

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

Date	Monday 27th May 2024
Time	7pm
Location	Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Robin Kleinman, Sheila Hutton, Mark Everett, Judith Everett, Jenny Smith, Sheila Gebbie, Elizabeth Rankin.
Apologies	Murray Airth

Agenda Ref

Ref	Minutes
1.	Welcome. GR welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2.	Apologies. As above. No apology from Mike Watson.
3.	Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record and were proposed by ME and seconded by ER.
4.	Matters arising. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plaque for the copper beech tree in the Royal Garden will be supplied and installed by the Friends. Sheila McGregor has still to supply the wording. • Storage in the area of the tennis courts will be raised by RK after the opening of the courts. • Regarding the rats in the area of the Cosy Cott – RK has been in touch with Stirling Council and they state that they cannot put down traps or poison. They also claim that the litter bin does not require to be replaced. RK is going to request one of the smart bins. SH suggested that we try solar vermin scarers. She has two which she will provide. • The dropped kerb at Blairforkie Drive has still not been done by Stirling Council. RK has been assured that it is in this year’s work plan.
5.	General report by the Chair. Prior to the start of the Chair’s report JS raised the issue of bedding plants in flower beds. Apparently, the Community Council has been sent an email from Stirling Council stating that the Council would not be planting out any flower beds but local groups were free to do so if they wished. GR stated that we have made our position clear for several months now that the Friends would only be planting the beds at the Memorial Park steps from Henderson Street. He also indicated that we had planted cherry trees in the round beds in the Park and Stirling Council have informed us that they would grass over the remainder of the beds. On 26 th May GR emailed Stirling Council as they have still not topped up and seeded the beds nor have they weed killed the larger beds in the Park The roughcast on the wall of the Howff has been painted by Gordon Wilson, Gavin Drummond and Angus Robertson.

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

Date	Monday 27th May 2024
Time	7pm
Location	Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Robin Kleinman, Sheila Hutton, Mark Everett, Judith Everett, Jenny Smith, Sheila Gebbie, Elizabeth Rankin.
Apologies	Murray Airth

	<p>The weed control group of the Friends are working well in the Village and have cleared the area outside Baynes. Apparently, the Turkish Barbers have arranged for Ross Muirhead to weed kill the area at the front of their premises.</p> <p>Garth's rockery has been weeded and generally tidied up. A variety of new plants have been planted and the area is looking great.</p> <p>JS has weeded the large bed at the end of the Royal Garden and geraniums will be purchased from Craigmarnock to fill the area.</p> <p>ER suggested that planting of succulents and ferns in the stump of the recently felled tree.</p> <p>SH has recently tidied up and planted new plants in the Millennium Garden.</p> <p>The triangle at Allanvale Road has now been finished off with new planting and is looking splendid. Thanks again to all who have contributed.</p> <p>On a smaller scale, the small rockery at the Howff has been given a makeover thanks to Angus Robertson and Sheila Gebbie and is looking really good.</p> <p>Blairforkie Drive continues to develop well and is let down by the grass cutting, albeit it has apparently just been cut again by the Council.</p> <p>Tom Morgan has done a great job again with the hanging baskets and we now have a total of 136 baskets to hand. New customers are Hideaway, Park House and Bawbee. The Health centre have made no contact so the barrels have been relocated, 2 to library and 1 to the Westerton. The brackets have also been removed. All brackets were checked for health and safety reasons by Eddy Fotheringham who identified a number which needed attention. These have all been sorted with new fixings or tightening of existing ones. Plants for planters and barrels have been delivered and Liz is organising her teams to do the planting. Hanging baskets and troughs will be installed later this week for outlying areas and next Wednesday afternoon for the remainder. We have use of the Royal Hotel car park, thanks to Fairview School. The initial draft watering rota has been issued for Routes 1-3. We are short of volunteers for a few slots so if anyone knows someone to help, please let me know.</p>
6.	<p>Treasurer's report.</p> <p>ME gave a report on the current finances. We made an excellent profit of £1595 from the plant sale and coffee morning. The account holds a healthy balance at present although Homesteads require to be paid for the hanging baskets and plants for the barrels and planters.</p>
7	<p>Plant Sale and Coffee Morning.</p> <p>It was agreed that the plant sale and coffee morning should continue in some form next year. Due to the uncertainty as to whether Homesteads will be able to supply plants for next year it was agreed that we should hold a meeting with them to clarify the situation.</p>
8	<p>Marketing of Friends of Bridge of Allan.</p> <p>It was agreed that a separate meeting should be held in relation to items 8 and 9 on the agenda.</p>

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes

Date	Monday 27th May 2024
Time	7pm
Location	Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Robin Kleinman, Sheila Hutton, Mark Everett, Judith Everett, Jenny Smith, Sheila Gebbie, Elizabeth Rankin.
Apologies	Murray Airth

9	Increasing the membership. It was agreed that a separate meeting should be held in relation to items 8 and 9 on the agenda.
10	Memorial Park Centenary. GR informed the meeting that arrangements were well underway for the centenary celebration and picnic which would take place in the Park between 11am and 3pm on Saturday 15 th June 2024. Full details of these arrangements are held on file.
11.	AOCB. There was no other competent business.
12.	Date of next meeting. Monday 24 th June 2024 at 7pm within the Allan Centre.

Actions.

4.	Wording of the plaque for the copper beech tree at Royal Garden.	SMcG
4.	Speak with Gordon Lawrie of Stirling Council re a possible storage facility at the tennis courts in Keir Street.	RK
4.	Contact Council regarding a new refuse bin for Cosy Cott.	RK
5.	Possibility of succulents and ferns in stump of tree in Royal Garden	ER
5.	Troughs and outlying hanging baskets to go up this week.	GR/DN
5.	Hanging baskets to go up on 5th June.	All
7.	Meeting with Homesteads re future supply of plants.	GR/DN/ER