



UPHALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17th April 2024 in Uphall Community Centre

In attendance : Irene Bishop (chair), David Flight, Lynne McEwen, Jonathan Moore, Pippa Plevin, George Scott, Cllr Tony Boyle, Cllr Angela Doran Timson

Apologies : Cllr Diane Calder, Cllr Janet Campbell

1. The minutes of the 2023 AGM were agreed, proposed by David Flight, seconded by George Scott.

2. Matters arising

Dropped kerb map still to be completed
Second Newsletter was not issued

3. Chairpersons report

We have a relatively small number of Community Councillors but we currently have a dedicated team who have once again worked extremely hard as a team and shown real commitment to trying to improve their local area for the benefit of our residents. We are very fortunate in having the support of our local councillors. Thanks to you all for your continued support over the last year.

We have had a fairly busy year.

I represented Uphall Community Council at the Kings Coronation Service at the Kirk of Calder organised by West Lothian Council and continue to attend Broxburn and Uphall Town Centre Management Group and Local Area Committee meetings. These meetings give the Community Council the opportunity to be involved and have their voice heard regarding local decision making.

Sadly as a result of Broxburn and Uphall Traders Association folding Gordon Allan who was their representative on the Town Centre Management Group for many years stepped down. Gordon has been an extremely hardworking member who could be relied on to get things done. He is already greatly missed.

I also represent the Community Council on the Broxburn and Uphall War Memorial Group.

Some members visited Linlithgows Local Plan consultation.

Lynne, Jonathan and I attended a consultation regarding a proposed Biomass application.

Working as a team we had our own Hoe Down which once again worked on the area at the bottom of the Ecclesmachan Road. Thanks to Councillor Boyle who came along to lend a hand.

In August, Lynne, Jonathan and myself laid a wreath at the Purple Poppy Memorial service.

I laid a wreath on behalf of the Community Council at the War Memorial. I have to commend all the young people who took part in the service. There was a large number of pupils and cadets and their behaviour was exemplary and we should be very proud of them.

Jonathan is also taking an active role in the ongoing development work of the Museum.

Once again we sent out Christmas cards to all local businesses.

Last Christmas with help once again from Julie Devaney and Fiona Wandless Santa visited the streets of Uphall. Jonathan kept everyone up to speed with Santas progress. We have plans to upgrade Santas progress with a GPS system. Thanks to Councillor Boyle who was in a position to make a donation from his disbursement fund last year and just to let our other councillors know we will be putting our applications in soon. A big thank you to Santa and hope his arm has recovered from ringing the bell.

As a result of funding through the Town Centre Management Group we have taken delivery of the Solar Talking Post and have just received planning permission for its installation. It will be installed along with the replacement solar powered noticeboard. The external defibrillator has finally been installed at the Community Centre and additional lights have been installed on the trees at the bottom of the Ecclesmachan Road. The Community Council received funding for a new suit for Santa from this group.

Some of the issues we have tackled over the last year include parking in the village, the blocking of dropped kerbs and security in the street. We have asked Police Scotland to attend a meeting to discuss these and the volume of traffic especially on the Ecclesmachan Road. We have also contacted Graham Hope regarding replacing the missing bollards near Scotmid to stop some of the pavement parking.

We have considered planning applications and have taken action where necessary. We have continued to support our neighbours in Dechmont with their objection.

Nicola Gill and Keith Muirhead West Lothian Council came to discuss transport issues. The Community Council wrote to Fiona Hyslop regarding the loss of our swimming pool. By using our social media platform and website we have presented various surveys to reach a wider audience. These include Integrated Joint Board Community Care and Bed Base review and SEPA - Vulnerable adults review of Active Travel Plans, Broxburn and Uphall Play area.

Recently we have worked in partnership with Broxburn Community Council on a defib poster which has been shared with the Council media team, our own social media website to try to maximise the message of having the defib registered.

We should look at our action plan for the coming year.

Once again thanks to Community Council members and local councillors for being so supportive. I hope no one minds if I say a special thanks to Lynne who despite having had some health problems has continued to stay on top of the many duties in her role as secretary.

4. Treasurers report : The audited accounts were agreed proposed by Jonathan Moore seconded by Irene Bishop. These will be forwarded to West Lothian Council.

5. Election of office bearers

Chair : Irene Bishop, proposer Jonathan Moore, seconded Lynne McEwen
Vice chair : Jonathan Moore proposed Irene Bishop, seconded by George Scott
Secretary : Lynne McEwen proposed by Irene Bishop, seconded by David Flight
Treasurer : George Scott, proposed Lynne McEwen, seconded by Irene Bishop
Planning Secretary : Jonathan Moore, proposed by David Flight, seconded by Lynne McEwen

6. David Flight was presented with a Quaich and gift in recognition and appreciation of his 40 years of service as a Community Councillor.

There being no other business the meeting was concluded.