

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>7pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.</b>
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Graham Russell (Chair), Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Sheila Hutton, Robin Kleinman, Sheila Gebbie, Judith Everett,</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Elizabeth Rankin, Murray Airth and Mike Watson.</b>

**Agenda Ref**

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<b>1</b>	Welcome. GR welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>2</b>	Apologies. As above.
<b>3</b>	Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the February meeting were accepted as a true record and proposed by RK and seconded by SH.
<b>4</b>	Matters arising not on the agenda. The broken refuse bin in the Provost's Park has been reported to the Council by RK. A replacement is expected in due course. Noticeboard at Lloyds – this has not been discussed with CC. RK advised that the Next Chapter sign in this area has been removed.
<b>5</b>	General Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The shrub areas at the Memorial Park are being edged and good progress made.</li> <li>• The volunteers agreed to deal with the path edges and have made progress. It was agreed we should message WhatsApp volunteers to say they could carry on with this at times to suit themselves, rather than only on Thursday mornings.</li> <li>• GR informed the meeting that, along with ER and DN, we met officers of the Parks Dept of the Council at the Memorial Park on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March. This was a useful meeting and various actions were agreed.</li> <li>• We were advised that annual bedding would be planted this year.</li> <li>• The meeting noted that 26 May was 100 Anniversary of unveiling of the War Memorial. The CC had been advised. Agreed Friends had a full programme and would not be able to get involved in any organising.</li> <li>• Plants for areas at Millennium Garden, steps at Crook bar and Provost's Park were to be obtained and planted. Agreed we should ask volunteers to take ownership of these areas to ensure maintenance, watering etc was undertaken.</li> <li>• Blairforkie Drive and Garths rockery are being well maintained and looking good.</li> </ul>

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<b>6</b>	Treasurer's Report. AG reported our balance was healthy. Monies are coming in for Hanging Baskets. Expenditure on plaque for Coronation Tree Planting.
<b>7</b>	Coronation. SH and SG updated on the arrangements. A piper has been booked and Provost Dodds has agreed to speak and perform unveiling of The Royal Garden signs and plant the new tree. SG has obtained the plaque and SH has procured some Coronation biscuits. DN to supply the gazebo. Agreed the Royal Garden signs could be unveiled by Ian Anderson and Murray Airth. RK to contact Council to request special grass cut prior to event
<b>8</b>	Plant Sale and Coffee Morning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GR and DN visited Homesteads and all is in hand. Volunteers are going to supply plants as usual.</li> <li>• Sheena Malcolm will supply the scones. Co-op have agreed to supply milk, cream and biscuits and to help at membership stall. Need volunteers to help at stall.</li> </ul>
<b>9</b>	Hanging baskets and planters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Price held at last year's level despite small increase from supplier</li> <li>• Tom Morgan has started visiting traders to sponsor hanging baskets.</li> <li>• ER to discuss with Homesteads the varieties of plants for baskets and containers</li> <li>• Eddy Fotheringham is inspecting brackets for condition and security.</li> </ul>
<b>10</b>	Watering Buggies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion took place on the legal and insurance advice received. Agreed to advise Gavin Drummond of committee's decision not to use motorised buggy and go ahead with purchase of new 70 litre waterer.</li> </ul>
<b>11</b>	AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scouts are holding event at Games Park on Monday 8 May from 12-3 and have asked if we can support this. Agreed we would have a stall with membership forms and information about Friends. SH, RK, JE and GR offered to help. GR to advise Scouts</li> <li>• DN had identified source of Polo shirts with Friends of Bridge of Allan embroidered at no extra charge. Cost was £120 for 16. Agreed to consider at later meeting.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<b>12</b>	DONM Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7pm in PE room at Allan Centre.

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**Actions**

<b>5</b>	Message WhatsApp volunteers about path edging in the Memorial Park and about maintain new areas of planting.	<b>GR</b>
<b>5</b>	Contact Criminal Justice Community Payback regarding painting the benches.	<b>GR</b>
<b>5</b>	Message volunteers re maintaining new planting	<b>GR</b>
<b>7</b>	Gazebo for Coronation tree planting.	<b>DN</b>
<b>7</b>	Contact Council for grass cut prior to Coronation Tree Planting	<b>RK</b>
<b>9</b>	Contact Homesteads to discuss plants for baskets etc..	<b>ER</b>
<b>10</b>	Advise GD of committee decision re motorised buggy	<b>All</b>
<b>11</b>	Advise Scouts we would support their Coronation event on 8 May	<b>GR</b>