

**WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2007 at 7.00PM
WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Kirsty Donnelly
Pamela Noble
Elaine Blue
Cheryl Cairns
Iain Buchan
Sharon Tucker
Willie Wilson (Inverclyde Council)

Jenny Eaton
Michel Barrett
Denise Anderson
Allison Battley
Lynda Kelly
Robert Kelly

Apologies: Bobbie McCabe
Donna Galvin
Ann-Marie Cockburn

Jackie Watt
Stephen Renton

Welcome

Kirsty Donnelly in the chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending this year's Annual General Meeting.

Annual Report 2005/2006

Kirsty confirmed that once again this has been a very successful year for the Community Association. The Community Centre, one of the busiest in Inverclyde with regular lets, including the Nursery, Tiny Tots, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Junior and Senior Bible Clubs, Youth Club, Dance classes, Judo, Karate, Football and Sunday School, as well as now being used for the Brownies Country Dancing team rehearsals and also hosting the school Basketball and Athletic after school clubs. Outwith the times of these lets numerous one off bookings fill most of the remaining space and the ability to hire the centre, complete with bouncy castle or disco, for birthday parties continues to be popular and most weekends a party takes place on the Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings. In addition to parties and various meetings, other irregular lets have included parliamentary surgeries for both local MPs and MSP's and used again as a Polling Station.

Throughout the year a number of free lets were given for charitable fundraising events and this is something, which we will hopefully continue to offer.

Contributions were given towards The Wemyss Bay Woodland Associations annual Bulb Appeal, our local Karate Group, the Parent Teachers Association, the Scouts, and to Allison Carmichael our young guider to help towards her costs for a working trip to Malawi.

Some of our major outgoings in this financial period were an upgrade in the electrics, new chairs, new disco lights, re-turfing of the area out by the park and a new container due to the lack of storage.

The Annual Gala also surpassed those of previous years and once again it was decided to extend the event over three days starting on the Friday with a family themed fancy dress and music evening. On Saturday we had our traditional Gala Day, with lots of stalls, entertainment, displays, sideshows and fairground attractions that proved popular with young and old alike. Many more user groups ran stalls than in previous years, which, in addition to raising their profile within the village, also provided a welcome boost to their own individual funds. Sunday was turned over to the Ardgowan Football Development's Annual Prize giving, displays and tournament. An undertaking of this sort depends on an army of volunteers and by the time of the Gala the community had pulled together to provide a willing team of helpers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all on the committee who worked tirelessly for months in advance to ensure that everything ran smoothly on the day and made the gala the success it is.

At the Annual Christmas Lights switch on as usual, Inverclyde Council provided tea, coffee and mince pies for the adults and juice and crisps for the youngsters and our thanks must be extended to them. However the Association decided to boost the festive cheer by serving mulled wine and shortbread and having Santa in his fabulous grotto handing out 250 Christmas lucky

bags to the children resulting in around 700 people congregating in the community centre after the switch on generating a real community spirit. The addition of a small Christmas Market run by various user groups added to the festive cheer. Our thanks are also extended to the Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council for providing a children's entertainer at this event.

Eila and Ken Roberts continued during the March 06 and March 07 financial year in the writing/editing and advertising of the Village News which has expanded to a 16 or 20 page A5 booklet split roughly evenly between text and advertising and is making an excellent regular profit.

My thanks are extended to those who held the positions of Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Asst Treasurer, and Facilities Manager up to the end of the financial year 31st March 2007, Ian Buchan, Elaine Blue, Stephen McFeeley and Pamela Noble.

Finally thanks must be extended to everyone involved with the Community Association, whether committee members, user groups, gala volunteers or members of the local community who make use of the centre or attend special events. Without all of these people we would not have an Association because we would not have a community.

Cheryl Cairns confirmed that at the end of the previous financial year the Association had £35,400 cash in the bank and by the end of the financial year 2006/2007 there was £35,452.05 cash in the bank. Cheryl confirmed that Gala income was £9,148 although expenses were £12,254 – resulting overall in a £3,106 loss for the Gala. Expenses for the printing of the Village News were just under £7,022 and income was £8,487 – resulting overall in a £1,465 profit. Gas and electricity costs for the year were £4,261.38. Income for the year was £32,223 and expenditure was £32,525. Main expenses for the year were hall maintenance, re-turfing, Gala and Village News. A copy of the Accounts audited by Rosalind Woolard were available for anyone wanting to view them.

Kirsty then asked if anyone had any other business to be brought up or any questions. Willie Wilson asked the Committee if there were any plans for the £35,000 sitting in the bank. The Committee confirmed that we were soon to lose income for the regular let to Inverclyde Council Education Department - who paid to use the Centre for nursery activities - when the nursery moved into the completed school. This income allows the Centre to run without making a loss at the moment but given that this was due to stop sometime next year the Committee had to be cautious as this money would be needed to run the Centre for the next couple of years. New and fresh ideas would need to be looked at to fill the "gap" when the nursery leave but at the moment it was felt appropriate not to spend money on any major projects. Willie Wilson commended the Association for thinking ahead and thinking of the long term running of the Centre.

The Committee then officially stood down and the meeting was then passed to Willie Wilson of Inverclyde Council. Willie Wilson again congratulated the Association on their efforts over the last year and advised that we are an example of good practice to other voluntary managed halls in the area. Willie Wilson then asked for nominees for the position of Chairperson - Kirsty was nominated by Elaine Blue and seconded by Denise Anderson and was again elected as Chairperson. Elaine Blue was nominated as Secretary by Kirsty Donnelly and seconded by Michele Barrett. Iain Buchan was nominated as Vice-Chair and Facilities Manager by Jenny Eaton and seconded by Kirsty Donnelly. Cheryl Cairns was nominated as Treasurer by Kirsty Donnelly and seconded by Elaine Blue. Pamela Noble was nominated as Assistant Treasurer by Kirsty Donnelly and seconded by Denise Anderson. Kirsty further advised that there was another position of Letting Secretary which she had undertaken and asked if there was anyone else willing to take this role on – no-one came forward for this role and Kirsty was nominated again by Jenny Eaton and seconded by Denise Anderson. The meeting was then handed back to Kirsty as Chairperson. Five committee members were elected as Pamela Noble, Jenny Eaton, Ann Marie Cockburn, Michele Barrett and Denise Anderson.

This brought the AGM to a conclusion.