

PRESTWICK NORTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the AGM & monthly meeting held at the 65 Club, Main Street, Prestwick, on Tuesday 30th April 2019

The AGM commenced at 18.50hrs

Present:

Community Councillors:

Derek Hart, Chair: Margaret Milligan, Secretary: Shirley Harris, Treasurer:
Theresa Sander: Patricia Young: Julie Twaddell:

South Ayrshire Council:

Cllrs. Ian Cochrane: Hugh Hunter: Margaret Toner: Linda Warwick, Link Officer:
Craig Ross, Schools Liaison Officer,

Police Scotland:

Sgt. J Lyall: PC. M McClymont:

Prestwick South Community Council:

Norrie Smith, Vice Chair:

In Attendance:

J & R Taylor, 65 Club:

Residents: T Halpin: J & M McKie: J Dunlop: C Ferguson: W & J Davies:

Apologies:

PNCC: C/Cllrs: Al Priestnall, John & Tracy Wallace, Jim Ronney:

AGM:

1. Welcome, introduction and Apologies:

The Chair welcomed all to the AGM, and apologies were noted as above.

2. Chair's Report:

The Chair began by advising although he had only been in post a relatively short time, he would attempt to cover the full year as accurately as possible. Sincere thanks were given as follows: to the Secretary and Treasurer for all their hard work; to the portfolio holders; to SAC councillors and our new link officer. Special thanks extended to John and Ruby Taylor for helping with accommodation and arrangements for our meetings in the 65 Club.

We worked with Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA) on parking problems in St. Quivox Road at the new shops, and P-RAAF (Prestwick Residents Action against Flooding) kept us updated on continuing saga of flooding at Grangemuir Road/Brandon Gardens.

Concerns raised over SAC shortfall of £17m over three years, leading to constraints. However, the Provost had advised Communities Empowerment Act will have greater focus, and 1% of the budget will be handed to communities, possibly in August.

Gas works caused major problems in the streets, and we were advised our sea defences were not considered dangerous at this time, to our disbelief. Possibility of joint campus for our primary schools, and parking charges on Bellevue Road car park.

Unfortunately our Chair, Jim Ronney stepped down due to ill health, and Margaret Clark also resigned, a great loss as they had worked tirelessly for PNCC. George Gemmell, and Laura Twaddell, triumphant in getting our beach cleaned, also a sad loss.

SAC purchased two notice boards for use by PNCC, and at our request have ordered a new public notice board at the promenade. PNCC raised £150 on prom day for the defibrillator project championed by Tracy and John Wallace. To date enough has been raised to purchase one, and well on way for another .A worthy cause. PNCC continue to hold litter picks fortnightly, together with other community groups.

Social housing to be built at the grass site at Afton Avenue, but clothing grant for children to be reduced from £125 to £110 this year. New waste bin system now introduced.

Finally, thanks go to all the community efforts from beach gym equipment, Boydfield Gardens community garden (PNCC), Bruce's Well (PSCC), Christmas Lights (PBA). Prestwick is going through change, so as a community have your say, and let your community council be your voice.

3. Treasurer's Report:

The audited accounts were distributed, and after income and expenditure, left a balance of £91.75. Funds which had been held for various projects including gym equipment, defibrillator etc. have now been distributed.

4. Election of Office Bearers:

All office bearers stepped down, and the Link officer facilitated the election process. The following were duly elected to office:

Chair – Derek Hart, proposed in writing by John Wallace, seconded by Theresa Sander.

Vice Chair – no nominations – bring forward to May meeting.

Secretary – Margaret Milligan, proposed by Derek Hart, seconded by Shirley Harris.

Treasurer – Shirley Harris, proposed by Margaret Milligan, seconded by Theresa Sander.

Planning Contact - no nominations – bring forward to May meeting.

Licensing Contact- Patricia Young - proposed by Derek Hart, seconded by Margaret Milligan.

This concluded the AGM, and the monthly meeting commenced at 19.10hrs.

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Monthly meeting:

1. Apologies, Minutes of last meeting, and matters arising:

1.1. The Chair congratulated office bearers on their appointments, and to all those successfully re-elected to PNCC. Apologies already noted, and PNCC members were asked for a declaration of interest with any agenda items; none declared. There were no objections to the minutes being recorded.

1.2. Amendment to previous minutes -.Item 6, SAC reports, Cllr. Cochrane, Additional town centre funding should read £1.64m NOT £164m.

The minutes were proposed by Shirley Harris and seconded by Patricia Young.

