

RALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of AGM on 13 October 2022, Ralston Community Centre

Present: Allan Thompson (Chair), Alison Scott (Secretary), Fergal McCauley (Treasurer), Simon Hall (minutes), Bill Gray, Rod McLelland, Bill Whyte, May Fernie, Catherine Gooding.

In Attendance: Cllr Graham, Cllr Clark

Not in attendance: Cllr Jennifer Adam.

Action

Welcome from the Chair: Chair welcomed all to the AGM.

Appointment of Office Bearers: Nominations for position of Chairperson: Allan Thompson. Proposed: Fergal McCauley, Seconded: May Fernie. Nominations for position of Vice Chairperson: None. Nominations for position of Secretary: Simon Hall, Proposed: Alison Scott, Seconded: Rod McLelland. Nominations for position of Treasurer: Fergal McCauley, Proposed: Catherine Gooding, Seconded: Bill Gray.

Minutes of previous AGM held on 9 October 2020: Proposed: Allan Thompson, Seconded: Alison Scott.

Chair's Remarks:

This year's AGM report is in two parts; the first part is business as usual activity throughout the last year and the second is the Kelburne Hockey Club (KHC) Community Asset Transfer (CAT) application and its subsequent refusal. It is fair to say, it's been a busy year.

Business as usual has included:

- Oldhall Road Traffic Calming and access only on Tylney Road are still on the agenda. (Potholes on Tylney – now partly resurfaced)
- St Mirren was appealing the ruling at the Sheriff Court regarding the lighting issue, now in its third year, even though we have been told it's now a Renfrewshire Council issue. Still unresolved
- CC supporting the need for yellow (or red) lines at the bottom (Hawkhead Road) of Lanfine, Gartmore and Newtyle roads
- The new traffic lights on Penilee Road. Many concerns about safety and the lack of consultation with local councillors and Renfrewshire Council and raising the profile of this issue via the PDE.
- Ralston in Bloom: Additional planters were purchased and placed around the area. Council is still to deliver additional planters. Funding has been extended to March 2023, due to Covid restrictions. Planters have looked great over the summer. This

month, Rod will change them to winter plants and plant spring bulbs. We agreed that as we have the funds, we should buy additional planters, having 2 at each bus top between Barshaw Park and the Glasgow boundary. Rod will pursue the idea of children from Ralston Primary 'adopting' planters to look after them

- Website Calendar: This has now been updated to include all events in the community
- Play Park: Works were completed making the ground around some of the play equipment although additional work would be beneficial. (Cllr Graham is looking at how the park could get onto the list to be upgraded)
- Trees: have been on the agenda pre and post covid and recently several complaints have come through Local Councillors and us e.g., causing trip hazards. Ken Grey is the Council contact and last year he confirmed that trees would not be a priority for this financial year, even though it was previously agreed e.g., Allanton Avenue needed trees removed and residents were being asked whether they wanted them reinstated. Local Councillors are dealing with this separately but, it's hoped this can be tackled jointly next year
- Weeds: the edges of some roads and pavements in Ralston are becoming very overgrown with weeds. CC currently asking what the plan for this is.

Kelburne Hockey Club CAT update:

The proposal was presented to the Community Council over a year ago. The application was duly submitted, and KHC arranged a small zoom meeting (29/9/21) to speak to Ralston Community first-hand. The CC arranged a public meeting on 4th October 2021 in the Community Centre to get the views of the community after KHC's presentation. Our meeting was well attended and almost unanimously opposed KHC's application proposal.

Our second public meeting was on June 1st of this year, a few days before the KHC public meeting (8th June). We didn't want to do it this way but, because they had submitted their application we decided to go early because time was of the essence. The meeting at St Mark's Church was again, well attended and the feeling in the room was, very evidently unchanged. The KHC meeting which followed, did nothing to change public opinion.

The CC met with OneRen several times prior to the application submission and had many meetings with local users, Local Councillors and KHC throughout the application process.

Our communications used the Ralston CC Webpage and Facebook. We leafleted the area several times including updates in our winter and

summer newsletters. We worked closely with Ralston skills and hosted a Fun Day in April, where they celebrated their 25-year anniversary. We were also fortunate enough to have a second event later in the year, in August which was equally well attended. The weather on both days was excellent.

There are a great many people to be thanked. I don't think there has been a time, in my many years on the CC when the community has pulled together and come out in such force – in attending meetings or events, in making representations by email, letter (and petition) and being involved in door-to-door canvassing about the classes we'd like if we could work with Oneren.

Unfortunately, at this moment in time, we are waiting to hear from Victoria Hollows, OneRen Chief Executive about the possibility of a meeting because – KHC has appealed and we have been advised that this process could take up to 6 months and, the centre opening hours, at best will be unchanged but, could actually be decreased, even though we have committed to supporting the Centre's usage to where it was pre covid (86,000 visits). The concern is that there could be bias or conflict during the appeal process.

Thanks to:

- Local Councillors - Neill Graham, Graeme Clark, and Jennifer Adam and MSPs -Russell Findlay and Neil Bibby
- Ralston Skills, Alba Thistle, Glennifer Football Club
- Id graphiques (Printer)
- Ralston Corner shop
- St Marks Church
- Boys Brigade
- Scouts
- Ralston CC

Annual Accounts: The signed and audited annual accounts for 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 were circulated by Fergal McCauley.

Date of next AGM: 12 October 2023.