

Maybole Community Council

Annual General Meeting 2024

Meeting held in the Chambers, Maybole Town Hall

7th May 2024

Mark Fletcher the current chairperson of the Community Council presented his report for May 2023 to April 2024. A copy of his report is attached.

S Mason presented the Treasurers report for May 2023 to April 2024. A copy of her report is attached.

Alison Wales then chaired the meeting for the nominations of Office Bearers.

Chairperson	Mark Fletcher	Proposed Seconder	R Stevenson M Agnew
Vice Chairperson	Max Agnew	Proposed Seconded	S Mason R Stevenson
Secretary	Roy Birnie	Proposed Seconded	S Mason M Agnew
Treasurer	Senga Mason	Proposed Seconded	M Agnew R Birnie
Licensing/Planning	Jim Paterson	Proposed Seconded	R Stevenson S Mason

M Fletcher thanked Alison for chairing this part of the meeting.

Maybole CC Agm chairs report. May 2024 Thank you to all who have given support over the year and for having the faith in me to represent you and your community as chair of Maybole community council. Thanks to the councillors for your regular attendance , support and for listening to us and the community and acting on our requests accordingly. Alison for your help and involvement and for the very useful updates on youth actions. To the other office bearers Senga and Sarah now resigned Max as vice chair ,Jim for keeping a watchful eye on planning and licensing liaison and to Roy for stepping up after Sarah's resignation. It was good to see the police back at the table in March after a long time away and hopefully we can re build the former relationship that was so useful to us and them. After a 3 year gap having no community association it's good to see that a new group has established now known as the Maybole entertainments committee . Thankyou to Alison and the thriving communities team for supporting them through the process. Last year the gala was replaced with an historic event around Robert the Bruce led by NCCBC . This year as it was already in the planning stages , we will see a bigger event celebrating the Bruce's 750th anniversary of his birth but then going forward the entertainments group will decide what happens and they may well do something as well. A replacement for the Merkat cross has been commissioned and it's hoped this will be place in time for the event outside the town hall . It will have various plaques on it to represent key elements of Maybole history and will include a maqauque of the Bruce at the top and will form part of Bruce's web across north Carrick . We hope to have a royal here to unveil it . Thanks go to Mike Newall and officers and the councillors for there support of the installation through wards money . It was part of the public realm works but that's another story. We have seen the completion of the new campus buildings and will soon appreciate the new landscaping, parking and drop off and the great sports facilities for both the school and community use. Many emotions and sentiments have been shared over the closure of the multiple schools and the new campus but our belief is the young folk are enjoying the new modern facilities. The former sites of the primaries will see either new developments or regeneration of the old and we can watch as those develop. Interesting to see the time capsule uncovered during demolition . Last year I spoke with great optimism of the town regeneration as Covid was behind us and we could now progress without that complication. We have now seen the opening of the refurbished town hall along with the former charity shop now the gatherings . Both buildings were not without there many problems and the shop is still undergoing minor snagging but the visual impact of these buildings can't be under estimated . The castle got off to a good start but is now running months behind for many reasons. Unfortunately it's where my optimism finishes and doubts begin to set in about the project. Whilst we had hoped to see other projects coming through and the enhancement of the public realm the project has stalled or at least appears to have done for several months now. We lost Corene to the Girvan project last year although she has helped where possible but was not replaced and Duncan left suddenly in December and it transpired that the deadline for application for the public realm works was missed. A new council officer has been appointed who is very qualified and very capable and has been catching up and familiarising with the project but detail and information is very slow coming through and there have been no regular meetings with the community reps . We hope this will sort over the next couple of months as there is a huge amount of misinformation and discontent from the community out there and face book has been extremely hostile to the project and at times to the community reps involved have been verbally abused on the street . No one recognises more the frustration at the lack of progress than us and we truly hope the project can turn around but we have no where to send people for information and we don't know what is happening . These concerns have been shared with the CEO and every effort is being made to get this back on track. I recognise that with the high volume of capital projects across south Ayrshire resources are stretched but the regen project has funding for the extra staff that it needs. The uptake of grants from owners has been minimal and those that have engaged have been held up for many reasons and some beyond their control. The biggest hurdles to uptake are the procurement rules for professional support and the limited number of qualified companies, limited uptake from local contractors again for many reasons and mostly procurement hurdles and then the biggest by far is the constantly rising cost of materials and the fact quotes in some cases are only valid on the day they're issued. The missing of key funding deadlines led to further consultation for the public realm and this caused untold frustration . The idea of the mews where the gatherings stands next to the 2 derelict shops was squashed due to an owner that couldn't wait 4 weeks and then sold out at auction from under the noses of the project for little more than what was being offered . This would have removed 1 derelict

