

## Riverside Community Council Annual General Meeting Minutes

28<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Members Present

Fiona Berrow  
Robert Dale  
Sue Dumbleton  
Sandra Engstrom  
Emily McLaughlin  
Joan Murphy  
Ashleigh Phillips  
Alison Swanson

### In Attendance

Di Alderdice  
Phil Boydell  
Fiona Dyet  
Andrew Fraser  
David Sherman  
  
Cllr Gibson

### Apologies

Sue Dumbleton

Six Riverside residents joined the meeting.

### **1) Declaration of Interest**

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

### **2) Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes for the previous Annual General were adopted

Fiona Berrow proposed; Alison Swanson seconded

### **4) Chair's Report**

#### **Introduction**

Riverside Community Council is currently made of eight community councillors and five associate members.

We currently have a vacancy for one further member.

## Our Year Of Challenges

COVID 19 has affected us all and has added many challenges to our way of life.

The strength of spirit and Community Resilience in Riverside has been inspiring and we felt strongly that we wanted to help and support our community as much as we could throughout this strange year.

- We continue to hold virtual zoom meetings
- Our zoom account is available to community groups to facilitate meetings and events which normally would be held in person.
- We engage with Stirling Council in any matter that is brought to our attention and monitor those which will need to be address when COVID allows.
- We have looked for ways to encourage safe activity and community engagement to help boost spirits throughout lockdown.

## Communications

Communication is very important to Riverside Community Council – we endeavour to be representative of our community. We communicate in the following ways:

Website: Updated regularly, report community news events and our progress on all our activities.

E-Mail: Contact us directly about things that matter to you.

Drop Ins and Noticeboards: Our non-digital means of sharing information. Drop Ins have been cancelled during COVID.

Newsletter: Our regular e-mail round up of the events around Riverside and the Stirling Area, also offered in paper form.

Others: Facebook page, Community WhatsApp Group, Stirling Observer, Community Partnerships

When asking for ideas, big and small these were some of the suggestions

Playgroup

Community resilience Plan

Community Space

Well Being Walks

Language Cafe

Hosting A Charity Event

Flooding Information Event

Pontoon and River Activities

Student Welcome Pack/Event

Renting/Landlord Rights responsibility Event

Community Choir

Houseplant Event

Litter Picks

Shiphaugh Centenary Party

Easter Egg Hunt

Wake Up and Smell The Coffee (and tea) Event

Board Game Night

Accessibility Play Equipment and Paths in Waverley Park

## **Our Sub Groups**

### **Active and Sustainable Transport**

Sub-Group created to focus on people powered travel and looking at ways to encourage and improve the safe, active and sustainable transport in the Riverside Area.

Travel-light project was awarded £5000 by Smarter Choices, Smarter Places grant by Paths For All. Also supported by Forth Environment Link.

Travel-Light project successfully ran an Active Travel Survey with over 120 responses. Data from the survey and information collected through other mediums will be collated and an Riverside Active Travel Plan will be designed.

### **Seasonal Parcels**

Sub-group created initially to spread some Christmas Cheer within Riverside's Older Community and extended to include Spring time celebrations too.

2020 - 34 festive parcels were delivered around Riverside. Surplus was given to Nicola (From Betty Loves Violet) who was organising Christmas Meals and presents for local Stirling families facing hardship over the festive period.

2021 - Following on from the success of the Christmas Parcels, Easter Parcels were delivered by a group of volunteers to over 40 people around Riverside.

### **Community Resilience Plan**

Sup-group created to facilitate the updating and improving of Riverside Community's Resilience Plan.

The purpose of a resilience plan is to ensure the community is empowered to prepare, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.

Stirling Council's Climate and Nature Emergency Plan emphasises the need and importance of resilience plans.

Flooding is an important consideration for any Riverside plans.

### **Defibrillators**

Sub-group created in 2020 to support the group of Riverside residents that organised the installation of the three defibrillators Riverside has.

The first defibrillator was installed in 2017 and the devices and supplies have been provided by the Scottish Charity Lucky2BHere.

Riverside's Living Advent Windows had another successful fundraising event over Christmas with over 50 houses participating and over £550 raised for the defibrillator fund.

### **Environment**

Sub-group created to ensure environmental factors were considered through the actions and consideration of Riverside Community Council.

Hosted a lockdown litter pick in April involving twelve groups and twenty two bags of litter.

