

ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING

HELD ONLINE

ON MONDAY, 14 JUNE 2021



[contact@WigtownCC.org.uk](mailto:contact@WigtownCC.org.uk)

[www.WigtownCC.org.uk](http://www.WigtownCC.org.uk)

[k](#)

**PRESENT**

Sandra McDowall *Convenor*

Jak Kane *Secretary*

Kerr Inger

Ada Montgomery

David Moran

Robin Richmond

Cora Sharp

Paul Tarling

Nick Walker

Kevin Witt

Cllr Katie Hagmann

**APOLOGIES**

Kathleen Hart

David McAdam

Jock McDowall

Cllr J McCamon

Cllr D Inglis

**1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Sandra McDowall welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies from Kathleen Hart, along with Cllrs McCamon and Inglis. David McAdam and Jock McDowall were both unable to access the meeting as it was online.

**2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM (8 June 2020)**

The minutes of the previous AGM had been circulated and were adopted: proposed by Nick Walker and seconded by Ada Montgomery.

**3 CONVENOR'S REPORT**

Sandra McDowall had circulated her report prior to the meeting (see Appendix A) and it was agreed that there was no need for further presentation.

**1 TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED ACCOUNTS**

Jak Kane had circulated a copy of the Annual Accounts to 31 March 2021 prior to the meeting. Rae McGinn had again independently examined the accounts and he had confirmed that they were in order. The closing balances of the various funds at the end of the financial year were:

Administration	£1,756.98	Summer Festival	£ 2,510.37
Resilience	2,190.47	Christmas Festival	2,284.65
Paths for All	<u>1,500.00</u>	McGuffie VC	<u>5,569.46</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£5,447.45</u></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£10,364.48</u></b>

The accounts as presented were approved unanimously and adopted by the meeting.

**5 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2021-2022**

Cllr Katie Hagmann temporarily took the Chair to cover the election of the Convenor, Sandra McDowall who then resumed her duties when the following office bearers were elected unopposed.

**Convenor** – Sandra McDowall: proposed by Jak Kane, seconded by Paul Tarling. No other nominations.

**Secretary** - Jak Kane: proposed by Sandra McDowall, seconded by Nick Walker. No other nominations.

**Treasurer** – Kevin Witt: proposed by Jak Kane seconded by Sandra McDowall. No other nominations.

**Vice Convenor** – There were no councillors proposed for the office of Vice Convenor and it was agreed that anyone wanting to be considered during the coming year should notify the Secretary.

## 6 APPOINTMENT OF OTHER ROLES

The Community Council agreed the following appointments:

**Minutes Secretary** – Jak Kane agreed to continue to carry out these duties pro tem in his capacity as Secretary but would also continue to advertise the post.

**Planning Working Party** - Nick Walker, Sandra McDowall, Robin Richmond, Kerr Inger, Kathleen Hart, Ada Montgomery, Paul Tarling.

**Consultations Working Party** - Jak Kane, Sandra McDowall, Paul Tarling, Kathleen Hart.

**Resilience Working Party** – Sandra McDowall, Cora Sharp, Jak Kane, Paul Tarling, Kathleen Hart.

**Town Centre Development Working Party** – Sandra McDowall, Nick Walker, Paul Tarling David Moran, Cora Sharp, Jak Kane

**Machars Action Board Delegate** – Robin Richmond.

**Wigtown & Bladnoch Community Initiative Board Delegate** – Jak Kane

**Wigtown Bay LNR Committee Delegate** - Jock McDowall, Jak Kane.

**Common Good Fund Sub-Committee** – Sandra McDowall.

**Licensing Forum** – Sandra McDowall. Although the Forum had not been convened for over a year, there were indications that the Council wanted to re-establish it going forward.

**Community Councils Federation** - Nick Walker, Robin Richmond. Again the Council were trying to reform the Federation with Ward Officer Graeme McKie starting consultation with the CCs involved

## 7 OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

There was no other competent business.

**The next Annual General Meeting would be scheduled for June 2022 in accordance with the Community Council's constitution**

## **APPENDIX A: Convenor's Report**

### **Royal Burgh of Wigtown & District Community Council**



#### **CONVENOR'S REPORT - AGM 14 June 2021**

All our meetings this year have been held virtually on Zoom and, although we are all getting more confident using it, it will be good to get back to meeting face to face, in person. We were all saddened by the death, earlier in the year, of Willie McCartney our long-serving Vice-Chairman and a great friend and supporter of Wigtown. Following contact from his family, we agreed to take over his collection of film and media and preserve it for the local community. Matt Kitson has agreed to catalogue the collection and we hope that it will eventually be housed in the Library.

Despite not being able to meet in person, we have continued to respond to Consultations and, as always, thanks are due to Jak Kane for submitting responses on our behalf. As Secretary, he does so much to keep our paper work and finances in order and we have a lot to thank him for. The Planning Working Party has had a busy year as well and thanks are due to Nick Walker as Convener for submitting responses on our behalf. As always, we continue to listen to public opinion, no easy task with restrictions still in place and this necessitated organising an online public meeting to discuss the application for chalets in Black's Field. The application was eventually refused by Dumfries and Galloway Council but was the subject of a lot of very negative, upsetting social media comments. Unpleasant comments also resulted from the request to have the barriers outside the Galloway Bar removed whilst the premises were closed during lock-down. Fortunately, this passed and it hasn't put anyone off continuing to listen and represent the views of the communities we represent. As a result, all Community Councillors have now been issued with a policy on how to respond to and deal with Social Media abuse.

During the brief lifting of restrictions last summer, Ada Montgomery and other volunteers held a successful Wigtown Fun Week, which was well attended and much appreciated. The Resilience Group volunteers continued to shop and deliver medication to vulnerable and shielding residents within the Community Council boundary, a service that was a life-line for many. Wigtown Community always volunteers in large numbers and we should be very proud of that.

SPEN has completed the undergrounding project in North Main Street and the wooden poles have been removed and replaced with lighting columns. We now have two cabinets within the McGuffie Gardens that will provide the power at Christmas and for other community events and the socket at the Market Cross, used to light the Christmas tree, is now powered from the one of the cabinets and not the Bowling Pavilion. The Town Square Developments Working Party intends applying for funds to enhance the Christmas lighting scheme, making it more flexible and able to be used at different times of the year.

As lockdown continues to ease, we have started to look at ways that the Martyrs Stake/Harbour path can be improved for visitors and locals alike. We had a very worthwhile presentation at our last meeting on Species on the Edge, a NatureScot initiative and we plan to source funding to provide new seating/picnic tables and install interpretation boards at various viewpoints. We have purchased and installed three dog waste bag dispensers on the Martyr's walk and Lovers Lane and erected reminders to dog owners to pick it up!.

Finally, my thanks to the Community Police for their reports, our local Dumfries and Galloway Councillors for attending our meetings and to all Community Councillors for volunteering their help and support in whatever capacity and under such unusual circumstances.

Sandra McDowall, Convener