

# **Echt & Skene Community Council**

## **Minutes of AGM held 8th June 2022 at 7.30 pm at Echt Hall**

**Present:** Fiona Bick (chair), Nick Pilbeam (vice-Chair), George Glennie (Secretary), Chris Minchin, Gian Pia, Cllr Ron McKail.

**Apologies:** Niall McBeath, Paula Houston, Ian MacMaster and Cllr Iris Walker.

**Minute of last A.G.M.** Minute approved - no matters arising.

### **Chairman's Report:**

I think we will mostly remember this past year for the effects Storms Arwen, Corrie and Malik had on our communities. Extensive and long-lasting power cuts affected a large part of our area as a result of these storms. This highlighted the extent to which we all depend on a reliable electricity supply for light, heat, water and communications. The resilience plans we developed in 2017-18 were put into action at last, and as a result we were able to assist our residents by opening the Echt Hall for welfare needs. Huge thanks go to George Glennie for his efforts in that regard.

Having tested our plans in a real emergency situation we've identified ways we can better prepare for such events in the future. We'll endeavour to make improvements to our preparedness over the course of the coming year by enabling our halls to run off a generator if there are future blackouts.

Although crime rates in our area continued to be low, residents are still concerned about speeding vehicles in almost all of our settlements. The Community Council has highlighted these concerns to the police, who continued carrying out periodic speeding checks in Echt and Dunecht. Whilst these have a short-term beneficial effect, it's felt that longer-lasting solutions such as traffic calming are required to persuade motorists to moderate their speed.

Our Treasurer, Paula Houston, has been tireless in her efforts to obtain funding to pay for the installation costs of the additional play equipment which the Council is storing for eventual use in the Echt Pleasure Park. She has currently secured around 60% of the total amount required. This is ringfenced within the funds ESCC holds.

Niall MacBeath also secured a grant from the Council this year to purchase litter picking equipment. It's been great to see residents borrowing the equipment and making a difference to their local environment. I'd also like to thank Niall for his work in arranging the Queen's Jubilee Beacon at the Breemie Circle last week.

We've seen some changes amongst our members with Sophie Byers resigning as a result of a move abroad, but I'm pleased to welcome Gian Pia as a new member, and note the re-election of Niall MacBeath, Nick Pilbeam and myself.

## Treasurer's Report:

### Echt & Skene Community Council Accounts 2022-23

<b>Reserves Statement</b>	<b>As at 31/3/2022</b>			<b>As at 31/3/2021</b>
	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cash in Bank	5400.00	2412.92	7812.92	1848.05
Cash in Hand		39.89	39.89	39.89
			<b>7852.81</b>	<b>1887.94</b>
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure</b>	<b>Year ending 31/3/2022</b>		<b>Year ending 31/3/2021</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Aberdeenshire Council Grant	933.03		924.61	
Garioch Area Committee Grant	200.00			
Miss Caroline Jane Spence Fund	5000.00			
Westhill and Skene Lions Club	400.00			
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>6533.03</b>		<b>924.61</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Administration Costs	-117.99		-60.00	
Annual Subscriptions	-55.00		-55.00	
Community Projects (see Note 1)	-395.17		-637.91	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>-568.16</b>		<b>-752.91</b>
<b>Overall Surplus/Deficit</b>		<b>5964.87</b>		<b>171.70</b>
<b>Note 1 Community Projects</b>				
Echt Planters	60.00			
Litter Picking Equipment	259.21			
Resilience Equipment	75.96			
<b>Total Projects Spend</b>	<b>395.17</b>			

#### Acceptance of Accounts:

Proposed by Chris Minchin and seconded by George Glennie. The accounts were unanimously approved.

#### Election of Office Bearers/Co-Option of Members:

Fiona Bick, Nick Pilbeam, Niall MacBeath and Gian Pia were formally elected as members.

The Office Bearers for the following year were agreed as follows:

Chair	Fiona Bick
Vice-Chair	Chris Minchin
Secretary	George Glennie
Independent Treasurer	Paula Houston

#### A.O.C.B

No other business was raised and the meeting closed.