bgk.org.uk
Thursday,15th October 2026, 19:00
Gannochy Community Hall
Chair: Jack Rivett

Minutes

Part 1 – Annual General Meeting

1. Welcome and Apologies
    a. Attending: Jack Rivett (Chair), Dee Macfarlane, Sophie Younger-Dowse, Malcolm Younger, David Nicoll, Grant Stephens, Cllr Eric Drysdale, and 3 members of the public
    b. Apologies: Cllr Chris Ahern, David Fulton, Lyndsey Baker
2. Adoption of Minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 16th October 2025
    a. Proposed: Dee Macfarlane
    b. Seconded: Sophie Younger-Dowse
3. Adoption of Minutes of the EGM held on Thursday 6th November 2025
    a. Proposed: Dee Macfarlane
    b. Seconded: Jack Rivett
4. Chair's Report
    a. See Appendix A: Chair's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Accounts
    a. The Bank Balance is £3066.87
    b. Of which Beautiful Bridgend funds amount to £241.78 plus the £500 to come from the Jimmie Cairncross Trust.
    c. Millenium Park and Community Council funds total £2825.09
6. Election of Office Bearers
    a. Chairperson: David Fulton
        i. Proposed: Jack Rivett
        ii. Seconded: Dee Macfarlane
    b. Vice Chairperson: Jack Rivett
        i. Proposed: Sophie Younger-Dowse
        ii. Seconded: Dee Macfarlane
7. Any Other Business
    a. Malcolm Younger has been co-opted as a member of the community council for specific projects
8. Date of Next AGM
    a. Thursday 21st October 2027, 7pm in Gannochy Community Hall

Part 2 – Quarterly Public Meeting

1. Welcome and Apologies
    a. Attendance and apologies as recorded in Part 1
2. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Public Meeting held 20th August 2026
    a. Proposed: Sophie Younger-Dowse
    b. Seconded: Dee Macfarlane
3. Councillors Report (Cllr Eric Drysdale)
    a. A letter from the Minister for Public Finance on public service reform was shared

        i. Community councils are encouraged to take part in the consultation on the proposed reforms to council areas
    b. Issues were raised about the repairs being carried out on Lochy Brae
        i. Cllr Drysdale is aware of the issue and has forwarded it to the relevant PKC department
    c. City centre regeneration funding is being spent, including on window replacements
        i. The £20,000 allocation for Bridgend has been confirmed
4. Matters Arising
    a. Bridgend Appearance
        i. Concern was raised about the poor condition of the MacIntyre building, and this has been followed up with the council
        ii. Surveys of the building have been requested, which could help take the issue further
        iii. The Scottish Government is suggesting that multiple-occupancy buildings be handed over to owner/occupier groups
        iv. Shop-front support is available through Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust, and this has been passed on to the owner of the broken shop window
        v. Banners are being planned for Main Street as a way to celebrate the area
    b. Local Place Plan
        i. The draft report is being formatted
        ii. Feedback days are being planned around the area
    c. Beautiful Bridgend
        i. See Appendix B: Beautiful Bridgend Report
5. Open Forum
    a. The path between Gannochy Road and Muirhall Road is in a bad state again
        i. It was suggested that future planning permissions be made conditional on the path being repaired, as it is owned by a developer
6. Date of Next Public Meeting:
    a. Thursday 21st January 2027, 7pm in Gannochy Community Hall

Appendix A: Chair's Report

Good evening everyone, and thank you for coming.

This has been a year where we moved from talking about our area to actually doing something for it. Before I get into that, I want to thank Lyndsey Baker, who chaired the council for most of the year and has now stepped down as Chair, though thankfully she is staying on as a member. Thank you, Lyndsey.

We set out to make ourselves easier to find. Our Facebook page has grown to more than 1,400 followers, we have started an Instagram account, and our website now carries our minutes and agendas. New BGK signage has gone up around Bridgend, and the Bridgend notice board now has a handsome engraved wooden logo above it. We are also working with the school to take over its notice board, which is still a work in progress.

The most visible change has been Beautiful Bridgend. Thanks to funding from the Lang Foundation, the land trust and Perth and Kinross Council, we now have planters at Smeaton's Bridge and along the railings, looked after by volunteers and the walled garden team. They look wonderful, but we still need hands, particularly for carrying heavy things, and new plants for winter.

That energy has also helped us make the case for Bridgend itself. After a walkabout with council officers, £20,000 has been confirmed for improvements, including banners celebrating the people and industries our area is known for. The Macintyre building remains a worry. Windows have been boarded up without permission, the council is now involved, and we will keep pressing for it to be properly looked after.

Our biggest project is the Local Place Plan, which will give the community a real say in how our area develops. A working group has been meeting since the spring, the survey has had a strong response, and every section of the draft has now come in. It is being formatted as we speak, and we are close. The one gap is the voice of our children, as we are still waiting to hear back from the school, so if you have any influence there, please use it.

On roads and traffic, we have had some wins: the railings on Dundee Road are fixed, the speed sign on Scone Road is working, the Scone to Smeaton Bridge cycle path has been cleaned, and the old sign outside the sign shop has gone. Other issues are slower. The pedestrian crossing at Kinnoull Primary is a council priority, but there is still no date. Since the Cross Tay Link Road opened, traffic at Bridgend has got worse, and we are working with Scone Community Council to take that to our councillors.

Finally, my thanks to all the councillors, especially Councillor Ahern and the council officers who have helped us, to Kilmac, and above all to the volunteers and residents who completed the path between Gannochy Road and the top of Murrays Crescent

Appendix B: Beautiful Bridgend Report

Dee Macfarlane

Planters

- Four planters are now in place
- Lyndsey Baker and the Walled Garden team have refurbished them and varnished them a rich natural gold
- We can place the Beautiful Bridgend logo on them, and we also plan to add a notice thanking the Walled Garden team
- The Beechgrove Garden have given us amazing help and advice on filling the planters

Funding and Supplies

- We have received £500 from the Jimmie Cairncross Trust for Christmas decorations
- Sophie is pursuing Adam Webb regarding a Christmas tree and can update
- We currently have £1,500 credit with PKC for plants, compost and equipment, and I will send that order in soon

Spring Pollinator Bulbs

- We are expecting delivery soon of 600 spring pollinator bulbs, supplied free of charge by the PKC Biodiversity Group
- I considered ordering a similar amount for the whole BGK area through the Community Council, but felt we have enough going on this autumn
- If anyone else would like to take this on, please let me know and I will order them

Bank Account

- I have made enquiries about opening a separate bank account for Beautiful Bridgend, and Virgin seems to be the best option
- I will sort this after my holiday

Thanks

- Many thanks to Jack and David N for their help in getting the planters transported and in place