
Hawick Community Council



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (2021/22) held on Monday, 9th May 2022 at 6pm

within the Lesser Town Hall, Hawick

Present:	Cameron Knox (Chairperson)	Marion Short (Vice-Chairperson)
	Jim Adams (Treasurer)	Margaret Hogg (Secretary)
	Jock Campbell	Wilson George
	Duncan Taylor	Euan Welsh
	French Wight	
Attending:	Councillor McAteer	Councillor Marshall
	Councillor Ramage	Councillor Smart

There were 16 members of the public also in attendance, as well as Jason Marshall on behalf of the Hawick Paper.

- 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks** – The Chair welcomed HCC members and members of the public to the AGM for 2021/22 which thankfully was now back to schedule in May. He welcomed the new Councillors fresh from their recent election victories.

The Chair advised that the meeting was being recorded by HCC, and the Hawick Paper for minuting and reporting purposes.

- 2. Apologies** – Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Cox and Richards.
- 3. Adoption of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held via zoom on 10th May 2021** – The Minutes of the previous AGM for 2020/21 held on 10th May 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting - Proposed by Wilson George and Seconded by Duncan Taylor.
- 4. Matters arising** – there were no matters arising.
- 5. Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the first meeting following our last AGM on 10th May 2021 was held on zoom, which was a platform which everyone was now a lot more familiar with because of Covid restrictions.

A successful Town Clean-up was nevertheless able to be held on Sunday, 16th May 2021 and during the past year, ongoing improvement works at Williestruther were now nearing

completion. These works had brought great benefits to the public walking around the Loch.

July saw HCC's first face-to-face meeting in some 18 months, held in Hawick Rugby Club and it had been good to see everyone again in person rather than on a small screen.

HCC's Summer Market held in the Civic Space was he said just what the town needed, to kickstart some normality again. The event had been blessed with great weather and had been busy with shoppers all day, resulting in a brisk trade and happy stallholders, of which there were 23. A raffle held had raised £928.50, increased to £1,000 from HCC funds, to allow the 4 selected charities to each receive £250 which was a great boost to their funds.

The Chair went on to report that unfortunately HCC's planned Bandstand Events for Wilton Lodge Park in August required to be cancelled due to ongoing Covid restrictions, however it was hoped these would bounce back better than ever this coming Summer.

The volunteers of Hawick in Bloom Group Sub-Group were commended for their flowering planters bringing colour once again to our streets, and the Hawick Core Paths were again cut as per schedule, giving unrestricted access to the many walks around the town.

The visit of the Tour of Britain saw many organisations within the town including HCC work together to turn North Bridge Street and the High Street into a colourful racetrack with team jerseys displayed on our Christmas Tree brackets.

The Christmas lights were once again erected by a small group of dedicated volunteers as well as HCC members, to bring Christmas cheer. Despite very poor weather conditions, our Christmas Market on 4th December was a huge success with 37 stalls located along Oliver Crescent and Oliver Place. There was entertainment from many local groups, who brought Christmas spirit through their music, dance and song to the day. The erection and dismantling of all 37 gazebos required a major team effort.

The start of 2022 saw HCC's January meeting back on zoom however February saw us revert to normal face-to-face meetings within the Lesser Town Hall, with varied speakers from Jamie Leslie/Carol Douglas from Muirhall Energy regarding Teviot Wind Farm, Conor Price & Yvonne Gilfillan with updates on progress with the town's Flood Protection Scheme, and Fiona Drane, Project Manager for the St Leonard's Park Project, to name a few.

SBC's Neighbourhood Support Fund (formerly known as the Community Fund) remained open for applications, with Hawick's share of this fund being £11,513.

On 3rd June, HCC would be holding an event in the Civic Space to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, including a programme of music events in August at the Elliot Bandstand within Wilton Lodge Park.

In conclusion, the Chair thanked the office-bearers and members for their help and support over the last year and reminded the public audience that HCC was their Council, working for them and for the benefit of the townspeople.

6. Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer spoke to his Financial Report which had been previously circulated to members.

The opening balance as of 1st April 2021 was £27,477.09, and detailed income and expenditure from each of the accounts held, were as follows:

HCC 1 – Opening Balance - £1,878.68, Income £7,546.33 and Expenditure £3,845.51 resulting in a Closing Balance of £5,579.50.

HCC 2 – Opening Balance - £167.63, Expenditure £167.63 and Closing Balance £0.00.

Christmas Lights & Events – Opening Balance £1,235.78, Income £1,795.74 and Expenditure £1,980.43 and Closing Balance £1,051.09.

Hawick in Bloom – Opening Balance £7,434.38, Income £3,722.72, Expenditure £6,670.56 and Closing Balance £4,486.54.

Resilience – Opening Balance £218.43, Expenditure £24.05, Closing Balance £194.38.

Community Fund/Foundation Scotland – Opening Balance £16,542.19, Income £1,366.93, Expenditure £9,278.05, Closing Balance £8,631.07.

The closing balances of all accounts totalled £19,942.58. Of that balance, however, a total of £11,731.07 was ring-fenced for Williestruther improvement works (£7137.07) yet to be invoiced and Bandstand Events at Wilton Lodge Park (£4,600) to be held in August this year. Details of expenditure could be found in the Accounts, which had been audited and signed off by Scott Elliot, Auditor.

The Accounts were approved by members – Proposed Marion Short and Seconded Wilson George.

7. Election of Office-bearers: The following Office-bearers were appointed:

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

Mrs Short took over as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

8. Appointment of Auditors – The Chair advised that the Auditor for HCC was Scott Elliot and she asked if members were happy to continue with that arrangement. Members agreed Mr Elliot continue as Auditor - Proposed by Wilson George and Seconded by John Campbell. Jim Adams advised that Mr Elliot had given advance notice of his intention to cease as an Auditor in 2024 when HCC would require to make alternative arrangements.

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 by a show of hands, confirming their acceptance to abide by the Code.

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