

Friends of Bridge of Allan
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Date	Monday 22nd January 2024
Time	7pm
Location	Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.
Attendees	Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Alex Galloway (Treasurer), Sheila Hutton, Robin Kleinman, Gordon Wilson, Robert Franks, Jenny Smith, Greta McGregor, Elizabeth Rankin, Sheila Gebbie, Douglas Gebbie, Tony Bradshaw, Douglas Dodds, Mary Britton.
Apologies	Alexander Stewart (MSP), Dr. Richard Simpson (Patron), Gavin Drummond, Judith Everett, Mark Everett, Mike Watson, Alison Archibald, Gordon McKeand, Glynis McKeand, Sheila McGregor, Fiona Scott, Tom Morgan

Agenda Ref

Ref	Minutes
1	Welcome. GR welcomed members to the fifteenth annual general meeting.
2	Apologies. As above.
3	Minutes of the AGM of 2023. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last AGM and were proposed by RK and seconded by GW.
4	Report of the Chair. The following is a summary of the Chair's report which is held on file: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GR began his remarks by thanking all volunteers for their efforts in the past year. • Several new volunteers have joined us in the past year which is very encouraging. • Memorial Park – Stirling Council eventually planted summer bedding however ongoing maintenance by them was non-existent and all maintenance was carried out by volunteers. • 2023 marked the unveiling of the War Memorial and particular attention was paid to this area. • The Friends are now maintaining the grass and shrub bed areas of the Provost's Park however the surfacing of the Park has deteriorated and requires attention as does the corrosion on gazebo. • The beds at Blairforkie Drive and Cosy Cott have matured well although it is disappointing that Stirling Council has still not installed the dropped kerbs and disabled parking bay. • We took on three projects in addition to routine maintenance of various areas. These were the refurbishment and replanting of the planters at the Millennium Garden, we cleared and replanted an area at the Crook steps and we have cleared the raised bed at Allanvale Road/Union Street ready for replanting in the Spring. • Our annual plant sale and coffee morning was, once again, a great success. • On 8th May 2023 to mark the Coronation of King Charles we planted a Magnolia tree and unveiled signs to rename the triangle in Keir Street 'The Royal Garden'. • The hanging baskets and planters were particularly spectacular.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We purchased a new watering buggy with a grant from the Co-op Community Fund and this has proved to be very successful. • Our end of season celebration was held at the Brewhouse and was very well attended. • We once again installed and lit the Christmas tree in the village and supplied and hung over 80 wreaths with support from the local businesses.
5	Accounts for the year to 31 st October. AG gave a brief summary of the Accounts which are held on file. They were then proposed by ER and seconded by SH.
6	Appointment of Examiner. Alex Campbell intimated his intention to retire from the role of Examiner and the Chair thanked him for his efforts over the past 10 years. A new examiner will be sought in the coming year.
7	Election of Office Bearers and Management Committee. A slate of nominees with their proposers and seconders had been previously circulated as per the constitution. A copy is retained on file. This was proposed by GW and seconded by RK. Alex Galloway intimated his intention to stand down from his role as Treasurer and he will be succeeded by Mark Everett. The Chair thanked Alex for his diligence and excellent account keeping over the past 10 years.
8	Diary dates. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant sale and coffee morning - 18th May 2024. • 2024 will mark the centenary of the planting out of the Memorial Park and suggestions are required as to how we could mark this event.
9	AOCB. There were no further matters for discussion.