

**Friends of Bridge of Allan**  
**Minutes**

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|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date</b>      | <b>18<sup>th</sup> October, 2021</b>                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Time</b>      | <b>7pm</b>                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Location</b>  | <b>Via Zoom</b>                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Attendees</b> | <b>Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Mike Watson, Sheila Hutton, Sheila Gebbie, Elizabeth Rankin, Murray Airth.</b> |
| <b>Apologies</b> | <b>No Apologies.</b>                                                                                                                                              |

**Agenda Ref**

| <b>Ref</b> | <b>Minutes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| <b>1.</b>  | Welcome.<br>GR welcomed everyone to the meeting.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>2</b>   | Apologies.<br>There were no apologies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>3.</b>  | Minutes of last meeting.<br>The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and proposed by AG and seconded by SG.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>4.</b>  | Matters arising not on the agenda.<br>The monobloc at the Millennium Garden had not been sprayed as yet although the weeds that were there have now died off.<br>The group which had been formed to look at replacement watering buggies have not met as yet but will pursue this over the winter. DN has the contact number for volunteers from Cambusbarron who operate a watering buggy there and an arrangement will be made to see their buggy in operation.<br>GR informed the meeting that a memorial wreath had been purchased. MW stated that he was waiting on word from Stirling Council as to whether a wreath laying ceremony will take place this year.<br>DN informed the meeting that he had been in touch with our previous Christmas wreath suppliers at Blairdrummond and they will be producing the wreaths again this year. It was agreed to go ahead with the wreaths and keep the cost at £10 as per previous years. Tom Morgan to be tasked again with contacting the shops and businesses. |
| <b>5.</b>  | General report by Chair.<br>Teas Company have ordered two benches to replace the damaged ones at the Health Centre car park. We will help with the fitting of them.<br>SG suggested pruning was required at Blairforkie Drive. This was agreed and a date to be set.<br>ER stated that some pruning was required at the rockery at Coneyhill Road and she would carry this out once the weather improved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| <b>Apologies</b> | <b>No Apologies.</b>                                                                                                                                              |

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| <b>6.</b>  | <p>Treasurer's report.</p> <p>We are still holding £5000 for the Merchants group. Our current balance is healthy although £1740 of this is ringfenced for trees in the Memorial Park.</p> <p>We have been successful in our application to the Cooperative Community Fund. This will run over the coming year. Shoppers are required to vote for worthwhile causes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>7.</b>  | <p>Hanging baskets and tubs.</p> <p>Stirling Council have removed the cycle rack at Lloyds that was blocking access to one of the baskets.</p> <p>All the baskets are now down, wicks and mats removed, and chains repaired. They are currently stored in the container and will shortly be taken to Homesteads for storage over the winter. The new wicks and mats will be fitted then.</p> <p>All tubs and planters require to be emptied of bedding plants and this will be done week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>The compost in the planters and tubs requires to be replaced and this will be carried out in the Spring.</p> <p>The tulip bulbs are currently stored in the container. ER suggested that they be planted in the Memorial Park. It was agreed that this would be done on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>GR raised the subject of the cherry trees in the planters at Baynes and it was agreed that they should be pruned to reduce their size. The other shrubs in the planters should be removed as they were past their best.</p> <p>GR currently has a number of small conifers in his garden which should be replanted in the barrels. This will be carried out shortly.</p> |
| <b>8.</b>  | <p>Memorial Park.</p> <p>The grass cutting would appear to be finished for the year although recently the Council only cut the east side. They may have left the west side due to the wet ground.</p> <p>The wildflower area at the side of the tennis courts has been cut.</p> <p>GR contacted the Council landscaping squad and requested that they attend to tidy up some of the beds in the Park before Armistice Sunday. He has also requested that they grass over the beds at the Peace Garden as previously agreed by the Council.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>9.</b>  | <p>Cawder Gardens.</p> <p>Awaiting on the result of our funding application which is due in November.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>10.</b> | <p>AOCB</p> <p>The church hall has been booked for the plant sale and coffee morning next May.</p> <p>ER suggested planting another tree to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee next year. This was agreed and it was felt that the Triangle Park would be the most suitable place as we</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|            | had planted a magnolia there to commemorate a previous jubilee. Stirling Council to be contacted for permission.<br>Due to the continuing pandemic, it was decided not to hold a dinner this year. |
| <b>11.</b> | DONM.<br>Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7pm. It would, once again, be held on Zoom.                                                                                                      |

**Actions**

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| <b>4.</b>  | <b>Contact Cambusbarron CC to arrange viewing of their watering buggy.</b>                                                      | <b>DN</b>    |
| <b>4.</b>  | <b>Establish if a wreath laying ceremony will take place this year.</b>                                                         | <b>MW</b>    |
| <b>4.</b>  | <b>Tom Morgan to contact shops and businesses regarding festive wreaths. Letter for businesses to be prepared and printed.</b>  | <b>DN</b>    |
| <b>5.</b>  | <b>Fit benches at Health Centre car park for Teas Company.</b>                                                                  | <b>GR/DN</b> |
| <b>5.</b>  | <b>Date to be set for pruning at Blairforkie Drive.</b>                                                                         | <b>GR</b>    |
| <b>5.</b>  | <b>Slight pruning required at the Rockery.</b>                                                                                  | <b>ER</b>    |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Baskets to Homesteads and fit new mats and wicks.</b>                                                                        | <b>GR/DN</b> |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Tubs and planters to be emptied week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> October.</b>                                                 | <b>All</b>   |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Tulip bulbs to be planted in Memorial Park on 28<sup>th</sup> October.</b>                                                   | <b>All</b>   |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Prune cherry trees in planters at Baynes.</b>                                                                                | <b>GR</b>    |
| <b>7.</b>  | <b>Small conifers to be replanted in barrels.</b>                                                                               | <b>ER</b>    |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Stirling Council to be contacted to request permission to plant a tree in the Triangle Park to mark the Queen's Jubilee.</b> | <b>GR</b>    |