

## Minutes of MIB Committee meeting held on Monday 21st February 2022, Milngavie United Free Church Hall

**Present:** Sandra Wilson (Vice Chair), Evelyn Parbrook, Fiona Lawrie, Helen Martin, Diane Black, Sheena MacLachlan, Ian Mitchell, Moira Clark

**Apologies:** Tim Rhead, Norman MacLeod and John Davies

### 1. Chair's Report

- a. **Pandemic** – There has been no change to the current regulations.
- b. **Publicity** - Snowdrop Appeal has been sent to the local paper and Diane for the telephone box and Fiona for the website and Facebook. The spent hops/Jaw Brew article is expected in the March issue.
- c. **Health & Safety** - Tam has amended the risk assessments following the last committee meeting and they have been uploaded to the website and can now be issued to volunteers. The tool shed inspection will take place soon.
- d. **Lennox Park Redevelopment** - Articles were published in the February editions of the Community Magazine and M&B Herald. New posters are requesting comments from the public. The daffodils which we planted are doing well and the photo taken during October planting was also included in the Community Magazine.
- e. **Spring Get Together** - this will take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February from 2-4 at the United Free Church Hall. Sandra has produced a programme and slide presentation for the first part. Help is needed with refreshments and the break-out sessions. Ian will send out an email reminder to volunteers. **Action: IM**
- f. **East Dunbartonshire Council** - Tim has had replies to say that the Mugdock Road car park wall will be repaired in March, but the completion of the electric charging points is delayed due to negotiations with Scottish Power so no timescale can be estimated. This means we cannot plan any new work in this area at present.
- g. **BID** - As requested by the Committee, Tim has requested that the BID increases the amount they pay for new plants for the floral fountains, to take account of inflation. They have said that they will consider this and asked how much extra is needed. This information is not readily available so we suggest a meeting with the BID to discuss. **Action: TR** We have been asked if we will be having a stall during Milngavie Week. No information is available at present about dates/events, but we will be happy to participate.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

- a. **Monthly accounts** - Norman submitted his monthly report. Although he was not present at the meeting there were no queries.
- b. It was noted that the anonymous donation of £5000 which we believe to have been made in error has still not been reclaimed.

### 3. Fundraising

- a. **Grants** - there are no grants to apply for at present for MiB.
- b. **Calendar Convenor** - Tim will mention at the Spring Get Together that we are looking for someone to project manage the production of next year's calendar.

**Action: TR**

### 4. Gardening Report

- a. **General** - The first gardening day of 2022 was held on 9<sup>th</sup> February. 12 volunteers attended despite the cold morning and they concentrated on the Fraser Centre beds and the heather bed by Colpi's. The Gardening Group met on 14<sup>th</sup> February and plans for 2022 were drawn up. The colour scheme suggested by Beautiful Scotland is platinum and purple to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We shall work around these colours but will also have some red, white and blue to brighten things up.
- b. **Community Garden** - Craigdhu Primary School have agreed to be our sponsor this year. They have been given a plan of the area and ideas for a design will be sought from some of the P7s.
- c. **Italian Garden** - The first work day of 2022 is scheduled for Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.
- d. **Floral Fountains** - The BID apparently reduced the amount they pay to Caulders a few years ago from £800 twice yearly to £500. In view of the rising cost of plants and compost, Tim is going to arrange a meeting with the BID to discuss. Sheila Cook is wishing to retire and Helen and Sandra have kindly stepped up to organise it this year. We also need clarification from the BID regarding the maintenance and watering of the new Corten planters in the precinct.
- e. **West Highland Way** - the first work day of 2022 took place on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Winter debris was cleared and a holly tree was cut down to provide more light to the high bed.
- f. **Tool Shed** - Electrical work is in hand but electricians are all busy at the moment with the new Smoke Alarm installations. Drastic pruning of trees at the shed has been done.
- g. **Burnbank Sheltered Housing** - Evelyn has been in contact with the Warden and a couple of the residents. Tidying up of the area will be arranged in due course.
- h. **20<sup>th</sup> Glasgow, 1<sup>st</sup> Milngavie Scout Group** - Contact has been made. The Beavers are quite young and it is thought that planting up some barrels with seeds such as nasturtiums and dwarf sunflowers, and some herbs, would be best. A date has been arranged in March. They also asked about a raised bed at the back of the Scout Hall. The area is not ideal and would need clearing. We have priced up treated sleepers and given them a cost and are awaiting a reply.

## 5. Clean Sweep

- a. We have been delighted to welcome 3 new volunteers this month. It has been a busy month for litter, with high winds making it even more difficult to pick up items as they have been blown deep into the undergrowth. Carryout items make up the bulk of the litter collected but some very strange items are also being dumped. A tyre, commode, toilet pan, and worryingly a knife was found. The volunteer disposed of it safely. Also a towel with human excrement found in bushes. This was left there and hopefully will disintegrate eventually.
- b. Sheena has sent an email to Douglas Academy regarding the excessive litter in the woods on the way up to the school. She has asked if they could perhaps help to clear the area but is still awaiting a reply.
- c. Work has begun on the Community Centre pond and some items need to be removed. Sheena has emailed the Council regarding this.
- d. We have been contacted by 3 trainees working on the Caledonia Water contract, St Nicholas Primary School in Bearsden and Rangers Academy. All are interested in helping out with litter picking and have been advised about our Big Spring Clean on 30<sup>th</sup> April. Sheena will make contact again nearer the time.
- e. The first order of litter picks has arrived and next order is expected soon. Sheena also plans to request another box of green bags so that we are covered for the next few months.

## 8. IT Report

- a. **Website** - Fiona has added photographs and information about Park Road and Southgate to the page highlighting some of the sites we maintain.
- b. **Asda Green Token Scheme** - we were recently nominated for this scheme which helps local groups and charities. Customers vote digitally and although we have not been informed officially, we were one of two runners up and will be receiving a cheque for £200. Fiona will notify Norman. **Action: FL**
- c. **Job Description** - Fiona circulated a draft of her responsibilities for information.

## 9. Volunteers

- a. Heather has been attending Clean Sweep and gardening work days to introduce herself to any new volunteers who attend. She has realised that having application forms with her would be beneficial as they can be completed right away.
- b. Heather has purchased 4 pairs of Brier gloves to hand out as appropriate.
- c. A walkabout will be arranged in the Spring for those who would be interested.

## AOCB

Diane asked the Committee for ideas on other plant related arts & crafts we could sell on a stand at future events. Knitted badges sell well and there was previously great support from the United Free Church. This is now not available and more knitters are required. Diane has patterns available for anyone able to contribute.

**Date of Next Meeting - Monday 21st March 2022, United Free Church Hall, at 7pm**

**ACTION LIST**

Arrange meeting with BID to discuss financial contribution to plants and compost for floral fountains	<b>TR</b>
Send email reminder re Spring Get Together	<b>IM</b>
Inform Norman about prize from Asda Green Tokens Scheme	<b>FL</b>

**Circulation list:**

Committee

Gardening Group

Alastair Richmond