2. Police Report:

- 2.1. 27 road incidents involving vehicles, including 4 taxis. 9 assaults, 15 vandalisms, 5 drug related incidents.
- 2.2. It was noted there had been fires on the sand dunes, but not known if these were malicious.
- 2.3. Problems with cyclists not using the cycling paths at the promenade and cycling on the pavement noted. New signage to be looked at to indicate the cycling paths.

3. **Schools Report:**

- 3.1. Meeting held with Cllr. Hunter regarding Carers Day in Prestwick Academy on 4/10/19.
- 3.2. Schools mock up day was very quiet.
- 3.3. Looking at perhaps erecting a memorial for pupil killed in house fire.
- 3.4. Rock of Ages, the schools show, runs from 12th – 14th June,

4. **Public Forum:**

- 4.1. A lengthy and animated discussion took place regarding the proposed parking charges by SAC at Bellevue Road car park. No-one was in favour of the proposal, as it would certainly mean the side streets, including Bellevue Road, would become congested with people parking there instead. It was felt that the proposed charges would be detrimental to visitors who wished to spend the day wandering around our town. It was noted that although parking can be a problem, introducing these charges would not help, and would also incur additional expenditure for those wishing to use the bowling facility there. While it was noted these proposals were included in the SAC budget, the general feeling from the public was that their views and feelings were not being listened to.
- 4.2. A query was raised regarding the proposed demolition of the old police station and discussion followed noting this had been discussed at previous meetings and the reasoning behind it.
- 4.3. It was noted that the double yellow lines in Grangemuir Road were so faded, they appear to be single lines.

Action Point: Cllr. Toner advised that SAC have a programme for repainting, and she would look into this,

5. **South Ayrshire Council Reports/Link Officer Update:**

Cllr. Margaret Toner:

- Marina Road resurfacing completed; Waterloo Road - work commenced.
- 57,000 properties have now been supplied with the new recycling bins, noting there have been some teething problems.
- On a lighter note, in ASDA, Halls of Scotland have had 28 products available over the years, with the 'wee willie winkie' sausages being made in Prestwick!

Cllr. Hugh Hunter:

- Confirmed Carers' Day as 4/10/19, same format as previous year.
- Prestwick Christmas Lights switch on will be Sunday 24/11/19.
- Prom Day arrangements under way.
- Dementia awareness week is 1st week in June. Cllr. Hunter involved in the relaxed bowling initiative in Howie Bowling Club.

Cllr. Ian Cochrane:

- Leadership panel have put BID on hold.

- Blue book for community councils to go out for further consultation.
- 'Shut out Scammers' initiative, to prevent bogus callers.
- Visit from Children from Chernobyl from 7th May to 21st June. Donations of clothing being sought.

Linda Warwick, Link Officer:

- The community council handbook (blue book) to be circulated for comments, 1st phase end June, 2nd phase October.

6. Correspondence:

- The Secretary read out a letter received from Mr. Ronald Hughson, whose family have had strong connections with Prestwick since 1899; his great grandfather Alfred James Cochrane was Provost of Prestwick between 1916 and 1933, and was a founder member of Prestwick Town Council. On their Golden wedding anniversary, the Town Council together with other officials and friends presented him and his wife with a hall marked silver Quaich inscribed with the Arms of the Burgh. The names of two of his sons are on the memorial at the Cross, and Cochrane Place was named after him.

The family wish to gift the Quaich to the town, to perhaps form part of an existing set of trophies at one of the town events. The Secretary has telephoned Mr. Hughson to thank him and his family for this wonderful gesture, and to advise it would be discussed at PNCC meeting.

After discussion, it was agreed by PNCC members to look at how the Quaich could be used, and where it could be stored.

- The Chair had received an unsigned letter regarding a property in the Monkton Road area omitting foul smells, and the possibility of the waste disposal being contaminated.

Action Point: Cllr. Cochrane to deal with this.

7. Regular updates:

- Licensing: Vics and Vine (previously Elliot's) would have same licensing hours, and it was noted that the building warrant had been granted.

There were no other regular updates.

8. A.O.C.B.

- The Chair, Secretary, and C/Cllr. Julie Twaddell had attended the Caring for Ayrshire Conversation event on 24th April, and had found it beneficial. The Secretary gave a summary of the event showing how we deal with health matters would have to change.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 21.05hrs.

9. Date of Next meeting:

Tuesday 28th May, 2019 at 19.00hrs in the 65 Club, Main Street Prestwick.

