

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

Date	Monday, 30th October 2023
Time	7pm
Location	Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Judith Everett, Elizabeth Rankin, Sheila Gebbie, Mike Watson (Chair C.C.)
Apologies	Robin Kleinman, Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Sheila Hutton, Murray Airth.

Agenda Ref

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1	Welcome. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	Apologies. As above.
3	Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the meeting of 25 th September 2023 were accepted as a true record and proposed by ER and seconded by SG.
4	Matters arising. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair informed the meeting that he had spoken to Councillor Tollemache who should be contacted when we require the services of Criminal Justice participants. • With regard to the tennis courts in Keir Street, the Chair stated that the base surface had been laid and fencing erected. The final surfacing was about to start. MW informed the meeting that Stirling Council were looking for a name for the refurbished courts. The view of the committee was that they should remain as the Keir Street tennis courts. A discussion then followed regarding the area around the new courts. • The Chair informed the meeting that contact would be made with Margaret Gauld once Stirling Council came back regarding the fitting of the plaque to the bench in the Memorial Park.
5	General Report. GR informed the meeting that the hanging baskets had been taken down and emptied and cleaned. The chains were checked and new links fitted as required before being taken to Homesteads for storage. All the barrels and planters had been emptied and tidied. The hedge area around the memorial had been cut prior to the Remembrance Service and the general area had been tidied up after the high winds. The hedge at Blairforkie drive had been cut by Archie Purdie. The dropped kerb for disabled access to the picnic area had still to be carried out by Stirling Council. ER informed the meeting that the planter at Lloyds had been filled with tulip bulbs. The Rockery is requiring a clear out but this would be done before next year's growing season.

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6	<p>Treasurer's report.</p> <p>In the absence of the treasurer GR gave a brief outline of our financial position to date. Our balance is healthy and we are expecting a cheque from the Co-operative Community Fund. Also, the membership standing orders are due in November.</p> <p>A wreath had been purchased for Remembrance Sunday and money had been banked from collection cans otherwise there had been little movement in the account.</p>
7	<p>Remembrance Service.</p> <p>The service will take place on 12th November and it is the centenary of the Memorial being unveiled.</p> <p>Charlie Flaws had cut the grass in the area of the memorial and a group of volunteers had helped tidy the area.</p> <p>It was noted that the summer bedding had still to be removed by Stirling Council. GR will contact Stephen Robertson.</p>
8	<p>Christmas arrangements.</p> <p>Wreaths had been ordered from MoLawn and the sample was much better than last year. The Christmas tree has been ordered and will be delivered on 30th November. It was agreed at the meeting that another 6 strings of lights should be purchased to replace one broken set and to add more lights to the tree. GR had checked the lights and apart from the set on the star, all were in working order. It was agreed that a new set of lights should be purchased for the railings at the Howff and ER agreed to do this.</p> <p>A choir from Fairview School will sing carols and the Provost will switch on the lights. MW stated that all the lamppost lights were in working order.</p>
9	<p>Projects.</p> <p>The main project over the winter months will be the raised bed at Union Street / Allanvale Road. ER will call at Gilchris and pay for the soil, membrane, and stones.</p> <p>The Millennium Garden is now well established and looking good. It was noted that there had been no movement by Stirling Council with regard to clearing out the large shrub beds and cutting down the trees.</p> <p>The area at the Crook steps was now well established.</p>
10	<p>End of season celebration.</p> <p>The celebration will take place on Thursday 16th November at the Brewhouse. Douglas Ross will provide a welcome drink and pizza and ice cream will be supplied at a total of £10 per head.</p>

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11	Memorial Park Centenary. GR informed the meeting that 2024 was the centenary of the Park being planted out. A discussion then ensued regarding ways of recognising this.
12	AOCB. GR had been approached by the local Inner Wheel who wanted to make a contribution to the Friends and raise their profile in the Village. It was agreed that for a donation their logo could be displayed on the planter outside Baynes. GR informed the meeting that a further meeting of the Resilience Group would take place at 12pm on Tuesday 7 th November and anyone interested could attend.
13	DONM Monday 27th November at 7pm within the Allan Centre.

Actions

4	Contact Margaret Gauld regarding the bench plaque.	GR
7	Summer bedding still to be removed from the Memorial Park. SC to be contacted.	GR
8	Extra tree lights to be purchased.	GR
8	Lights to be purchased for the Howff.	ER
9	Gilchrist to be contacted and paid for the soil, membrane and stones.	ER