

ALVAH AND FORGLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
FORGLEN HALL: TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2017
MINUTES

Website: www.alvahforglencc.wordpress.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AlvahForglenCC/>

1. **Present**

Barbara Foad (Vice Chairman)	Helen Bayne	
Jim Bayne (Secretary)	Phil Duffield	Carol Rewston
Mike Dewhurst (Treasurer)	Rhoda Burns	John Burns

In Attendance: Cllr. Michael Roy (Aberdeenshire Council), Cllr. John Cox (Aberdeenshire Council) Stewart Adams and Anne Johnstone.

2. **Introduction.**

Barbara Foad explained that as the Chairman was indisposed, she would act as Chairman. The minutes of the previous AGM held on 27 September 2016 had been approved by email

3. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Philip Foad, Caroline Jones, Christina Roebuck, Doug Hill and Cllr. Reynolds.

4. **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that the Community Action Plan had been approved in May 2015 and that her report would relate the Community Council's achievements on the key issues in the CAP.

- **Proliferation of Wind Turbines.** Alvah and Forglen Community Council (AFCC) had objected to one application. It was rejected by the Infrastructures Services Committee following a judicial review and a re-consideration of the application.
- **Improve Broadband.** Broadband was the most important project for the community council. AFCC had conducted a well-supported survey of the area that showed that the average download speed was 1.8Mbps compared to the national average of 28Mbps. AFCC had engaged fully with Community Broadband Scotland but to date had not seen any signs that there was any great enthusiasm from BT to improve the poor broadband service in the area. AFCC had made submissions to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee and to the latest consultation from the Scottish Parliament. AFCC had lobbied our local councillors, MSP's and MP, all of whom had been very supportive. There were now signs from Government that the plight of rural areas was now higher on the agenda, with both Governments committed to prioritising

rural areas. AFCC will continue to make representations on behalf of Alvah and Forglen at every opportunity. Broadband will remain AFCC's key project.

- **Preserve the Unique Beauty of the Area.** There are now 20 flower tubs throughout the area. The daffodil planting had been very successful and 9000 bulbs had been planted over the past 2 years. More bulbs had been ordered for planting this year.
- AFCC had reported sites of invasive plants to the council.
- AFCC had supported the Specific Guidance on Special Landscapes, which is now in the Local Development Plan and should protect the Deveron Valley from inappropriate development.
- **Restore Derelict Properties.** AFCC had supported the application to convert Alvah Church into a dwelling. Work had commenced and the new roof is almost complete.
- **Introduce Community Policing. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.** This is an area where work had yet to start although AFCC receives the quarterly police report, and the local police have attended AFCC meetings when work permitted. The police report is placed on the AFCC website.
- **Make Greater Use of the Halls.** A number of presentations and talks have been arranged at both halls.
 - Funds were secured from the Area Initiative Fund for tables and chairs which are now in place in Alvah Hall.
 - Funding, granted through Muirden Energy, secured a new kitchen in Forglen Hall. The kitchen was now fully installed and was a huge improvement.
 - Through the Area Initiative Fund and Muirden Energy, AFCC secured funds for external notice boards for both halls. They should be delivered in October.
 - Through the area Initiative Fund and AFCC funding, a projector and screen were procured for community use.
 - AFCC arranged a well-attended course on the use of the defibrillator at Forglen Hall.

5. **Secretary's Report.**

The Secretary reported that:

- The membership had remained constant over the past year. AFCC would continue to oppose the new Scheme of Establishment which would result in an imposed reduction

in numbers from the current 18 to only 7.

- Like last year the support from the Area Manager's office had been excellent.
- A very good rapport had been maintained with the Roads Department and Landscape Department who had always responded quickly to AFCC concerns and observations.
- A good relationship had been maintained with both halls' committees.
- AFCC was grateful for the continued regular attendance and advice of our local councillors.
- AFCC's website and Facebook were always up to date and were proving a good way to connect with local residents and beyond.
- He greatly appreciated the help and support from all the Community Councillors in commenting on and contributing to the correspondence the council has with various bodies.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that:

- The accounts (attached at Annex) were distributed to all councillors before the meeting
- He explained that there was a healthy balance in the bank, largely due to the Secretary's ability to source funding for projects which would otherwise have had to be funded by AFCC.
- Approval of the accounts was proposed by Phil Duffield and seconded by John Burns.
- The accounts were approved unanimously.

6. **Election of Officers.**

Chairman – Christina Roebuck

Secretary – Jim Bayne

Treasurer – Mike Dewhurst

Vice Chairman – Barbara Foad

- It was proposed by Phil Duffield and seconded by John Burns that the current incumbents be re-elected en bloc.

- The officers were elected unanimously.

J Bayne

Secretary

Email: secretary.alvahforlence@gmail.com

ANNEX

Alvah & Forglen Community Council

Statement of Income & Expenditure

1st August 2016 - 31st July 2017

Income

HIE reimbursement - broadband project	Nov-16	£392.80
Aberdeenshire Council - Project Grant	Dec-16	£194.20
Aberdeenshire Council - Area Initiative Fund	Feb-17	£1,170.82
Aberdeenshire Council - Admin. Grant 2017/18	Jun-17	£486.00
Community benefit donation - notice boards	Jul-17	£839.00

Expenditure

Advert in local paper	£47.04
Advert in local paper	£58.80
Hall hire - broadband project	£30.00
Cost of projection equipment	£539.97
Broadband project admin costs	£392.80
Hall hire	£25.00
Alvah Hall equipment	£1,170.82

Total	£3,082.82		£2,264.43
Bank Balance @ 01/08/2016	£1,720.33	Bank Balance @ 31/07/2017	£2,538.72
	£4,803.15		£4,803.15

Certified correct based on bank statements, vouchers and information supplied.

Signed



01/09/2017

GRAEME WATT

**BLACKBURN LODGE
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