

Minutes of Balloch Castle Country Park Regeneration Group's
Annual General Meeting held on
Tuesday 8/8/23 @ 7pm in the
Balloch House Hotel.

Present: Sally Page (Chairperson), Audrey Baird (Vice Chairperson),
Catherine O'Hare (Treasurer), Gillian Clark (Secretary),
Dame Jackie Baillie MSP
Pam Gosal MSP,
Councillor Martin Rooney - Leader of WDC,
Ian Bain - WDC Greenspace Manager,
Michelle Lynn - WDC Assets Coordinator,
Sergeant Alan Heron - West Dunbartonshire Community Policing Team,
Dr Katherine Gunderson, CEO - Grand Bequest,
Gavin MacLellan - Kilmaronock Community Council,
Willie Niven - Leven Cruising Club,
Iain Gollan – Loch Lomond Rescue Boat,
John Smith, Matt Buckland, Karon Battersby, Aileen Suter, Maurice
Donohoe, Michael Mason, Alison Edwardson, Rosemarie Gillespie, Debbie
Gourlay, Bobby and Jan Shields, Emma Sharp, Sam Worthingzen.

Sally opened the meeting welcoming all those in attendance and passed
her thanks to the Balloch House Hotel for providing the use of their side
room for our meetings.

Apologies: Ross Greer MSP, Barry Fisher - Keep Scotland Beautiful,
Fiona Jackson - LLTNP Sustainable Development Officer,
Angela Burns, Mark Newall, Sylvia Morrison, Gillian Neil - WDC
Biodiversity Officer, Colin Liddell, David McGilp Adams - Visit Scotland,
Harry McCormick - Tullichewan Residents Association,
Haldane Youth Services, Mary Sweetland - Kilmaronock Old Kirk Trust,
David Keown - Balloch and Haldane Community Council.

Sally presented her Chairperson's Report, attached.

[BCCPRG Annual Report 2022-23 3.docx](#)

Adopted by all Trustees.

Catherine presented Annual Accounts, attached.

[BCCPRG Financial Statement.pdf](#)

Adopted by all Trustees

Election of Management Committee/ Office Bearers

Maurice Donohue thanked the Committee members/Trustees for all their hard work and passion.

Four Committee members unanimously reelected.

All trustees then gave a short overview of why they were involved in the Group.

Catherine explained OSCR had requested that our Constitution be amended to meet their regulations for charitable status.

Amendment agreed and copy attached.

[BCCP Charitable Purposes v1.2.docx](#)

Guest Speakers

Dr Katherine Gunderson, CEO, Grand Bequest gave us an overview of her company and how they could help BCCPRG.

Councillor Martin Rooney, Leader of WDC, congratulated the Group on our achievements so far and stated he was aware of the issues in the Park.

Ian Bain, WDC Greenspace Manager, highlighted the work that has been done in Balloch Park, the new play park and the refurbishment of the Slipway Cafe. He recognised there was potential and the Park could be

transformed over time. He wished us well and complimented us on our progress so far.

WDC vision for the Park in the short term is to secure funding to continue maintaining the Park in what are challenging times for WDC.

To work in partnership with BCCPRG to access external funding opportunities, a joint meeting is scheduled for Thursday 17/8/23.

WDC will continue work to eradicate INNS, funding has been granted from the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund.

Sergeant Alan Heron gave us an overview on Operation Ballaton which has been running since 2020, jointly with WDC ASB Team, Police Scotland, Scotrail, LLTNP to combat the anti social behaviour we have seen over the summer months. They have adopted a zero tolerance approach, confiscating alcohol, vaping equipment etc from those underage, starting at Balloch train station and up to the slipway.

Dame Jackie Baillie MSP gave her congratulations and acknowledged the issue of INNS within the Park, which she had seen herself in a recent walkabout with members of the group. She stated WDC needs to engage and lead a working group to develop a plan to protect and enhance the Park and protect the Castle and to seize the opportunities out there.

Matt Buckland asked what help our Group needed, more Trustees, we have the capacity for up to seven, areas we need experience in, funding opportunities, business sustainability, social media.

Pam Gosal MSP stated she has received complaints about ASB in the area. She thanked the Group and offered her support.

Ian Bain mentioned that WDC are considering having a bank of volunteers which interested parties can register with.

Michelle Lynn stated that WDC would work closely with Glasgow City Council Legal Team in respect of anything which would be done in Balloch Park.

Question asked about an Asset Management Transfer, not possible as Balloch Park is owned by Glasgow City Council under Common Good. WDC's current lease runs until 2035.

Sally gave her thanks to

Turkey Red Media who provided photographs and film footage for our website.

Karn Bianco for developing and maintaining our website.

Obus Jack for producing and compiling results of our survey.

Karon Battersby for her Stakeholder Engagement.

Sylvia Morrison for Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis

Maurice Donohue for his enthusiasm and litter picking.

Sally thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.