



## **Jackton & Thorntonhall Community Council**

**Date: 15th November 2023**

**Time: 7:30pm**

**Venue: Thorntonhall Tennis Club**

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Present/Apologies**

**Present:** Claire Marr - Chairman, Sandy McEwan - Vice Chairman, Janice Edwards - Secretary, Mark Aitken, Bill Turner, David Milloy, David Ross, Cllr. David Watson, Norrie Suckle.

**Apologies:** Cllr. A. Buchanan, Cllr. M. Buchanan, Douglas Eunson – Treasurer

#### **2. Approval of Previous AGM Minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> Janice Edward, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy McEwan

#### **3. Chairperson's Report – Claire Marr**

Similar to last year, there remains an issue of the low number of people attending the monthly meeting. Apart from anything else, this has resulted in a smaller pool of possible candidates for Office Bearer positions. Indeed, replacing the Chairs position took a couple of months in the early part of the year. It also makes it harder to fairly represent the views of all parts of the community council 'catchment area'.

Last year, flyers were issued to new homes to advertise the Community Council, but this did not seem to generate interest. Ideas for increasing attendance at the meetings have been a regular topic for discussion. It was agreed to try a Jackton venue as a way of attracting new people to come to our meetings.

Our first meeting at a Jackton venue last month (October) did attract a bigger number of people. We were made very welcome by the team at the Jackton Distillery, and we are grateful for their hospitality. Hopefully the increase in numbers is the start of a positive trend and not just the novelty factor of an interesting new venue with tea, coffee, and biscuits. It is also fair to say that when the steam hits the barley, you need to project your voice! Apologies for not having a stronger voice, we may need to get a microphone for next time.

In terms of the business for the Community Council, the main issues are planning, road safety and removal of trees and hedges. One notable idea is a possible application for a neighbourhood centre with retail, on the edge of Thorntonhall. Whether this leads to a planning application is undecided. Currently in Jackton, a consortium of builders are building both to the north of Eaglesham Road and to the south, on either side of the Newhouse Road leading up to Lindsayfield. These developments are part of the Community Growth Area masterplan which will lead to an increase of approximately 2,500 homes.

Thanks are due to our South Lanarkshire Council Councillors who have attended our meetings, helped keep us informed and answering questions. Thanks to David Watson, Ali Salamat, Kirsty Williams, and Mathew Buchanan. Our SLC Admin support from Elizabeth Harrison is also appreciated. The others who need to be thanked are the Office Bearers: Janice Edwards, Secretary; Sandy McEwen, Vice Chair; Douglas Eunson, Treasurer; and our committee members: Bill Turner, David Ross, David Milloy and Mark Aitken. And last but certainly not least, a massive thank you to Fiona McRae for her years of commitment in various roles. We were sad to see Fiona leave in the early part of this year.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report – Douglas Eunson**

##### **Balances on the accounts:**

RBS Treasurer's: £5461.75 includes Microgrant funds.

BOS Savings: £1143.73

##### **Microgrants awarded:**

Thorntonhall Planters: £500

Association of Certificated Field Archaeologists: £500

##### **Debits.**

Remuneration of Secretary and Treasurer: £100 in total

Scotways subscription: £20

Hall rent: £360

Domain name renewal: £64

Due to a shift to online banking the Bank of Scotland savings account will be closed, and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Reserve account has been opened with RBS. The funds transfer will take place once the new account number has been received.

#### **5. Secretary's Report – Janice Edwards**

The Community Council have held a total of nine meetings since the last AGM on November 16th, 2022. A meeting on February 15th, 2023, was cancelled as we were not quorate. Eight of the meetings were held in the Thorntonhall Tennis Club. The Jackton catchment area is growing in population and the October JTCC meeting was held in the Raer Distillery, Jackton. It was well attended.

Office Bearers have changed since the last AGM to present. We added two new community council members in November 2022, Mark Aitken, and David Milloy. Fiona McCrae was elected Chairman and Sandy McEwan Vice Chairman. Unfortunately, Fiona had to resign in March due to family commitments and Claire Marr was elected in May as our new Chair.

