

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

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| Date | Monday 28th November 2022 |
| Time | 7pm |
| Location | Allan Centre, Fountain Road, Bridge of Allan. |
| Attendees | Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Elizabeth Rankin, Murray Airth, Judith Everett, Mike Watson and Emma Fradgley (CC reps) |
| Apologies | Sheila Hutton, Sheila Gebbie. |

Agenda Ref

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| 1 | Welcome. GR welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular Judith Everett as this was her first meeting since being co-opted on to the committee. He also welcomed Emma Fradgley from the Community Council who would brief the committee on arrangements for the Christmas lights switch on. |
| 2 | Apologies. As above. |
| 3 | Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the meeting of 31 st October 2022 were accepted as a true record and proposed by AG and seconded by MW. |
| 4 | Matters arising. GR and DN had not as yet met with Craig Mair regarding displaying the Queens Award. The miniature crystals of the award have been delivered to everyone who had ordered them. |
| 5 | General report. GR informed the meeting that the Remembrance Service had been very well attended and the park had looked good with the Friends having tidied up the entrance area and Stirling Council having cut the surrounding hedge. On Thursday 10 th November 37 school children from primary 1 had planted daffodil bulbs in the Memorial Park. The signs for the Royal Garden are now ready to be installed and we should try to get the Stirling Observer to make the public aware. The Millennium Garden raised beds have now been cleared and ready for planting in the Spring. All the barrels and planters have now been cleared and the last of the daffodil bulbs have been planted at Lecropt. All the sponsors plaques for the Christmas lights have been installed ready for the switch on. GR and DN attended a memorial service for the late Queen at the Church of the Holy Rude, Stirling on Saturday 26 th November, following an invitation from the Lord Lieutenant. The Christmas tree will be arriving on Thursday 1 st December. The other Christmas lights would also go up in the Provost's Park that day. |

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| | GR informed the meeting that one of our volunteers, Angus Robertson, had found that a bench seat in Well Road had been thrown over the fence and down into the Lower Westerton wood. GR and Angus retrieved the bench, repaired it, and secured it back in position. He put photos on our Facebook page to make people aware. |
| 6 | Treasurer's report. AG informed the meeting that we were sitting with a healthy balance as we had now received the community funding from the Co-op and all the annual subscriptions were in. We have the wreaths and the Christmas tree to pay. |
| 7 | Presentation of the QAVS award to the Primary School. GR and DN will attend the Primary School on Friday to present them with a miniature crystal and certificate. |
| 8 | Christmas lights switch on. EF provided the meeting with information regarding the switch on of the lights. A choir of school children from the Primary School will sing carols. |
| 9 | Christmas wreaths. GR informed the meeting that the wreaths would be going up on Tuesday 29 th November. |
| 10 | AOCB. GR informed the meeting that the AGM would take place at 7pm on Monday 30 th January 2023 within the Allan Centre. MW was asked to book the room. ER raised the subject of a date for our annual plant sale. It was agreed that it should take place on Saturday 13 th May 2023. Chalmers Hall at the Church to be booked. GR stated that Angel's Share glass are selling 'Bridge of Allan whisky' and wish to donate £1 per bottle to the Friends if we were willing to accept this. It was agreed that we would be delighted to receive such a donation. GR would reply to Angel's Share. DN informed the meeting that a company had emailed the Friends offering bespoke flags and banners with the QAVS emblem. It was agreed to look into this and obtain a quote. ER suggested that we should look for a project for next year. The triangle at the bottom of Union Street was suggested as a possibility. Also, large scale planting of crocuses in the Royal Garden was another suggestion. |
| 11 | DONM. The next meeting would be the AGM on 30 th January 2023 followed by a committee meeting on 27 th February 2023. |

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Actions.

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| 5 | Meet with Craig Mair regarding display of the QAVS Award. | GR/DN |
| 5 | Royal Garden signs to be installed. | GR/DN |
| 5 | Christmas tree and lights to be installed in the Provost's Park | All |
| 7 | Present miniature crystal and certificate to Primary School. | GR/DN |
| 9 | Wreaths to go up on 29 th November. | All |
| 10 | Book room for AGM. | MW |
| 10 | Chalmers Hall at the Church to be booked for the plant sale. | DN |
| 10 | Contact Angel's Share re donation. | GR |
| 10 | Obtain quote for flags with the QAVS emblem. | DN |