

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

Date	Monday 30th May 2022
Time	7pm
Location	G.P. Room, Allan Centre.
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Mike Watson, Sheila Gebbie, Sheila Hutton, Elizabeth Rankin.
Apologies	No apologies given.

Agenda Ref

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1.	Welcome. GR welcomed all to the meeting, particularly MW who had just returned from Australia.
2.	No apologies given.
3.	The minutes of the April meeting were proposed by SH and seconded by AG.
4.	Matters arising not on the agenda. GR had examined the bed at the steps to the Crook and noted very heavy undergrowth and vegetation. It may be possible that if it was cleared it could be planted with ground cover shrubs. ER also raised the subject of the state of the triangle at Union Street/Allanvale Road. It was agreed that this would require to be sprayed with weedkiller before any work could start.
5.	General Report Memorial Park – the circles around the cherry trees had been tidied. The dogwood bed had been cleared of weeds. The compost heap had been totally cleared away and it may be possible to plant a shrub in the location. Twenty Cubs had taken part in a litter picking session. Rockery – two specific weeds had been sprayed although they had been dug out possibly before the weedkiller had taken effect. Millennium Garden – the wooden surround had been cleaned and painted and a part of the monobloc cleared of weeds. The plants have now matured to the extent that they have totally filled the beds. Provost's Park – the grass has been weeded and cut. The existing plants are overgrown and require pruning. The surface of the paths is now very poor. Blairforkie Drive – the beds were looking good but SG informed the meeting that there was a shrub in the middle bed that required to be removed. Plant Sale/Coffee Morning – the plant sale went well although there appeared to be less customers than previous years. It is still felt to be very worthwhile. GR expressed his thanks to all involved. Alison Archibald and Ellison Hudson have been weeding throughout the village and doing an excellent job. There are a further two potential volunteers in the pipeline.

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6.	<p>Treasurer's Report.</p> <p>AG informed the meeting that the group held a healthy balance in the bank with £1335 from the plant sale and £272 having been banked from collecting cans. We will give a donation of £75 to the Church for the use of the Chalmers Hall and car park. A bill for £780 has also been paid to Amberol although we received £365 from Dunblane in Bloom towards this in payment for their baskets. Our insurance is due at a cost of £311.45p.</p>
7.	<p>Jubilee Celebrations – update.</p> <p>SH and SG informed the meeting of the following: - Posters have been displayed throughout the Village. Central FM have been contacted and are looking for background information. Barrels to be planted up on Friday and the hanging baskets will go up on Thursday. A gazebo, chairs and umbrellas will be required together with a spade. A discussion took place regarding a photographer and it was agreed that Sheila Mc Gregor and Gordon Wilson should be asked to take on this role. Photographs and a report will be required for the Observer by Monday. GR informed the meeting that Stirling Council had agreed a special cut and uplift of the grass.</p>
8.	<p>Co-operative Funding application.</p> <p>The application for the next round of funding closed on 29th May and GR informed the meeting that we had submitted another application prior to this date. A discussion ensued regarding a specific use for this funding and it was agreed that we would go ahead with a picnic bench for the disabled to be situated in the grass area in Blairforkie drive near the raised beds.</p>
9.	<p>Hanging baskets and planters.</p> <p>GR informed the meeting that the planters that had been affected by chickweed had had the compost replaced.</p> <p>It is intended that the hanging baskets should go up during the week beginning 6th June. A total of 134 baskets have been filled. 76 are for traders in the Village. GR has requested a planting layout from Elspeth at Homesteads together with the number of plants required. ER informed the meeting that Ruth from the Co-op would be unable to plant the barrels there but a volunteer had been found. ER also required support to transport plants to the dual carriageway. The watering rota has been issued and it was noted that a watering rota would be required for the triangle park.</p> <p>The motorised buggy required a repair to the dead man's handle. A discussion ensued regarding the replacement of this buggy due to its age.</p>

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10.	AOCB MW raised the subject of the grass cutting in the Village. It was noted that Stirling Council would not uplift grass cuttings due to the expense. This prompted another discussion.
11.	DONM Monday 27 th June 2022 at the Allan Centre.

Actions

4.	Beds at Crook steps and bottom of Union Street to be dealt with in the near future.	TBA
5.	Shrub requires to be removed from middle bed at Blairforkie Drive.	Angus
6.	Donation to Church.	AG
7.	Hanging basket to go up and barrels filled at Triangle Park.	GR
7.	Gazebo, chairs, and spade required for tree planting ceremony.	DN
7.	Gordon Wilson and Sheila McGregor to be contacted re photography on the day.	GR
9.	ER requires support to transport plants.	MW