

Lenzie Community Council AGM – Wednesday 17th November 2010

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 will not be making a lengthy speech, but would nevertheless like to give an overview of the activities that the Community Council has been involved with over the past year.

We have been very fortunate this year that three new members have joined Lenzie Community Council, bringing with them useful skills and experience from their working lives. They have already taken an active role in community council activities.

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 switch on of the Christmas lights. The bulk of the organisation for these events falls to community council members, although I would like to take this opportunity to thank our local Councillors for their support, as well as the Police and the Lenzie Scouts who assist us on Gala day and with the lights. Unfortunately we were unable to hold the Jog this year due to the adverse weather conditions, however the sun shined brightly for the Gala and we are keeping our fingers crossed for a cold, crisp, dry night for the Christmas lights.

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. Our Secretary, Tom Gray, takes an active interest in access issues and continues to monitor the flooding to the pathway adjacent to the Gadloch, as well as other pathways.

I would also like to mention Duncan MacIntyre, who stepped down from the community council this year after many years service. Duncan was a great supporter of community council events, along with his wife. He also took on the responsibility of reviewing planning applications for our Ward and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his valuable contribution. One of our new members, John MacFadden has taken over the responsibility for monitoring planning applications and is doing a fantastic job.

We are continuing to work to restore the clock at the Queens Building to working order and were fortunate to receive generous donations from some of the businesses there towards the costs of these repairs. In addition, our partnership working with First ScotRail continues with regard to the planters at Lenzie Station. In recent months four of our members have been involved in the consultation on East Dunbartonshire Council's budget review. We were well represented at the public meeting on road improvements and parking and last month we held a talk on the M80 extension and upgrade project.

We 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 and the Lenzie Churches for their holiday club. We also donate funds to groups who provide assistance at our regular events such as the Lenzie Scouts, Kirkintilloch Kelvin Brass, the Lenzie churches and the Kirkintilloch Olympians.

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 Christmas lights switch on, which takes place at 5.30pm on Saturday 4th December at 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 contributing to 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. Please remember our website - lenziecommunitycouncil.org.uk - we hope that you will find this a useful way to keep in touch and to let us know about any issues that are concerning you