

Symington Community Council: minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2022 in the Hall for All .

Present: Liz Kelly (Chair), Dave Houfe (Vice-chair), Julie Howie, Stuart Pike, Sheila Murray, Ailsa Paterson

In Attendance: Cllr. Duncan Townson, Jan McGarry (SAC Link officer).

Members of the public.

Apologies: John and Jillian Mulholland, Paul McCluskey.

1.	There were no declarations of interest.	
2.	As this meeting was our Annual General Meeting, Liz Kelly gave the Chairperson’s report – which is appended to this minute .	
3	Minutes of previous meeting (19th April 2022) were proposed by Julie Howie and seconded by Liz Kelly.	
4.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bin Collection/Recycling –still awaiting feedback, Julie to contact Cllr Dettbarn. • Police Speeding patrols report- A day of action was held on 15th. March and one speeding ticket was issued. • Place Plans- all place plans are delayed - an update is expected summer 2022. • Lighting on footpath from Main Street to Parish Meadows - Julie to chase this up. • Wildflower area -Shaw Park ,Liz has contacted Kenneth Dalrymple at SAC and is awaiting a reply. 	<p><i>Julie Howie</i></p> <p><i>Julie Howie</i></p>
5.	<p>Police Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One call in relation to a noise complaint. • One incident regarding banking fraud. • One report of concerns over the way a vehicle was being driven- vehicle and driver unable to be traced. 	

6.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VASA Information passed on to community groups. • Aurora Planning- second public consultation event for the proposed Prestwick Spaceport delayed – no alternative date at present. • NHS SHARE – the Scottish Health Research Register- details placed on website. • Following communication from residents re : poor state of lockup area on Main Street, SAC were contacted and the site has now been tidied up and a dilapidated garage removed. • Communication received from Symington CO-OP regarding the Local Community Fund donation programme – this information has been passed on to local community groups. • On going speeding issues on Main Street remain a problem . The Community Council are aware of the problem and are in regular contact with ARA .We are currently awaiting an update from Kevin Braidwood ARA on this matter. • Issues raised at April's meeting by a resident regarding more appropriate placement of a litter bin – awaiting a response from SAC. • War memorial – have contacted SAC Bereavement and Ground Office – awaiting report re: further action. • Letters have been sent to Cllrs.Spurling and Campbell thanking them for their help and support during their term in office. 	
7.	<p>Treasurer's Financial Report. 2021-2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening balance £1326-20p • Closing balance £2049.28p 	
8.	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report on last month's planning application for the erection of a dwelling house at Knockendale Farm. 	
9.	<p>Wildflower Meadow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz has contacted K. Dalrymple at SAC raising concerns around the siting of the meadow. 	
10.	<p>Wildflower Project: Information has been placed on our website. Surveys are to be carried out between now and September to</p>	

	<p>identify the range of plants and wildflowers and the pollinators they attract. SWT and Nectar Network have provided some wildflower plugs including Yellow Rattle which helps make the soil less fertile and suppressed grasses, enabling wild flowers to establish. It is hoped to keep AMEY and ARA involved in this project.</p>	
11.	<p>AOCB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community garden- currently in discussion re: a plot within the village which may be suitable. • Dementia awareness sessions – to be held in the winter. • Community day – hope to hold this event end of August- to increase awareness of the range of groups within the village. • Elected members report- to include in future agendas • Dog refuse bin – playpark Parish Meadows- replacement bin /bins being pursued. • Littering- it is suggested that we hold litter picking events in the village over the summer months. Areas will be identified and we will advertise on social media. • Liz advised that the new local newsletter is imminent and will be left at various collection points. People are encouraged to sign up for the E-newsletter. 	<p><i>Liz Kelly</i></p> <p><i>Liz Kelly</i></p> <p><i>Stuart Pike</i></p>
12.	<p>Date of next meeting: Tuesday 21st. June 7pm in the Hall for All.</p>	

SYMINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM May 17th 2022

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This is the first AGM to be held since 2019 due to coronavirus restrictions. Community Council face to face meetings were suspended by South Ayrshire Council between March 2020 and November 2021 in-line with Scottish Government guidance. However, Symington Community Council members decided to meet informally online so that we could continue to keep up-to-date with matters of local interest and importance. A brief summary of some, but not all, of our activities include:-

- Wreaths for Remembrance Day were laid at the village war memorial on behalf of residents in 2020 and 2021.
- Grants were allocated to local organisations.
- Vandalism and anti-social behaviour issues were highlighted to the relevant services and resolved.
- Funding was secured to purchase IT equipment (a lap-top and printer).
- Wildflower Project was launched following positive responses to public consultation (over 100 people responded). Collaboration between ARA, SAC, and Amey has taken place with considerable support and guidance from Lynne Bates the Scottish Wildlife Trust and the Irvine to Girvan Nectar Network. Dave Houfe has been the lead Community Councillor. This has involved litter picking, wildflower seed sowing, training workshops, surveys of plants and pollinators. It is anticipated that it will take several years for the impact of the activities to be seen.
- Kept abreast of: local planning applications – responding where appropriate in response to requests from residents, the Local Development Plan – comments submitted on issues relating to Symington, and the national NPF4 – contributions made.
- Website has been updated and improved, and Facebook page constructed. Special thanks to Bryce Howie for his help with this. Aim to post useful links and information of interest to the community including copies of agendas and minutes.
- Impressive Christmas tree was erected for Christmas 2021 – the culmination of a considerable amount of correspondence with SAC since early 2020. Disappointingly the planned 'lighting up' celebration with Symington PS had to be cancelled due to increased covid restrictions.
- Bench from Symington Road North bus stop was relocated to Shaw Park following request by Community Council.
- Flower beds on Main St. were tidied up and replanted following our contact with SAC in response to a local resident's correspondence.
- Bulbs were planted at the war memorial and adjacent to the bus stop at Symington Road North by Ailsa and Julie.
- Wall at the war memorial was repointed and coping stones replaced by SAC following correspondence by the Community Council.
- Ayrshire Roads Alliance removed football stickers from lamp posts and traffic bollards, replaced damaged traffic bollards on Symington Road South, consulted with the community on traffic calming initiatives.
- Consulted with parents regarding Shaw Park playpark proposed upgrade (toddler climbing unit replacement, refurbishment of ground covering, activity boards) and fed this back to SAC.

- Secured funding of £4000 from the Mental Health and Well-being Fund to: provide dementia awareness training, hold a community fun day to increase awareness of local groups and facilities, and to start up a community garden.
- New litter bin installed on Main Street.
- Procured litter pickers and bags for community use and located these in the Library.

Litter, dog fouling, planning, and speeding traffic within the village continue to be particular challenges within the village but we shall continue to pursue residents' concerns. However, we hope to be able to concentrate our attention on building the community spirit within the village, and maintaining Symington as a desirable place to live for everyone.

I should like to say 'thank you' to all Symington Community Council members during this period: Jillian Mulholland, Charlie Cotchin, Paul McCluskey, Dave Houfe, John Mulholland (Treasurer), Ailsa Paterson (Minutes Secretary) and especially Julie Howie (Secretary and Planning contact). It has been a pleasure being Chair of the Community Council with a very supportive group of enthusiastic members and I look forward to the next year of service. Also, thanks to our local councillors who supported us throughout – Andy Campbell, Arthur Spurling and Julie Dettbarn, and to members of the public who attended our meetings.

Liz Kelly
Chair – Symington Community Council
May 2022