

Annual General Meeting
29th October 2022
Liberton Northfield Church Hall

Minutes:

In attendance; Committee - Alex Hammond-Chambers, Anne McDonald, Dorothy Burns-Brown, Joan Foulner, David Cavanagh, Chris & Debbie Barclay, Rosy Carmichael, Margaret Collingwood, Rodger Stirling.
Members of the Liberton Association approx. 40
Lezley Cameron Councillor, Labour Liberton/Gilmerton
PC Mark Kelly & PC Heather Clark Community Policing Team
Gordon Fisher - MD Greenwatts Systems.

Apologies; Ian Murray MP, Martha Mattos Coelho Councillor SNP Liberton/Gilmerton, David Lamb, Jon & Ellen Wilson, Kirsty Tyler

1. Welcome

President Alex Hammond-Chambers opened the meeting, welcomed those present and explained the agenda

2. Apologies (as above)

3. Minutes of last meeting

Secretary (Dorothy Burns-Brown) discussed some outstanding issues since the last AGM in June 2019 which were going to be addressed fully later in the meeting

4. Presidents report

Alex Hammond-Chambers reported the ongoing work of the Association. Alex referred to the Constitution to reiterate the role of the Association to allow us as a community to handle any issues of broad concern regarding the local infrastructure, potential planning applications and the preservation of our greenbelt areas. He thanked the membership for their continued support which is invaluable.

Homage was paid to Derek Kennedy who has sadly passed away earlier this year.

5. Treasurer Report

Joan Foulner (Treasurer) provided detail regarding the report (see addendum)

6. Subscription

It was agreed by those present that the subscriptions could be raised from £5, if required, as from 1st April 2023.

7. Election of Office Bearers

There were no new applications for the Office bearer roles. It was proposed and accepted that the current Office Bearers, President Alex Hammond-Chalmers, Treasurer Joan Foulner and Secretary Dorothy Burns-Brown should remain in office for another year.

Thanks was given to Anne McDonald (vice President) who is stepping down from the committee after 30 years.

8. Election of Honorary independent Examiner

The President proposed David Lamb S.S.C as the above, thanked him for his services in the past and for agreeing to continue in this role. The proposal was accepted by those present.

9. Constitution

The current Constitution was accepted by those present

10. Secretary Report

The Secretary reported that the Committee has met regularly throughout lockdown through virtual meetings and now face to face.

During lockdown the Association liaised with Liberton Kirk to deliver meals to residents who were isolating and managed a small band of volunteers to check and maintain contact with residents who were shielding.

The committee continue to review the planning applications and local issues which are observed and reported and liaise with the council and the relevant bodies to address these issues.

The Association has continued to communicate with members through news bulletins, emails, postal letters and our media platforms such as Facebook, Website & Twitter.

11. David Cavanagh gave an update on local planning and facilities

- Northfield House Hotel – application for student accommodation rejected by CoEC; developer's appeal upheld by ScotGov reporter – demolition and rebuild will proceed.
- Liberton Hospital – the hospital will continue to operate until 2029, so no planning applications pending

- Liberton Brae/Kirk Brae Junction – ongoing dialogue with CoEC about this junction. Numerous issues, including pavement parking at pinch points, lack of full pedestrian crossing light sequences,
 - Kirk Brae pedestrian crossing – after LA lobbying, this was approved at council level, but no sign of works progressing yet.
 - Mayfield Road closure - further 12-month closure until November 2023
-
- Liberton High School – pre-planning application and consultation now complete. New school to be built on adjacent school land while old school remains open.
 - Gaelic School – no decision yet on possible build on LHS site
 - Cameron Toll Hotel – hotel to be built on land between Liberton Road and Sainsburys filling station
 - Alnwickhill pavement update – association in contact with land agent from the Liberton and Craigmillar Trust re. adoption of the path by CoEC.
 - Liberton Park football changing rooms – still no resolution to the cleaning and refurbishment of the metal sheds for football teams.
 - Liberton Park/Grange/ Cala Homes numerous and ongoing issues with build quality, deterioration of boundary walls, adoption of roads etc
 - Inch Park regeneration is being developed – details will follow on the Liberton Association website

12. Margaret Collingwood presented the booklet 'Aboon the Kirk'

'Aboon the Kirk', was compiled by 3 members of the committee and 2 association members, it was produced to show places of interest in the area which could also be combined into walks.

The first 200 printed in 2020 went quickly so a further 200 with errors corrected were printed in 2021. A donation of £1 per booklet was requested which with a generous donation from the Old Edinburgh Club for 2 walks for their members, covered the cost.

Although the books moved quickly, there has been little feedback - this would be welcome. If you would like a copy of the booklet please contact the Secretary.

13. Invited Speakers

- ❖ PC Mark Kelly and PC Heather Clark gave a very interesting talk about home security and provided literature and contact details to help you assess your home and make it safer. They advise to work on the 3 principles of Delay, Deflect and Deter and offered helpful suggestions. There is literature available, please contact the secretary if you would like some copies.

Q&A were taken at this stage

- David Cavanagh (Liberton Association) gave a presentation on energy efficiency and the changes which can be made in your home. In addition, he explained the different sources of energy grants/loans available to help you make these changes. Literature and contact details are available. The link to this information is available on.
<https://youtu.be/nZ8QH8IvL8c>
- Gordon Fisher, Managing Director of Greenwatts Systems, gave a talk on energy efficiency, use and microgeneration. He described the changes from 20th century fossil fuel use, to the ongoing 21st century transition to renewable energy sources, and the need to improve energy use efficiency. Gordon explained some of the newer technologies and the practical applications of solar, wind and hydro power generation at a community and individual level. Gordon finished by offering to collect contact details from people interested in these technologies and wanting further advice.

14. AOB – none to report

15. The President opened the meeting for Q&A .
There were further discussions regarding energy efficiency

16. The president closed the meeting and thanked all those present for attending and participating.

Nb Ian Murray MP provided a bulletin for the meeting and booklets regarding 'Cost of Living Crisis' Copies are available on request.