

Lenzie Community Council AGM - Thursday 21st October 2009

Chairperson's Statement

First and foremost may I welcome you all to Lenzie Community Council's Annual General Meeting. My name is Suzanne Smith and I am the current Chairperson.

You will be relieved to know that I do not intend to speak for long, but would nevertheless like to give an overview of the activities that the Community Council has been involved with over the past year. You may be aware that we have four 'regular' events, as it were, which take place every year – the Lenzie Jog, the Gala, the Charity Christmas Card Fayre and the switching on of the Christmas lights. All of these events were organised by community council members, which is no mean feat considering there are only eight of us, although I would like to take this opportunity to thank our local Councillors for their assistance, as well as the Police, the Lenzie Scouts and the Kirkintilloch Olympians. The events were well attended and we were fortunate with the weather for all of them.

In addition to these events the Community Council exists to represent the views of local residents and to take action on community issues. We receive a monthly report from our Community Police officers on crimes that have taken place over the previous month and initiatives with which the police are involved – we are also able to pass on any concerns raised by local residents with these officers. In addition to the posts of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, one of our members takes specific responsibility for reviewing planning applications and another is the Access Officer. Over the course of the year we have looked at issues such as the flooding at the pathway adjacent to the Gadloch and the path network around the new Kirkintilloch Link Road; we have tried to restore the clock at the Queens Building to working order (this matter is still ongoing); we have worked with First ScotRail with regard to the planters at Lenzie Station and we have received updates on the Kirkintilloch Link Road project and from the Healthy Habits Team.

We also like to try and help out local community groups where at all possible and this year we have provided donations to the Lenzie Youth Club for their annual football festival, the Lenzie Churches for their holiday club and the Lenzie Flower Club to support them at the Chelsea Flower Show. We have also donated funds to groups such as the Lenzie Scouts, the Kirkintilloch Olympians, the Kirkintilloch Players and the Kirkintilloch Brass Band, who provide assistance at our regular events.

One new initiative this year has been the creation of our brand new website, which I hope you will take the opportunity to look at (lenziecommunitycouncil.org.uk) – for this I would like to say a very big thank you to our Secretary, Tom Gray, who has worked tirelessly to bring the website to fruition. We hope that you will find it a useful way to keep in touch with the community council and let us know about any issues that are concerning you.

On a personal note I would like to thank each and every member of the community council for their invaluable help and support over this year. Can I remind you about our next event, the Charity Christmas card fayre, which takes place on Saturday 14th November (Lenzie Old Parish Church).

Finally can I just say that the Community Council is very keen to attract new members who are able to contribute, either by attending our monthly meetings or by helping to organise one of the regular events; in other words even if you do not have a great deal of free time but were able to help out on Gala day for example, or as a marshal for the Lenzie Jog or the Christmas lights, we would still be delighted to hear from you.