

November 2014 Convenor's Statement

May I welcome you to Lenzie Community Council's Annual General Meeting for 2014

I'm Tony Miles and I have been the Chair for the past year. The other current office bearers are Christine Morrison, Vice Chair, Tom Gray, Secretary and Liz Ibbotson as our Treasurer and our planning Convenor is John MacFadden

The other members joining me here are Rosemary Craig, Donald MacLeod, Pat Munro, Sandra Thornton and Suzanne Smith and newly joined Emma Henderson, who takes up a vacant position left by the resignation of Ron Hall, we also have with us Jonathan Martin, school captain at Lenzie Academy who is keen to work with us during the school year and also to act as an interface with LA generally. This gives us a great opportunity to work with the younger people of our Community.

If I could just return to Ron Hall, who was our Treasurer for as many years as some of us can remember. I'd like to pay tribute to Ron's dedication and diligence as the Treasurer and a very valued ex-member of this Community Council.

Also, special mention to secretary Tom who attends lots of meeting and records so thoroughly our Council Business in the Minutes. Especial thanks go also to Liz who has for many years organised the main event of the year – The Lenzie Gala - and was this year helped by Pat Munro and Rosemary Craig. John also for his extensive local knowledge and for his valued understanding of planning matters

I have mentioned the Gala as our main event which takes place on the first Saturday in June. However, not many people seem to know that it's the Community Council who organise this, and one of our projects as we go into another year will be to publicise more widely the work of the Community Council, and we have plans for a Newsletter shortly.

Liz has been very proactive in obtaining grant funding to increase and improve the activities and entertainment on Gala day. The Gala is our main item of expenditure during the year and this year Liz succeeded in getting £3,030 from Celebrate which is part of the Big Lottery Fund to allow us to stage additional events for the Commonwealth Games. Sadly this year's Gala had to be abandoned early owing to very inclement weather.

In addition to the Gala, the other events that we organise during the year are the Lenzie Jog, at New Year, and I can report that the 2014 Jog was better attended than ever before. Next year's event will take place on Friday 2nd January 2015 and the Community Council will again be supported by the Kirkintilloch Olympians who provide invaluable assistance with marking out the route, registration and time keeping; and who benefit from any funds raised.

LCC also organises the Charity Christmas Card Fayre, which has just taken place earlier this month. The Christmas Card Fayre, is an event arranged every year by Rosemary Craig. Rosemary does an excellent job in encouraging as many charities as possible to participate

This year's event was well attended and we were grateful for the support of Lenzie Old Parish Church who organise refreshments and home baking.

The final event in our calendar is the Christmas lights switch-on, which takes place on the 6th December this year. LCC's Pat Munro organises the event supported by the local churches, Lenzie Scouts and local businesses. The event brings a family extravaganza with Christmas music and carol singers; Santa and refreshments provided in the Church Hall at Lenzie Old Parish Church.

The Community Council's remit also encompasses representation of the views of local residents on issues of concern. This year we participated as a stakeholder in EDC's Main Issues Report. We participate in a Forum of all Community Councils in East Dumbarton, and take an active interest in Planning matters. We have monitored applications for two Supermarkets, also housing developments at a number of sites including the controversial ones at Crosshill Road and Meadowburn, where members of the public came to meetings to voice concerns.

We were delighted to help keep the Post Office in the centre of Lenzie and wish the Day Today owners every success with their new Post Office.

About Community Councils

Community Councillors are normally elected, although can be co-opted and work on a voluntary basis.

Our meetings are held monthly (with the exception of January and July) and we usually meet on the third Wednesday of the month here in Lenzie Hall. Regular items on our agenda are reports from Community Police officers. We also now receive reports from the Community Wardens, of whom there are now eight in ED

LCC receives an annual grant from East Dunbartonshire Council to fund its work and events. We, in turn, try to assist local groups with funding where at all possible, and are always pleased to hear from Groups or individual with ideas.

Please remember our website – www.lenziecommunitycouncil.org.uk, and our Lenzie Community Council Facebook page.