
Hawick Community Council



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (2019/20) held via Zoom on Monday, 11th January 2021 at 6pm

Present:	Cameron Knox (Chairperson)	Marion Short (Vice-Chairperson)
	Jim Adams (Treasurer)	Margaret Hogg (Secretary)
	Brian Bouglas	Jock Campbell
	Braden George	Wilson George
	Keith Irvine	Duncan Taylor
	Alan Wear	French Wight
	John Wilkinson	
Attending:	Councillor McAteer	Councillor Marshall
	Councillor Paterson	Councillor Ramage
	Councillor Turnbull	Derick Tait, Future Hawick

There were three members of the public also in attendance, as well as Graham Ford on behalf of the Hawick Paper.

- 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks** – The Chair welcomed everyone to the AGM for 2019/20 which should have been held back in May but had required to be postponed due to COVID. Those attending were advised that the Hawick Paper would be recording the meeting for reporting purposes.

The Chair also advised that any Declarations of Interest should be intimated prior to any discussion on that Agenda item.

- 2. Apologies** – There were no apologies intimated.
- 3. Adoption of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 13th May 2019** – The Minutes of the previous AGM were approved as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Wilson George and Seconded by French Wight.
- 4. Matters arising** – there were no matters arising.
- 5. Chairman's Report** – The Chair reported that the Inaugural Meeting of the current HCC had been held on 30th September 2019 when 7 new members had been elected. His report covered the period since then to date.

Due to COVID, only 7 face-to-face meetings involving the public had been possible. One town clean-up had been held in 2019, with assistance from many volunteers as well as the Fire Service, making a significant difference to the cleanliness of the town. Our Christmas

Event in December 2019 saw circa 2.5k people attending and the event was proclaimed as a big success by both the public and the stallholders alike. Santa and his Elf had distributed 375 selection boxes to children attending, with the surplus of these being later distributed to the local Care Homes and Community Hospital.

The Christmas Lights in Drumlanrig Square had also been extended that year through funding from HCC to that sub-group.

Since March 2020 and COVID, most of HCC's events had required to be cancelled, e.g. VE Day, Music at the Bandstand at Wilton Park and so on. The annual Christmas Event had also been cancelled.

Nevertheless, HCC was still open for business –

Hawick in Bloom volunteers proceeded with planting within all the planters throughout the town as well as at the War Memorial;

Hawick Volunteers Group including HCC members also carried out tidying works at Hornshole, as well as at Trinity Gardens, the Horse, Station Bridge, Civic Space, keeping our town as tidy as possible whilst SBC employees were unable to do so due to COVID restrictions;

Many local Clubs and Organisations – both constituted and non-constituted - received grant funding from Foundation Scotland monies and these were all well received;

The Resilience Group proved a vital lifeline for many in our town who were vulnerable and shielding and unable to carry out normal activities, like shopping, dog-walking, collecting pharmacy prescriptions and so on;

HCC was able to purchase 12 new gazebos, along with tables and chairs from monies received from the Common Good Fund and Locality Funding, for use not only for HCC events but for use by other local Clubs and Organisations as required;

The HCC website had been given a new look, with assistance from Graeme Webb;

New Christmas Lights had been purchased by HCC for Oliver Place and Bourtree Place as well as further additional lights for Drumlanrig Square funded by Future Hawick;

In December, Scottish Borders Council gave permission to HCC to enable holding of 2 mini-Christmas Markets, on 5th and 12th December 2020, respectively. These had been well attended and feedback from both the public and stallholders had again been excellent.

HCC had lost 3 members during the period, Catriona Young, Secretary, Drew Dickson and the Late Bert Wear. One of these vacancies had been filled by Alan Wear, Bert's son who joined HCC in December 2020.

Finally, in concluding his Report, the Chair thanked the Office-bearers and members of HCC for all their efforts, stating he considered everyone worked well as a team on behalf of and to the benefit of the townsfolk.

- 6. Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer spoke to his Report for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, explaining in detail each of the funds contained within his Report. Whilst the closing balance of £22,583.72 for the year seemed high, nevertheless it should be borne in mind that most of these funds were ring-fenced going into 2020/21 financial year.

The Treasurer's Report was agreed as a true and accurate reflection of the accounts of HCC – Proposed by Keith Irvine and Seconded by Duncan Taylor.

7. Election of Office-bearers:

Members were all in agreement for the status quo having been advised that Office-bearers posts would again be subject for re-election at the next AGM proposed to be held in May 2021.

- (a) Chairperson – Cameron Knox – Proposed Wilson George, Seconded John Wilkinson
- (b) Vice-Chairperson – Marion Short – Proposed French Wight, Seconded Duncan Taylor
- (c) Treasurer – Jim Adams – Proposed Margaret Hogg, Seconded Keith Irvine
- (d) Secretary – Margaret Hogg – Proposed Cameron Knox, Seconded French Wight.

- 8. Appointment of Auditors** – The Chair advised that the Auditor for HCC was Scott Elliot. It was proposed that this arrangement be continued – Proposed by Jock Campbell and Seconded by Wilson George and agreed by all members.

- 9. Acceptance of SBC's Code of Conduct for Community Councils** – A copy of the Code had been re-issued to all HCC members, and all members responded to the Chair confirming their acceptance to abide by the Code.

- 10. Any Other Competent Business** – There were no other items of business raised.