



Bringing Out The Best in Our Local Communities

Summer Forum & Annual General Meeting

Monday 8th July

7pm

Fly Cup

Inverurie



First Floor, The Wyness Hall,
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The Garioch Partnership is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Scottish Charity Number: SC043548

Agenda

- 1) Welcome & Apologies

- 2) Annual General Meeting 2019
 - Minutes of EGM 2018
 - Matters arising
 - Chairman's Report
 - Election of Board Members
 - AOCB

- 3) Refreshments

- 4) Presentation
 - Sandra McKandie
Kierans Legacy: Saving Lives

- 5) Networking & Tidy-up

1. Welcome & Apologies

John Chapman, Chairperson of The Garioch Partnership, welcomed all to our EGM and Winter Forum 2018.

Attendees and apologies are listed in Appendix A.

2. Entertainment

Valerie Chapman entertained attendees by singing “Somewhere only we know” and “What a wonderful world.”

3. CIGS Presentation

Dawn presented a cheque to representatives of groups who have received Community Initiative or Resilience Fund Grants so far in 2018/19. The combined total of grants awarded is £4,921.20.

4. EGM 2018

a) Minutes of AGM 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Marion Chapman, seconded by Sue Wainman

b) Matters Arising

(2.d) The Accounts which had not been examined at the time of the 2018 AGM have now been completed and signed off by the accountant. She has now done the accounts for two years and is willing to stay on, which should make the process quicker next year.

The final report has been submitted to, and agreed by, OSCR.

We ended the financial year with a surplus of approximately £10k. We do maintain reserves; having a duty of care to two employees.

We hold funds on behalf of other groups, including those just setting up who have no access to a bank account: TGP act as a holding account on their behalf. We currently have approximately £20k. in funds, held on behalf of groups from Inch, Kintore, Kemnay and Port Elphinstone. Eventually, these funds will be passed to the groups.

John asked that the report be approved; Sue Wainman seconded the proposal.

c) **Election of Board Members**

After the AGM, unfortunately two board members stood down due to work and time commitments. Kay Diack and Graham Geddes had been with TGP from Day 1; both were on the steering group prior to the Partnership being set up. John gave huge thanks to both of them, for the sterling work. Fortunately, they will both remain members of the Partnership, as representatives of member organisations.

We are on the lookout for new trustees. Two people have indicated that they are interested; one has submitted the application form and the other is pending. John welcomed Fiona Cooper onto the Board. He also pointed out that of the seven board members, he is now the only remaining member of the original steering group, but added that it is always nice to get fresh blood! He also thanked the staff for their hard work throughout the year.

John also pointed out that the Partnership's Constitution allows us to adopt trustees without an AGM/EGM. If anyone is interested, they can e-mail trustees@gariochpartnership.org.uk and they should receive an auto-email with information on the role and responsibilities of the position, as well as an application form. Formal notification of the Constitution will be made to OSRC now the accounts have been accepted.

d) **AOCB**

The Partnership had funding from Awards for All for new computer equipment. We have now added Office 365. John wished to highlight that by registering as a charity with TT Exchange, we have been able to get Office 365 for free and he encouraged other groups to look into this. Up to date software and technological equipment allows us to work smarter, not harder! For more information, see <https://www.tt-exchange.org/>.

5. **Presentation: Market Place School Community Asset Transfer**

The Partnership's request for an asset transfer was rejected by the Garioch Area Committee at the end of August. We have since put in an appeal of that decision. We believe that the information given to the committee at the time was incorrect, with the council costings having been inflated as opposed to our own costings. We also feel that the ethos of the asset transfer scheme has not been followed. The appeal will be reviewed at the end of this month (November) by a different panel.

We feel that we've had a lot of support for our plans, from the business community, community groups, community council etc. and we intend to pursue the asset transfer as far as we can, although we recognise that it may take some time. We will keep you posted, and it will likely be in the press too.

It was commented that residents living near Market Place School are against the idea of a car park, but would welcome a community hub. This was supported from the floor.