and 2 bordering on derelict properties and created 9 residential and 5 shop units . The gatherings building has been turned around and the flat will be fitted out this year(not under the project) , looks like some work starting at 48 (not part of the project) but number 50 has been abandoned and will collapse eventually. A second bite of the cherry for a mews is still hopefully a possibility but information and detail is scarce even for those investing in the project. If this becomes a reality then we can hold our heads up high. It has been said by many and it would be difficult to argue the point, that since the opening of the bypass the high street has gotten worse and has literally become a car park and more surprisingly we are seeing more and more lorries coming back through the town and the reason the drivers give is because the by pass requires more breaking and gear changing because of the islands and the initial incline heading south guzzles the diesel . Whether it's right or wrong its a fact they are back using the high street. The founding principals of the regen was to bring life back to the town by redeveloping shops where possible, create housing if necessary and to make the high street safer to walk with at the very least wider paths . It's safe to say the regen is far from concluded and miles away from the vision and has little time left to achieve its goals . On a positive note with massive support from SAC we saw the introduction of a new skate park which the young people of the town were very keen to see happen . After some snagging it has now been cleared for use and we can arrange an official opening. Our action plans are now out of date and will be replaced with place plans that align more to council requirements . I fear consultation fatigue and whilst we can see huge progress since the last action plans , most will not see it . We have to work to get good and meaningful engagement from the town or any progress stops. The process is to bring through a place plan that aligns more to council policies and practises so the document becomes adopted by SAC and our Cc. We are low on members and if we can we should encourage people to join the Cc as there is a real possibility of loosing momentum and continuation relies on new people . We should remember that all cc members need to be engaged with the wider community to ensure that we continue to ascertain, co ordinate and express the views of the community in a meaningful way , even if it's not always positive. Thankyou all again for your support and for all that you do in the community and long May we make a difference.

Maybole Community Council

Accounts

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Income

South Ayrshire Council Grant (Town Hall Event)	£ 631.80
Eventbrite	£ 912.21
South Ayrshire Council Grant	£ <u>950.00</u>
Ticket Money	£ <u>120.00</u>
Skatepark Grant (NCCBC)	£50,000.00

£52614.01

Balance as at 31 March 2024 £16155.89

Income £ 52614.01

£ 68769.90

Less Expenditure £ 15222.17

£ 53547.73

Expenditure

Remembrance Day Service	£ 147.29
Stationery	£ 119.88
Tragic O'Hara Graffiti	£1250.00
I.C.O.	£ 40.00
Zurich Insurance	£ 97.20
Scotlands Towns Partnership	£ 114.80
Secretarial Expenses	£ 100.00
South Ayrshire Council	£9321.00
Old Spout Project	£4032.00

£15222.17

Bank Balance as at 31 March 2024 £ 55177.02

Less Outstanding cheques £ 1749.29

£53427.73

Cash in hand £ 120.00

Accounts Prepared by S Mason

£53547.73

Senga G Mason

Accounts audited by C Rennie

C Rennie

Funds ring-fenced for current projects is £ 52050.00