: Cllr A Hassan (Aberdeenshire Councillor)

Cllr A Hassan stated there were no new members applying for election to the BCC and thinks this is a great pity.

Moving on we have now to elect the Office Bearers of the Belhelvie Community Council for the coming year.

Chairman David Wallace, proposed by J Fletcher and seconded by H Foxen
Nomination accepted.

Vice-Chairman A McIntyre proposed by D Wallace and seconded by J Fletcher
Nomination accepted.

Treasurer E Phipps proposed by D. Wallace and seconded by D McKendrick
Nomination accepted.

Secretary and Minute Taker J Fletcher proposed by H Foxen and seconded by C Wood
Nomination accepted.

Planning Reporter G Middleton proposed by D McKendrick and seconded by D Wallace
Nomination accepted.

Communications Coordinator C Woods proposed by D Wallace and seconded by H Foxen
Nomination accepted.

The Returning Officer thanked all members present and wished the committee well.
Cllr Hassan declared the 2022-23 Annual General Meeting closed 19:22

DATE FOR 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 17th June 2024 @ 7pm

VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED

e-mail address: belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com