Running a Dog Fouling Awareness campaign and offering free poo bags, with over 400 been given out.

Developing an environmental policy to support Stirling Council and residents as we work to achieve the 2045 climate emergency goals.

## **Fairy Trail**

Sub-group created to add a bit of fun to the walks around Riverside and to boost spirits during lockdown.

Inspired by other communities and forest areas, fairy doors and accompanying furniture was created by members of the Riverside Community Council.

The doors were placed along the river path during Easter Weekend to for people to enjoy.

Unfortunately some doors were taken before they were fully appreciated.

This will be revisited as Riverside is the perfect place for fairies to live.

## **Lover's Walk**

Sub-group created to support the Stirling Council Participatory Budget Funded project to clean up and enhance Lover's Walk.

A tidy up and improved lighting was agreed by the residents after extensive discussion.

Lighting has been installed, the riverbank has been cut back and the fences have been repaired and painted.

We have liaised with Network Rail. Stirling Council is responsible for the pigeon issues.

Lover's Walk is an area that needs further money and time invested in it.

## **Parking**

Sub-group created to address the continuing issue of Parking in Riverside

Parking remains one of Riverside's key issues.

Riverside Community Council continues to liaise with Stirling Council regarding these issues.

Spaces for People – Temporary foot-way widening plans rejected on safety grounds. An awareness campaign was agreed upon.

Our aim is for clear communication and strong community engagement.

## **Other News**

### **Shiphaugh Centenary Commemorations**

The sign was installed and the tree is thriving. Copies of the leaflet are available online.

### **Heritage Trail Leaflets**

The heritage trail leaflets have been updated and printed. These are available online and in the leaflet holders next to our noticeboards.

### **Riverside Gateway**

Riverside Naturally and Riverside Community Council are hoping to make improvements to the green space bounded by Seaforth Place, Shore Road, Forth Place and Forth Crescent. We would like to make it a nicer place for people and wildlife.

### **Scotland Loves Local Grant**

We were awarded just over £500 for green projects around Riverside this money was split between Riverside Naturally for seasonal bulbs and the Riverbank centre for the community planters.

## **Planning**

Community councils have a statutory right to be consulted on applications for planning permission and the community council has a special role, representing a broader yet still local view which can be set alongside the comments of those with a more individual interest.

Forthside Development	Nothing further has happened with this development space. We will continue to monitor activity.
Riverside Quay	We objected to this application.
Short Term Lets	This planning application was rejected and is not going through the appeal process.

Our Huge Thanks to everyone who has supported and engaged with us throughout this year.

We truly appreciate your help and support.

## **5) Treasurer's Report**

Fiona Berrow presented the checked and authenticated accounts from 1st April 2020 until 5th April 2021.

In 2020-21 Riverside Community Council had a total income of £3,875.06.

This came from the Stirling Council admin grant (£236.56), Stirling Council Covid-19 support funding (£500), Community Pride funding (£390 for Riverside Heritage Trail leaflets and £1,500 for the Shiphaugh Centenary tree and information panel), a Paths for All grant (3286.03), Scotland Loves Local funding (3563.50) and surplus admin grant funds from previous years (£398.97).

The Community Council had a total expenditure of £4,641.70.

This was spent on admin expenses (£96.44), Covid-19 support (£436.32), repayment of Stirling Council funds from the previous year (£100.07), cards and gifts for community members/supporters (£45.00), west expenses (£98.86), Zoom subscription (£14.39 per month, £100.73 in total), ICO registration (£40), transfer of surplus admin funds from previous years (£398.97 to our unrestricted funds), community plants (£272.22), a Community Resilience workshop (£30), Active Travel & Sustainable Transport (£90), Shiphaugh Centenary tree and information panel (£1,512.00), Quiz prizes (£30), Heritage Trail leaflets (£390) and Notice boards (£157.08).

At the end of the financial year there was £1,988.45 in Riverside Community Council's bank account. Of this, £398.19 was unrestricted funds.

## **6) Appointment of Office Bearers**

Ashleigh Phillips proposed to maintain the status quo. Seconded Fiona Berrow

Chair – Joan Murphy

Vice Chair – Sue Dumbleton

Treasurer – Fiona Berrow

Secretary – Emily McLaughlin

Planning – Alison Swanson

## **7) Date of next Annual General Meeting**

27th April 2022