### **The current elected members**

Chair: Claire Marr

Vice Chair: Sandy McEwan

Treasurer: Douglas Eunson

Secretary: Janice Edwards

Members: Mark Aitken, David Ross, Bill Turner, David Milloy.

Meetings agendas and minutes are prepared for all meetings and distributed to South Lanarkshire Council, local Councillors, the police, and to an email list of community members. They are also posted on the Jackton & Thorntonhall Community Council website. The AGM was additionally advertised on local social media websites and the community notice board.

A permanent flyer has been posted on the community notice board with contact information, meeting location and dates for 2022-23. It is hoped that an additional community notice board can be sited near the new Jackton primary school in the next six months.

South Lanarkshire councillors are invited to every meeting, and we have been fortunate to have a councillor present at almost every meeting. The local community police were invited to participate but are now unable, due to competing community pressures on the police force and reduced staffing. The police report has been removed from the agenda and minutes.

The email list of community members has increased to 165, an increase of approximately 30 in the past year.

A generic email address has now been created for J&TCC, [JackthornCC@gmail.com](mailto:JackthornCC@gmail.com) so that email is not sent from a personal address.

The J&TCC Facebook page is now updated regularly with local events, activities, South Lanarkshire Council information, and items of community interest and has 440 followers. FB posts are also made on the Friends of Jackton Community pages as appropriate.

In relation to correspondence this is generally conducted by email and mainly centred on infrastructure issues – upcoming road works and closures, planning applications etc. Also, emailing surveys on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council and other official bodies, distribution of relevant local information and notices of upcoming events. These also generate feedback or requests for information.

The office of Secretary provides a very varied list of issues that require attention and liaising with other bodies. Much of the effort involves interaction with peer community council members, local councillors, and South Lanarkshire Council departments on various matters of concern to our residents or advising residents whom they should contact to deal with their queries and concerns.

Several issues requiring such liaison were reported over the year including road works, closed roads, detours, flooded roads, blocked drains and gullies, icy roads and lack of gritting. Also, speeding, heavy vehicles and straight lining over the mini roundabouts on Peel Rd. Hedge removal, fence heights, overgrown bushes, blocked pavements, poor sightlines, overflowing street bins and fly tipping.

Some achievements this year were two new streetlights in Thorntonhall on Wellknowe Place and Ardbeg Lane and two automated speed control signs on

Peel Road on the North and South side of the village. Two litter picks were completed and microgrants were approved for flowers for the village planters, funding for a community Christmas Party and a Queen's Jubilee Tree.

Many thanks to Susan Hunter, Field Archaeologist and her volunteer team for completing three years of research on the history of Thorntonhall and surrounding areas. Micro grants have enabled this, and it has now gone to print. Susan will present their findings at CC meeting in the New Year.

## **6. Election of Office Bearers**

### **Re-Election of Officers**

Claire Marr	Chairman	1 <sup>st</sup> Bill Turner	2 <sup>nd</sup> David Ross
Sandy McEwan	Vice Chairman	1 <sup>st</sup> Janice Edwards	2 <sup>nd</sup> Claire Marr
Douglas Eunson	Treasurer	1 <sup>st</sup> Sandy McEwan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Janice Edwards
Janice Edwards	Secretary	1 <sup>st</sup> Claire Marr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sandy McEwan

### **Acceptance of Office:**

Returning members: Mark Aiken, David Milloy, David Ross, Bill Turner

## **7. Adoption of Constitution/Standing Orders**

The Constitution and Standing Orders have been adopted, and the Constitution signed.

## **8. Dates of Meetings**

It was agreed that the council would continue to meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. The regular venue is the Thorntonhall Tennis Club.

As the December meeting falls in the Christmas week and many of the committee members are unable to attend due to personal commitments and public attendance has been low, it was agreed to remove this meeting from the schedule.

The community council will now have nine meetings annually. There will be no meeting in July, August and December.

**The business of the Annual General Meeting concluded at 8.00PM.**