

Friends of Bridge of Allan

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH ON 30th APRIL 2018.

1. Welcome and apologies

In attendance: Murray Airth, Mary Cram, Norma Scott, Alex Galloway, Graham Russell, Bill Young. In the absence of Douglas, Graham chaired the meeting.

Apologies: Carol Drewery, Margaret Edwards, Douglas Neilson [Chair], Elizabeth Rankin.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

On a motion proposed by Alex Galloway and seconded by Mary Cram, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the following amendments:

(a). item 3i. - 1 barrel and 14 baskets have been ordered, not 1 barrel and 11 baskets as written;

(b). item 8, third sentence – ‘Shiela Hutton’ should be ‘Sheila Hutton’ and ‘Shiela Gebbie’ should be ‘Sheila Gebbie’

3. Matters arising

i. Re Matters arising ii of previous meeting - the follow up for the electricity supply for the lights in the Provost Park is on-going;

ii. Re Item 7 of the previous meeting – the bed in the North East of the park has now been planted;

iii Re Item 9 of the previous meeting – the formal agreement has been signed.

4. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported that we had a healthy balance.

We have been allocated £250 for the station by ScotRail.

We have received £100 for refurbishing a bench.

The Memorial park tree fund is down slightly.

Our insurance has been renewed with our assets (see also item 11) insured for up to £10,000.

Our public liability is £5m and our products liability is £5m.

5. Data Protection

i. Every committee member present at the meeting was comfortable for any other member of the committee to have his/her email address and to share this with any other member of the committee. Each committee member who was not present at the meeting will be asked to confirm if he/she is comfortable to share his/her email address with fellow committee members.

ii. Murray confirmed he has an almost complete list of members and he would liaise with Douglas so Douglas (as agreed at the previous meeting – item 5) can email or write to all members to seek confirmation that we may retain their contact details and that we will not pass such details to any organisation or individual, except as required by law. The aim is to have this dealt with by the date at which the new legislation comes into force.

6. Web-site

As reported by Douglas at the last meeting, the web-site was 'up and running'. It can be accessed at www.friendsofbridgeofallan.co.uk . Members are asked to pass any relevant information or photographs to Douglas for inclusion on the web-site.

7. On-going work.

(a) Blairforkie Drive

- The beech hedge is planted and looking good.
- The area under and behind the hedge needs to be sprayed with weed killer – it was agreed to seek advice from Roy Sexton on this matter.
- We have received quotes for the work needed on the wall around the beds and have applied for a grant from Stirling Council towards this work; we may need to pay £1000 towards the work.

(b) Memorial Park

- It was agreed that the park is looking good and it has improved tremendously in the 10 years since we were established.
- Now that the new trees are in leaf and in some cases in flower Murray and Graham agreed to start on developing the inventory of the trees and major shrubs with a view to updating the map and information on the Friends Noticeboard in the park.
- During the season, Murray and Graham will look at the park and determine where new trees (and what species) need to be planted.
- Graham confirmed that Stirling Council will be planting the beds with summer flowering plants in the next month or so. It was agreed that we should consider the bedding areas at a future meeting and make recommendations as appropriate.
- Concern was expressed about the 'wild flower area' in the park adjacent to our compost bins. Members of the committee were reminded this matter had been raised after the first year of the wild flower area and the committee agreed to see how it developed during its second year. As the area looked out of keeping with the rest of the park, it was agreed to request that the area reverts to grass for the coming season.
- It was agreed that we should try to improve the 'bark chippings path' between Keir Street and the curved footpath in the South West of the park.

(c) Station

- It was agreed to determine if it was possible to extend bedding along the south bound platform.
- Bill reported that he has had an initial discussion with John Wilson to work out how we can get a water collection system on the North bound platform side of the station.
- The barrel on the South bound platform has been replaced.
- In the absence of Douglas we did not know if anyone had attended the 'station adopters' lunch'.

(note: Sheila Gebbie attended the adopters' lunch)

(d) Provost Park

- The park was tidied up last week by a FOBOA squad.
- It was reported that the path surfaces are breaking up.
- It was reported that the pagoda needs repainting.

8. Plant sale and Coffee Morning

Graham reminded the committee that the date for the plant sale/coffee morning was Saturday 19th May. We believe everything is in hand. The areas where we need to check include Bric-a-Brac (Douglas to check that Ian Anderson is doing the stall), The bottle stall (Bill to check that Terry Moran is doing it) and the hand made cards (Bill to check Sue Roberts is doing this).

9. Baskets and planters

Graham reported that the baskets and troughs will be taken to Billy Johnstone next week for planting up. Gavin Drummond will look after the rota for watering. The baskets are expected to be ready at the beginning of June.

10. 10 year celebration

As agreed at the previous meeting the date for the 10 year celebration is 15th September. A working group of Norma, Mary, Graham and Bill was set up to work out the plans for the celebration.

11. List of assets

Graham explained that we should have a list of our assets and that a draft list would be produced for our next meeting.

12. AOCB – none

13. Date of Next Scheduled Meeting: 28th May **at 7.00 pm** in St Saviour's church hall.

As two members would be absent, there was discussion about moving to the following Monday (4th June). Following discussion with Douglas **it has been agreed to keep to the original date, i.e. 28th May.**