

June 2022- Kintore and District Community Council – Chair Report

The last 12 months have been busy for KDCC, with Covid restrictions coming and going it was difficult to find a rhythm for our monthly meetings and getting involved in events. Thankfully we were able to conduct some face-to-face discussions, and hosted public meetings and events, the highlight being the Fireworks display in November. In the run up to this year's AGM I'm glad to say we have returned to our normal meeting place at Kintore School which has been very positive.

There have been plenty of changes over the course of the last year in the community, as people have adjusted to life after Covid it has been great to see the larger events happening in 2022, with the return of the Kintore Summer Festival, and a street party to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The turn out from the public has shown how happy people are to get back to these events, we saw the same energy during the fireworks in November. The key changes I refer to are new people and groups getting involved in the events, in particular the Jubilee event saw fresh faces getting involved in organising and taking part – a first BBQ for Dossett's – and the return of an event utilising the closed off street at the Square to host a music stage and seating.

Within our community there has also been a lot more collaboration between community groups, this has been really encouraging to see, we are fortunate to have so many groups willing to put the time and effort into engagement with the public and hosting events so to have such collaboration is great for the town. From recent discussions I know this is a trend that will continue, and some positive relationships have been formed over the last year.

Another two key changes for our town this year have been the management of the Floral arrangements and Kintore Konnect. Ainsley Reid MBE indicated last year that he wanted to stand down from the management of the village flowers, after over 10 years looking after them all he has done a huge amount of work which has been appreciated by the community. After several months of searching we have Sue Parrott stepping up to take on the responsibility. While she has big boots to fill, the last month has shown her enthusiasm and passion for the project and there has been a huge amount of work doing the spring swap out of planters and arranging the volunteers again. With Kintore Konnect, Lorna Gillespie announced that she wanted to stand down as Editor and organiser, the disappointment shown online to this news meant that KDCC offered to take on the management and we will continue to work with the community to make sure this valuable communication tool is maintained and gets another lease of life.

Within the Community Council we have had some personnel changes recently, standing down after many years of service are Kenny Thomson, Drew Cullinane, Janine Cracknel and Paul Davison, all of whom have been instrumental in key aspects of the community council over many years and their input has been very much appreciated, I'm sure they will still be keen to get involved when required though. It's given us the opportunity to welcome new members, with Jim Reid, Morag



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Thorburn and Donna Heron joining at this year's AGM, we welcome them and look forward to their involvement this coming year.

There is a lot going on in our community, with some key planning matters that we'll be monitoring and keeping the public updated on as well as continuing our engagement on Community Resilience. At recent meetings we have discussed the current economic landscape, with cost-of-living increases and the pressure being put on the public at this time, we have regular communication with our local Ward Councillors who can pass on our concerns to MPs.

Storms in late 2021 and early 2022 caused considerable damage around Kintore, with a lot of people without power for several days, but it also showed the community spirit we have as there was no shortage of help when needed. There is still tidying up being done after the storms, and there have been ongoing discussions on how we can be better prepared for such events again.

I look forward to continuing the work done over the last year, and am excited about what the year will hold for Kintore and the surrounding areas.

Jamie Grant, Chairman, Kintore and District Community Council