

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>5pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.</b>
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Mark Everett (Treasurer)A, Jenny Smith, Archie Purdie, Robin Kleinman, Elizabeth Rankin, Sheila Hutton.</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Judith Everett</b>

**Agenda Ref**

Ref	Minutes
<b>1.</b>	Welcome. GR welcomed everyone to the March meeting.
<b>2.</b>	Apologies. As above.
<b>3.</b>	Minutes of the last meeting. The minutes of the February were agreed as a true record and proposed by RK and seconded by AP.
<b>4.</b>	Matters arising not on the agenda. Item 5 – Open Reach had not returned our call but new markings have been noted on the pavement and the rockery which would indicate that they are about to start work. This will be monitored. Item 8 – We have started work by removing the overgrown conifers (see report by Chair). SH informed the meeting that the barrels outside Ciao were covered in chickweed. It was noted that several barrels and planters had chickweed which would require to be dealt with by spraying or replacing the compost. GR to be informed of any barrels identified. Item 10 – GR purchased 2 sets of leaf grabbers. I was agreed that brushes and spades should be purchased.
<b>5.</b>	General report by Chair. Despite a couple of very wet Thursdays, we managed to do a fair bit of path edging and pruning of overgrown trees and shrubs in the Memorial Park. We also planted a Japanese Maple in memory of Chris Turner. We met with Stirling Council to inspect the Provost's Park, particularly to point out some significant health and safety issues and general deterioration of the surfacing, extensive corrosion on the gazebo and paintwork needing attention. Stirling Council confirmed they were happy for Friends to continue with the maintenance of the 'soft' landscaping and planting of replacement shrubs and they understand we do not have any involvement in the infrastructure which is their responsibility. We have not heard anything further. Also in the Provost's Park, we purchased a number of plants to replace missing or overgrown shrubs and these have now been planted. We have started to remove the conifers from barrels and planters as they were becoming too big. The dual carriageway planters will have a pyramid Box plant to allow for Christmas lights to be attached but others will only be planted with annuals. Routine maintenance ongoing at other locations.

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>5pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.</b>
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Mark Everett (Treasurer)A, Jenny Smith, Archie Purdie, Robin Kleinman, Elizabeth Rankin, Sheila Hutton.</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Judith Everett</b>

<b>6.</b>	<p>Treasurer's report.</p> <p>We are currently sitting with a total amount of £4273.86 between the Royal Bank of Scotland Account (£3946.78) and Virgin Bank (£326.83) with all bills paid.</p> <p>We received a donation from Eileen Turner of £200 in respect of a tree planted in memory of her late husband, Chris, a founding member of the Friends of Bridge of Allan. A letter of thanks has been sent to her.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p>Plant Sale and Coffee Morning.</p> <p>The plant sale and coffee morning will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at the Parish Church.</p> <p>Coffee, tea bags, sugar sachets, butter, jam, milk, cream and napkins will require to be purchased. DN will supply juice for the children.</p> <p>Entry fee will be £4.</p> <p>ER has already contacted Sheena Malcolm regarding supplying the scones.</p> <p>MoLawn will supply plants as per last year.</p> <p>ER to contact Sheila Airth regarding supplying plants.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p>Wallace High School Volunteering Day.</p> <p>The S3 volunteering days will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week between 27<sup>th</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding the tasks that the pupils could perform.</p> <p>It was agreed that a meeting should take place with the teaching staff to reach an agreement on this.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p>Projects.</p> <p>Allan Centre – cost of repointing the round beds had been obtained and passed on to RK for the Trustees agreement. It was also agreed to purchase 2 recycled plastic benches and 3 planters with the costs again being met by the Allan Centre Trustees.</p>
<b>10.</b>	<p>AOCB.</p> <p>AP informed the meeting that plants for the Provost's Park, which had been purchased at Craigmarloch, had been stored for several weeks in a greenhouse of a neighbour. He suggested that the neighbour be thanked in some way. It was agreed that AP should purchase 2 bottles of wine as a thank you.</p> <p>SH suggested planting snowdrops in the millennium garden. ER to speak to Murray Airth to confirm ownership of the land below Lecropt Churchyard where we previously obtained snowdrops.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<p>Date of Next meeting.</p> <p>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026 within the P.E. Room, Allan Centre at 5pm.</p>

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>5pm</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Allan Centre, Bridge of Allan.</b>
<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Graham Russell (Chair), Douglas Neilson (Secretary), Mark Everett (Treasurer)A, Jenny Smith, Archie Purdie, Robin Kleinman, Elizabeth Rankin, Sheila Hutton.</b>
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Judith Everett</b>

**Actions**

<b>4.</b>	<b>Identify barrels with chickweed and inform GR.</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Purchase brushes and spades.</b>	<b>GR/DN</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Plant pyramid box plants in planters on dual carriageway.</b>	<b>GR/DN</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Purchase various items for coffee morning.</b>	<b>GR/DN</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Arrange usual helpers for coffee morning.</b>	<b>ER</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Contact Sheila Airth re plants for plant sale.</b>	<b>ER</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Meet with teaching staff re volunteering day.</b>	<b>GR/DN</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Allan Centre Trustees to be notified of costs regarding the project.</b>	<b>RK</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Purchase gift re plant storage.</b>	<b>AP</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Contact Murray Airth re ownership of the land below Lecropt Churchyard.</b>	<b>ER</b>