

Appendix A - Chairperson's Report

Lochwinnoch Community Council AGM Chairperson's Report

The past year has been a challenging one with much of the Community Council's time being taken up by matters that were presumed to have been resolved. However, we have been proactive in regard to a number of items that have been of concern to the village.

We were involved in resolving the issue of the bus service to the village which was under threat. We are very much involved in the planning issues that are of concern, particularly the Cala Homes proposal for Burnfoot Road and the creation of the new village Place Plan. Flooding and the resulting problems have also been on our agenda.

Concerns over speeding, parking and pedestrian safety have also been raised with the Community Council and we had a representative, Mr Mark Higgenbotham, of Renfrewshire Council come and talk to us at a recent meeting. We have been involved with the Renfrewshire Villages Traffic Safety Study and, further to a recent survey, there will be a public drop in event held in the McKillop Institute on Tuesday January 28th between the hours of 3pm and 7pm.

Other issues brought to our attention have been concerns over the Library opening hours, litter, dog fouling, street lighting and the condition of the pavements. In each case, we have raised these concerns with the Council and continue to monitor them.

The Community Council has also been liaising with LCDT for the benefit of the village and will continue to do so.

The Community Council is a statutory body and one that is important to the village. Renfrewshire Council are obliged to consult and inform the CC of matters affecting the village, they are not required to do so with any village organisation. It is imperative that the Community Council continues, and, to that end, we must attract new members. There has been a certain amount of negativity surrounding the CC, but we are all volunteers who give up our time for the benefit of the village and we do our best. With more members we can do better! Recruitment will have to be a major initiative going forward.

In short, the new year will see the Community Council following up on all the matters mentioned and dealing with any new concerns that are raised with us. Burnfoot Road, the Place Plan, flooding and resolving traffic issues being immediate priorities.

I would like to thank the members of the Community Council for their tireless efforts and to Councillors Doig and Gilmour for their regular attendance and constant support which is much appreciated.

I wish the new Chair and Community Council all the best in their endeavours.

Shona E Finnie
Outgoing Chair