

# **Balloch Castle Regeneration Group**

**AGM Minutes 5/9/24**

**Balloch House Hotel**

Sally welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance.

## **PRESENT**

Sally Page, Chair, Audrey Baird, Vice Chair, Catherine O'Hare, Treasurer,  
Gillian Clark, Secretary, Matt Buckland

Karon Battersby

Cara Bowden (CHAS)

Gillian Hastie (Hairy Coo Trail Artist)

Duncan Royle, EFTEC

Andy

Angela Burns

Robert and Jan Shields

Barbara Barnes (Alexandria CC)

Fiona Jenkins (Bonhill CC)

Beth & Jen (LL Fisheries Trust)

Helen

Ian Bain

Duncan Hammond

## **APOLOGIES**

Dame Jackie Baillie MSP

Pam Gosal MSP

Ross Greer MSP

Douglas McAllister, MP

Dr Heather Reid, Loch Lomond National Park Board Convenor

Provost Karen Conagahan

Councillor Martin Rooney

Councillor Hazel Sorrell

Councillor Jonathan McColl

Paul Murdoch

Michelle Lynn, WDC, Assets Officer

Mary Anne Collis, WDC Park Ranger

Gillian Neil, WDC Biodiversity Officer

Fraser McLaurin, Balloch Park App

Ross Pollock, LLTNP, Tourism Adviser

PC Alan Heron  
David Adams McGilp, Visit Scotland  
Lynne Cooper, Visit Scotland  
Nick Beevers, Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust  
Mary Sweetland  
Izzy Fillor, Woodland Trust  
Stuart Harris, First Responders  
Heather Vincent  
Barry Fisher, Keep Scotland Beautiful  
Jamie Ormiston, Keep Scotland Beautiful  
Dr Katherine Gunderson, Grand Bequests  
Gavin McLelland, Chair, Kilmaranock Community Council  
Lynne Somerville, Chair, Balloch and Haldane Community Council

Last year's AGM Minutes proposed by Audrey, seconded by Gillian.

Sally delivered her Annual Report, attached

[2nd AGM of the Balloch Castle Country Park Regeneration Group](#)

Report adopted by all Trustees

Cat presented our Financial Statement for the year ending 31/7/24, copy attached.

[BCCPRG Financial Statement 2024](#)

Adopted by all Trustees.

Chair passed to Karon Battersby for re-election of Trustees, all re-elected unanimously,  
Sally resumed position of Chair.

Duncan Royle from EFTEC (Economics for the Environment Consultancy Ltd) gave a presentation on Natural Capital Accounting.

Cara Bowden, CHAS Community Fundraiser, gave us an overview of CHAS and their work,  
Robin House, Balloch opened in 2005,

Audrey is leading on the joint Arts project between CHAS and BCCPRG, the children will design flags to be hung from lampposts within the Park. Ian Bain, WDC GreenspaceManager confirmed that WDC will install the flags.

Suggestion made that we could get businesses to sponsor the flags or QR codes be incorporated to attract donations to CHAS.

WDC Update from Ian Bain

Operation Ballaton, WDC, Police Scotland, Scotrail, Fire Service, LLTNP and A & B Council meet weekly between April and October to deal with any potential anti-social behaviour in the area including Balloch Park.

Funding has been secured for a Mountain Bike Trail within the Park and design is being finalised with the build next Spring, walking network will also be improved. Ian stated he would consider additional toilets on the back of this project.

Nature Restoration funding for 23/24 has been committed to the removal of INNS within the Park with work being carried out over the winter. 24/25 funding of £20,000 has been withdrawn and redirected to cover public sector pay rises as per Scottish Government directive.

Slipway Cafe is open and operating as a watersports equipment hire facility and food outlet, no access to toilets, Ian will look into this.

There is no available money to refurbish the kiosk within the Castle at the moment, Audrey stated this area would also make a good exhibition space.

North Lodge we would need to think of potential uses.

South Lodge, Asset Management and Housing Dept are currently reviewing it for a future tenancy, needs work before it would be suitable

The Conservation Volunteers will be hosting a joint open day with WDC with a view to building up a bank of volunteers. TCV has volunteered to meet up with us and could also offer training.

Ian stated that there was no bar to us seeking donations, we would need to investigate the mechanisms of collecting monies.

Matt presented his Draft Action Plan , attached.

[BCCPRG - Action Plan - PRESENTATION - 04.09.24.pptx](#)

Sally thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.