



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 29 November 2023 – 19-30

The Chair, David Gilbert opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. He explained that to assist those having difficulty hearing the new PA system would be used. Microphones were available for anyone who wished to speak.

Apologies for Absence:

Received from: Rob Wells, Suzanne McIntyre, David Pickett, Councillor Malcolm Johnstone, Chris Woodness, Councillor Keith Walters, Alison Robertson.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

These had been posted on the website after the last meeting and hard copies were available if required. The Minutes were unanimously accepted as a record of the last AGM.

Chairperson's Report:

David Gilbert delivered his report as follows

I am pleased to report on a year during which we have seen a number of long term projects become reality. Early in the year we finally saw a 20mph speed limit put in place in Glencaple. We started this campaign in September 2018 and whilst I accept that the arrangement is "temporary" I would like to think it will become permanent in due course. A big thank you to our Councillors who have kept this at forefront of the agenda at D&G Council.

Our second big achievement was seeing the Playpark in Glencaple upgraded. Officially opened in the early summer this has been a really positive thing for the village's young children and their families. I would like to thank Kelly and Lauren for all their support working with me and the Council. We must also make special mention to the motor homes who donated the funds for this major, and costly, project

We were able to distribute a few Christmas gifts around the elderly last Christmas and will do so this year.

In the summer we held a successful event around the Coronation. I would like to think that if organisers are prepared to step forward that we should not be reliant on major events to bring the community together in this way; volunteers please.

The community also hosted a couple of other events, the first being the international cycling. Whatever your thoughts on this it showcased our beautiful countryside, was enjoyed by many, and generally regarded as a success. Nith Raid also took in Glencaple again and thanks to the generosity of the Jameson family the £150 parking fee was donated to CCA.

Finally we held our annual Remembrance Sunday services at the War Memorial and Quay End. The Memorial service was the best attended that I have witnessed. The Quay End was less so on a wet and cold night. I would like to thank Struan who piped magnificently, and our young people for lighting the Beacon. It would be good to see a better attendance at this annual event.

Throughout the year we have welcomed numerous visitors to the area, and the motorhomes have provided our income. I give particular thanks to Caerlaverock Estate who allow us to keep the income from Castle Corner. As I have said before, I know this subject splits opinions. Our Financial Report contains more information but data we collect from the motorhomes show that over the last year 134 have visited the Nith Hotel, 158 The Boathouse, 286 the Castle and over 127 WWT. Other businesses also benefitted. On the basis that there are at least two people per motorhome this puts into perspective the benefit this brings to our local businesses. Visitor feedback is almost universally 100% positive. Many cite us as an example to other rural communities.

As our year draws to a close I thank everyone who has contributed to making this another great year for Caerlaverock and particularly to the Committee for their support/guidance and our Ward Councillors for their help. I would like to mention a few people in particular. Firstly Malcolm and Jane who undertook so much whilst part of this community. Next Dick McKune who has been cutting our grass, Chris and Alison who have been keeping our finances on track/collecting donations and Alison preparing

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meeting minutes. For his hard work on the Website and all things IT I thank Fred Trigg as this was something the rest of us were not up to.

If I have a concern going forward it is that we need more people to assist with individual projects this next year, particularly Quay End. I said at the time when taking this position the word "Chair doesn't contain the letters "D&O"!

Treasurer's Report:

The Chair delivered the Financial Statement (attached) thanking Chris Jackson and Alison Robertson for their excellent stewardship of the finances. In summary CCA had a good year. Income for the year since the last AGM totalled £12,321.64. Expenditure totalled £14,946.98 which included the £10,000 contribution to the Play Park. Our usual annual expenditure was therefore £4,946.98 against an approved budget of £5,040. The Association therefore went into the new year with a healthy balance of £19,886.48, excluding allotment income which is held exclusively for that use. Allotment funds currently stand at £1,669.52.

Presenting the budget for 2023/24 the Chairman explained that there were standard expenses being running costs which he summarised totalling around £5,000 with additional capital expenditure required. Quay End and Castle Corner re-surfacing was due this year, as were works to the beacon and benches. Two alternatives for resurfacing were available. Make do and mend or use a contractor. Caerlaverock Estate had recommended a contractor and quotes obtained for each site. Castle Corner improvements would cost £2,750 plus VAT and Quay End £2,300 plus VAT compared to around £600 and £1,000 respectively. After discussion it was agreed to accept the quote for Castle Corner and The Estate to instruct with CCA to reimburse. The Quay End would be redressed with stone and the Brown family would once more assist in levelling and compacting. The revised draft budget as agreed is attached.

Amendments to the Constitution:

The Chair explained that as part of picking up the website and making amendments to improve its use a new Paypal account had been set up. To do so had required a statement and proof that we were a "Not for Profit" body. To avoid any issues in the future the Chair proposed that Item 1 be amended as follows:

"The name of the group shall be "Caerlaverock Community Association" (the Association). The status of the group shall be that of an unincorporated Not for Profit Association"

The proposal was carried unanimously.

Officers and Committee Members 2022/2023:

The Chair explained that the Constitution allowed for officers being Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and a small committee not exceeding 8 persons which represented each of the villages. He had received no requests from existing members to stand down. Malcolm Laurie having left the area was no longer Vice Chair. Additionally, Rona Carson had offered to represent Kelton and Fred Trigg Bankend. He had also stepped into Malcolm Laurie's shoes dealing with IT and our Website. Our current Committee is therefore:

Chair -David Gilbert

Vice Chair – unfilled

Secretary - unfilled



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Treasurer Chris Jackson

Committee Members – Ron Clark, Helen Clark, John Carson, Rona Carson, Fred Trigg, Kelly Green, Ian Brown

Any other Business:

There being no Other Business the Chair closed the meeting.



Appendices

Financial Statement

CCA non-allotment income since 2022 AGM

Balance at 2022 AGM	£22,511.82
Income this year	£12,321.64
New balance	£34,833.46
Spend this year	<u>£14,946.98</u>
Balance at 2023 AGM	£19,886.48

Allotments income since 2022 AGM

Balance at 2022 AGM	£1,691.48
Income this year	£657.78
New balance	£2,349.26
Spend this year	<u>£679.74</u>
Balance at 2023 AGM	£1,669.52



CCA Budget 2023-24

Item	£	
Website and IT	300	
Barbour Hall hire	100	
First Aid course	500	
Fuel and grass cutting	350	
Mower service	150	
Xmas plants	50	
Ancillary comms/envelopes	200	
Remembrance Wreath	50	
Gas bottle refill	90	
Insurances	150	
Waste Castle Corner	1500	
Works Castle Corner	2450	
Horticulture	200	
Quay End surface	1500	
Replace Beacon	3000	
Bench contribution	500	
Xmas lunch	<u>200</u>	£11,290
Contingency at	5%	<u>560</u>
Budget for year		11,850