When asked what happens if the appeal is rejected, John explained that the next stage would be to appeal to the Scottish Government. We are already preparing for this and have contact with the Community Empowerment Team who support the Minister, Kevin Stewart, and will organise the independent review panel.

John added that our original plans for the asset transfer were submitted before the Council released their Strategic Plan. We could have been in the building over a year ago and now there are concerns arising regarding the potential deterioration of the building. We did offer to take on a short-term lease, paying the business rates for the building but the council refused.

TGP will keep persevering and hopefully will come out with a community hub. Our revenue grant has decreased and the hub would help us to generate income and hopefully allow us to expand our staffing. John said that he is aiming to have 2-3 development workers to cover Garioch. We will pursue this as far as we can.

6. Democracy Matters Conversations

Dawn reported on the Democracy Matters Conversations that she has hosted across Garioch recently. She thanked all who attended and took part. She has compiled their responses into one response document, this will be distributed via e-mail to all who asked for a copy.

The key points raised across the conversations included space, services, bus routes and broadband, so no real surprises. What was clear is that people in our local area feel that democracy matters.

7. Updates from local groups

For the Love of Garioch

This group of volunteers have been carrying out a variety of tasks, including doing people's gardens; helping people move house; visiting people and organising entertainment. The aim is to target those who are lonely and may not be able to get out.

They are currently organising their Christmas event: a community lunch, with an open invitation for anyone who is lonely or hard up to come down for Christmas lunch. Having had 25 people at an event organised last year, with the help of a local church; this year they are expanding and expecting around 80 people to attend.

Food has been donated; the Town Hall is being provided free of charge by the council as a venue, and Premier Coaches have offered to provide transport on the day. Now they are trying to spread the word far and wide, and they are hoping that TGP member groups will help. If you would like more information or are able to help in any way, please contact them at loveofgarioch@gmail.com.

Following the Christmas Lunch, once they have an idea of who is out there, they may hope to organise local mini-groups to help reduce isolation and loneliness in Garioch.

Ury Riverside Park

Currently working towards a community asset transfer of land which is currently owned by Aberdeenshire Council. They are looking for volunteers to participate in tree planting on Saturday, 1st December. They also have paths being built to help make it a community space.

The aim is to make it a true community space, including a playpark, nature walk and playing fields. It will be environmentally friendly, with solar lights being fitted and will be fully inclusive. If anyone is interested in helping, please visit www.facebook.com/Uryriversidepark/

8. Close of meeting

John finished the formal part of the evening by thanking everyone for attending and encouraging people to network, chat and enjoy the buffet provided by Fly Cup.

Appendix A: Attendees and Apologies

Attendees:

Margaret Aitken	Kirsty Cruickshank	Jamie Robertson
Margaret Basley	Jackie Cumberbirch	Kath Robertson
Dawn Brown	Heather Fulford	Linda Singer
Marion Chapman	Ilene Fyfe	Sharon Strachan
John Chapman	Katherine Gerrard	Louise Thorburn
Fiona Cooper	Stephen McCann	Dave Valentine
Lynne Copland	Janet Newberry	Sue Wainman
Denise Cromar	George Petrie	Nom Wright

Apologies received from:

Jill Averell	Culsamond	Ian Clark	Inverurie Music
Gillian Martin	MSP	Eveline Crossan	SWACAB
Judy Whyte	Councillor	Kay Diack	
John Smith	ICC	Reid Hutchison	Aberdeenshire Council
Doreen Adams		Gillian Martin	MSP
Fiona Allan	Fly Cup	David Porter	Inverurie Advertiser
Deborah Armstrong	Steps for Wellness	Steve Portelly	
Jill Averell	Culsamond	Archie Peebles	ICC
Biff Barrow + 2	Amal	John Smith	ICC
Carol Beattie	KBASC	Suz Strachan	SensationALL
Peter Chapman	MSP	Judy Whyte	Councillor
Jayne Chappell			

Member Groups Represented:

Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action	ICAN
Alehousewells Primary School Parent Council	Inverurie Hockey
Baillies of Bennachie	Kemnay CC
Bothie	Kemnay Community Association
For the Love of Garioch	Kemnay Village Hall
Garioch Women for Change	Kintore & District CC
Garioch Youth Musical Society	Kintore Childminding Group
Grampian Opportunities	Port Elphinstone Community House
Greener Kemnay	Ury Riverside Park
Hatton of Fintray CC	

Chairperson's Report

Another year in and a very busy and difficult period, busy with community involvement and difficult with the cut in funding and balancing the books, keeping TGP invigored both with staff and board. Since the last AGM we have lost the services of Graham Geddes and Kay Diack, both of who have been of a great service to TGP since the early days. However we have been lucky to fill their places with Fiona Cooper and Jan Mathers, some of you may know these two from previous roles if not then you will all get to know better in the future, or networking after the night over a cup of tea or some refreshment, without volunteers we could not survive and as most of you will know, volunteers never really get time off.

Our Annual Report was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council, Community Economic Development and we were invited to make a presentation to the Garioch Area Committee last month in which we gave a summary of our Annual Reports and answered some specific question form some Councillors and we await our annual monitoring visit. Copies of our Annual Report will be submitted to OSCR along with our examined accounts later in time for our submission for the end of the year.

Our team lead by Dawn have been busy with many of you, in this year we have assisted ten groups to review their legal status and others are still in the pipeline to finalise. Independent examination of accounts is still a popular service we offer and we thank members for using TGP for this service and hope that you get a good deal. TGP have been busy with funding applications and even had a success with Leader, The BIG Lottery, Crerar and Robertson Trusts to name a few.

Community Action Plans (CAPs) have been taken on at Kelland's and Inch and enforced the importance the need of a community or a driving force to take on the outcomes for the CAP to its conclusion. We look forward with working further with Sauchen and its community in the future.

We have always tried to be initiative and this year we delved deeply, upwards, into the Cloud. TGP now has access to Office 365, all for the princely sum of nothing, this will hopefully assist our staff and board to work a little smarter and ease the burdens of reporting. We are in the process of creating SharePoint sites for TGP, Local Authorities and hopefully, in the future to you, our members, to complement the current website that is used for the general public, we will keep you posted via the quarterly newsletters.

I think one of the best measures for success are the testimonials we receive on a regular basis, some are appended into this year's Annual Report. With these, it is easier to show to all what we do and how we do it. Bad news is always easier spread and good news is not always but to the fore often enough and with that cue, I would like to thanks all staff and trustees for their support over the past year, this has not been the easiest year but has been successful, so thank you all. Finally thank you to all the members who have supported and believed in us from when to whenever. Take care and have a great summer.



John Chapman
Chairperson

CIG AWARDS 2018/19

Organisation	Project	Amount awarded
Kemnay Breakfast & After School Club	Rebranding / New Uniforms	£600.00
Steps into Wellness	The Clachan	£750.00
Kintore Angling Association	Equipment to support and develop the growth of KAA to allow them to sustainably manage the banks and fishery	£850.00
Kemnay Community Association	Update of computers for Newsletter Office	£324.96
Fly Cup	Creating a sense of team working	£750.00
Grampian Opportunities	Space 2 Be	£576.24
Spikin Autism and More (SAAM)	Inclusion for All – Training Workshops	£700.98
Newmachar Pre-school Playgroup	Arts & Crafts for Term Time Topics	£250.00
Ury Riverside Park SCIO	PPE and work wear for Volunteer days for tree planting etc.	£544.12
Alcohol & Drugs Action	Young People's Resilience Project (YPRP)	£1000.00
Philosophy Café	Inverurie Events	£70.00
		£6,416.30

Election of Board Members

Board Members standing for re-election:

1. John Chapman (Chairperson)
2. Nom Wright (Secretary)
3. Marion Chapman
4. Fiona Cooper
5. Heather Fulford
6. Jan Mathers
7. George Petrie

New Board Members standing:

Board Members standing down:

