

MINUTES OF MEETING – 19.02.2026

Postholders Present Darren Robertson (DR)/Ken Watson (KW)/Alison Duncan (AD)/
Alison Lloyd Wiggins (ALW)/Roy Kemp (RK)/Mandy Ross (MR)
Mags Fraser (MF)/Kevin Fraser (KF)

Location Leathan Arms, Portlethen

Introduction

KW welcomed and thanked individuals for their attendance. Agenda for meeting was noted as :

Clochandighter
Wild Flowers
Christmas Lights
Defibrillators
Gala

Clochandighter

AD + ALW advised that advertising revenue has reduced from £2000 in December to £1100 in March, mainly due to 2 advertisers not renewing adverts. The new German Bakery beside the EG garage has shown interest in advertising and this may progress. There is an advert included in the next edition of the magazine, which is ready to be printed, to try and attract additional businesses

ALW advised that from October 2025 Microsoft withdrew support for their publishing programme. There are various alternative options available and these will be investigated.

AD summarised the position with the accounts that had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. The Clochandighter balance is £13184 and the PTA balance is £1900 and little or no movement is expected in this for the next few months. AD advised that due to the increase in the bank charges a business savings account has been opened and this should help to combat the expense of the current account charges.

Flowers

KW advised that Ken and his wife are happy to continue organising the scattering of seeds to brighten up various locations around the town. DR normally assists, also with family members, but any additional help would be welcomed. An amount of £120 is required to purchase the seeds. This amount was agreed by all present.

Christmas Lights

It was agreed that the HO-HO-HO signs along with the “little tree” was a tremendous success. Thanks to Brian Black and Darren all lights etc have been taken down and stored in the garage. The council are trying to charge for the electric for the lights, this will be monitored for any update. A discussion was had around individual remote switches for the lamppost mounted motifs. This will need further

investigation. For next Christmas DR suggested involving the community by having a Christmas Lights switch on in different areas around the town on 3 or 4 consecutive evenings, possibly the week before the Santa Run. An individual/Santa would be proposed to perform the switch on in each location

Defibrillators

RK confirmed monthly checks were ongoing and all pads have been replaced at no additional spend. Still waiting for the phone box to be visited by a BT engineer to have the money box removed. The Defibrillator has already been purchased and we are now 8 months into the warranty period. Suggestion was made to install this defib at Hillside beside the Barnardo's shop and purchase an additional defib when BT have removed the money box. Suggestion was made that the PDCC or the Portlethen Market may be willing to contribute to the additional cost – this is to be raised by any PTA members that attend the next PDCC meeting

Gala

Organisation of the Gala is progressing well although still awaiting some stall holders to come back and confirm. There will be an advert in the next Cloch calling for additional stall holders and any donations. The Gala balance is £4115.

AOCB

KW suggested that some of the funds in the PTA account can be used to fund some gala equipment and/or activities. The sum of £1000 was agreed.

MR mentioned that the PDCC have an admin fund and it may be worth approaching the PDCC to cover the costs of printing for the Gala

DR suggested that inactive members should be removed from the WhatsApp Chat group. Following discussion it was felt that some of the previous members have valuable experience that could be tapped into when required and it may be better to leave them in the group – they are free to leave the group themselves.

Date of next meeting:

Next Meeting 21.05.26, venue to be confirmed

Minutes Prepared by Mags Fraser

Date: 02.03.26

Distribution: All Committee Members