

Strathbungo Society
Minutes of AGM
Held at Queen's Park Parish Church Hall
7.00pm Monday 5th June 2006

1. Welcome

Kevin Kane (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. There were xx people present. The minutes of the previous AGM were proposed for acceptance by Stephen Lamb and seconded by Joanna Murphy. There were no amendments.

2. Chair's Report

A full, signed copy of the chair's report is filed with the minute.

The Chair highlighted another year of progress for the Strathbungo Society with a range of new activities that continue to strengthen Strathbungo as a community.

He singled out progress in the environment and on heritage in the area, in particular with the traffic problems exacerbated by the closure of Titwood Rd bridge. The society has met with land Services to discuss a holistic approach to traffic management throughout the area. The Chair also took the opportunity to mention heritage schemes, such as the mapping of Strathbungo's railings and local history research.

Strathbungo's successful events were mentioned, including Bungo In The Back lanes and Bungo At The Bells, complete with a very expensive piper! As were other continuing successes, such as the publication of Strathbungo News, the website and the new Bungo Blog.

Friends of Strathbungo continues to provide a regular source of funding and benefited from a fresh push this year. The Chair introduced new treasurer Lynne Flower and mentioned her plans to help the society benefit from charitable status.

The Chair took the opportunity to commend Society members for volunteering their time, expertise and enthusiasm to the community and urged attendees to consider getting involved in the Society, perhaps by taking up a committee post or helping with the forthcoming Bungo in the Back Lanes event.

Finally, Kevin thanked Laura Jones, who is standing down as secretary of the Society, and Kay Caldwell and Sharon Schweps who have given so much energy and enthusiasm to the society since helping to regenerate it in the 1990s.

3. Treasurer's Report

A full annual financial statement is filed with the minute. Lynne referred to the printed balance sheet distributed before the meeting.

The Society spent more money than it earned in the last financial year but it was hoped that the new push for Friends would improve the situation shortly. There were a lot of long-term costs which had yet to see returns, such as the disappointing sales of calendars and the money still to be earned back from bungo bags.

Lynne also outlined the plans to take on charity status which would enable the Society to reclaim tax on both future giving and backdate claims over the last few years.

In response to a question from the floor, Lynne stated that there are currently 57 Friends of Strathbungo.

4. Sub Group Reports

Back Lanes Pilot: Stephen Lamb gave an introductory overview of the back lanes pilot scheme. He announced that the most recent costing had come out at £57,000 including a small contingency fund to upgrade the lane between Marrywood and Queen Square, parallel to Moray Place.

The chair mentioned that there had been recent meetings with the EPS section of the council to discuss the state of the lanes and access for cleansing vehicles. The department have agreed to temporarily fill holes in the back lanes to ease access but this is not a long-term solution.

In response to questions from the floor, Stephen explained that the council would not adopt the back lanes until they were at an acceptable standard. This is largely the reason behind carrying out the pilot as a demonstration project. If the council were to take over responsibility for the lanes they would most probably cover them with tarmac.

Another resident asked how the lanes were coping with through traffic. It was pointed out that the council can not act on traffic through the lanes. Only police and residents can act to prevent people using the back lanes as rat runs. Attendees suggest a variety of means to do this, from calling and writing to the police to physical solutions, such as chained fences, bollards and residents' keys.

A further resident asked whether it would be possible to improve the access only signage on the lanes. Malcolm Cunning stated that the current signage was adequate for police to enforce restrictions. This is certainly the case in the top lane.

The discussion then spread into wider topics concerning traffic and speeding in the area. Concerns were raised in particular about speeding in Vennard Gardens and the potential for installing speed bumps. Lively debate ensued as to whether speed bumps would work on such short streets and the visual impact of speed bumps in a conservation area.

Finally, Scott Mackay mentioned that a more successful tactic might be to make the streets look more pedestrian friendly to deter drivers. He mentioned that the Glasgow Conservation Trust had funding of around £1 million a year.

Communications Group: Laura Jones briefly discussed the year's events for the website and newsletter. The website has continued to be a popular destination and has recently produced offspring in the form of www.bungoblog.com. It is hoped that the bungo blog will be more accessible to residents and an easier place to share ideas and comments.

The newsletter has an extra edition this year and it is hoped to keep producing issues around once every two months but it is a big task. Laura appealed for assistance from all residents to make it the heart of the community's communications structure. In particular it needs more original content, advertisers, distributors and artist to contribute photographs or illustrations.

Events: Joanna requested volunteers for Bungo in the Back Lanes.

5. Election of Committee Members

The office bearers were elected as follows:

	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Chair , Scott Mackay	Kevin Kane	Andrew Greg
Acting secretary , Laura Jones	Kevin Kane	Stephen Lamb
Treasurer , Lynne Flower	Kevin Kane	Joanna Murphy

There were no volunteers for the post of secretary, so Laura Jones will remain as acting secretary.

6. Guest Speaker: Strathbungo's Conservation Area Appraisal

Kevin Kane passed on Land Services' apologies for being unable to attend the meeting.

He introduced John Gair to the meeting who had worked on the recent conservation area appraisals.

John Gair began by explaining that the conservation area appraisals were part of GCC's city plan and were a national planning policy requirement. There are currently 21 conservation areas in Glasgow. Half of these have been appraised but only Strathbungo's has been printed due to funding shortages.

The chair then outlined the content of the appraisal and urged those attending to look at the samples available in the room, or download a copy from the website.

Scott Mackay congratulated John on an excellent, informative appraisal and said it would assist the society and residents when looking at future planning applications.

In response to a question from the floor, John Gair admitted there were concerns about enforcement of the conservation area rules and regulations. He noted that increasingly sash and case windows, for example, were being replaced with UPVC double glazing. He said that the council was hoping to take on a new head of enforcement to tackle this problem. He also said that there was no time limit on enforcement for listed buildings.

Mr Gair also said that while the conservation appraisal was very comprehensive it may not be the case that all its recommendations are followed up. He also pointed out that while the citywide trust was a positive development, it had received no new funding and so the money available was taken from existing sources.

8. Thanks and Close

The Chair thanked all those present for attending the AGM, in particular to the guest speakers, brought the meeting to a close and invited everyone present to partake of light refreshment.