



LCC AGM

Chairperson's / Secretary's Report

First of all, a huge thank you to all Community Council members for their efforts and commitment throughout the last year. Your efforts are appreciated, not just by the Council itself, but also by the community it serves.

After a couple of turbulent years where we struggled to retain enough members to keep the community council going we began to move in the right direction and following the 4 yearly election in October 2018 where we added some additional members we have made some real positive progress.

There have been a number of achievements to report including:

Community Action Plan

Working alongside other groups in the village, and with help from Community Action Lanarkshire, the community council commissioned a community led action plan, involving a questionnaire and open day. The results are ready and the action plan will be launched soon.

Our thanks at this stage to Community Links who are delivering the plan, Community Action Lanarkshire for their assistance and support, and also Banks Renewables who have provided funding for the initiative.

Kype Muir Community Partnership (KMCP)

The community council have been part of KMCP for a number of years working with the other community councils in the area to secure community funding. Funds from the windfarm, which was completed earlier in 2019, will now flow to communities in the area, employability initiatives, and South Lanarkshire Council renewable energy fund (REF). The funds that will flow directly to Lesmahagow community council area will be in the region of £25,000 per annum initially however there will also be benefits to the area from employability initiatives and the REF.

Further work is required as Banks embark on an ambitious extension to the site which we hope will bring additional community benefits. Our thanks to the team at Banks and also the other KMCP members who have worked tirelessly to conclude the funding agreement.

Micro Grant scheme

The community council were successful in its application to South Lanarkshire Council REF to operate a micro grant scheme in the area and have secured funding of £5,000 for each of the next two years, although we hope the scheme will be extended beyond that. This enables the community council to grant funds to groups and individuals in the area who are operating projects that will bring benefits to Lesmahagow and surrounding villages. This scheme is open to applications of up to £500.

Appendix A

There are many areas to prioritise this coming year but in particular:

- Developing further links with other community groups in the village
- Develop stronger relationship with schools
- Planning projects to raise the profile of the village
- Launch of the community action plan
- Full launch of the Kype Muir Community Fund for Lesmahagow
- Successful operation of the micro grant scheme

A final thanks to everyone for their hard work and we look forward to a successful and exciting year ahead.

Mark Waugh
Treasurer, on behalf of Chair and Secretary in absentia
10/10/19