

Cawdor & West Nairnshire Community Council - Annual General Meeting Monday 13th June 2022

Chair's Report

On behalf of the committee and myself, thank you for attending our AGM tonight.

It's been another not so busy first half of the year in and around Cawdor, as far as public events and activities, due to the Covid restrictions, which I hope are in the past now. Nevertheless, we did manage some good things around the Cawdor area.

We got the play parks in Cawdor and Clephanton all completed, with new bark, the equipment painted and fencing completed. Many thanks to all involved in this project.

Also, the Christmas market stall at Cawdor Castle was a big success, which raised £450 for the Community Council. Many thanks to all involved and thanks to Cawdor Castle for inviting us to this event.

The Cawdor Spring clean was also a very successful event, which was held on 26th March. I could not attend, but have been told that there was not as much litter as normal, which is a good sign.

And on the subject of clean villages, we are working hard to get the feral cat situation under control, working closely with the Cats Protection group to capture the cats and get them neutered, to prevent further litters of kittens. This is an on-going project.

We have completed the Cawdor Area Rescue Plan with maps and contact details. Big thanks to Lizzy for pulling this together.

We also got funding from the Wind Farm organisation to supply new plants for around the village area. We got new defibrillator signage put around the village. Thanks to Dougie who arranged the signs.

In general, the Cawdor ward is looking well in terms of appearance in that not many complaints have been voiced, which is a good sign. This brings me to give a very big thank you to our village gardeners Jean and Sandy Ford and Gordon Robertson, who was taken on as the new apprentice last year. I now believe he has passed the test.

On the subject of gardens, Jenny and John Rose Miller had a 2-day open garden event, which raised £1600 for charity, to be split 3 ways between the Nairn Museum, the Ukraine help fund and a Leukaemia charity. Very well done to Jenny and John.

At this point, I would just like to say that Wind Farm funding is available through an application procedure, which can be accessed through the Winds of Change website. Please, if you have any good ideas or projects you would like to see around the area, get your applications in asap. The money is there to support the Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community. Wind Farm money helped to support West Nairnshire Safer Paths on the new path at Clephanton.

Moving on to planning applications, generally very little this last year from the Cawdor and West Nairnshire area. Once again, can I just say that people should be aware if they need a voice to please write to the Secretary or come forward to the Community Council meeting to share their concerns.

I would like to thank local Councillors attending our meetings and always willing to assist in any matters we have. It is very much appreciated. On a much sadder note, we lost a very popular Councillor, Mr Tom Heggie, who would try and help as much as he could for the Cawdor Community and others. I personally knew Tom as a minister, a security guard at Cawdor Castle, a school teacher and a Councillor. He was a gentleman and will be sadly missed.

Which brings me on to local Community Councillors. I would like to thank Lizzy, Dougie, Alastair and our two new members Rowie and Scott, who joined us on 1st February at our Interim meeting, for their continued support and help, and to everyone who has supported Cawdor Community throughout the year.

I would just like to finish by saying please all stay safe and let's hope that we all get back to normal as best we can. Thanks to all the Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community.