

Chairman's Report

AGM 2022

Over the past year or so, we have gradually found our way out of the pandemic, and life is returning to something approaching normality for most people. We should however be aware that COVID has left deep scars and some people will take longer than others to adjust. Hopefully, nothing like this will ever happen again.

Other things of course are happening, and some of these are very significant as well. Aberfeldy has gained a national profile and wide respect for taking in people fleeing from the war in the Ukraine, and we thank all those involved with efforts to do this, and welcome those who have come here. A combination of factors has seen both house prices and lack of availability create an urgent housing crisis, and Aberfeldy is perhaps more affected than anywhere else in Perth & Kinross. The Aberfeldy Development Trust has been set up to try and deal with some of the issues involved and increase supply of houses, and we need to give them support in doing this.

There are good things as well. People are returning to the town in considerable numbers to visit and shop, the Upper Tay Transport Group is expanding its role, the multi- sports event is becoming a big annual attraction to the town, and the weather has been largely very good.

Beyond this, CC members have been involved with our usual list of various functions. Lorraine has been our main contact with the Griffin/ Calliacher Fund, Pat Spicer has continued to co-ordinate initiatives through the road safety group and has done a good job of the website. Other community council members have attended a range of meetings and helped with various initiatives during the year. Community Warden Norma Carr has continued her good work in investigating and being first point of contact for many issues within the town, and Mary MacDougall has represented us on the Highland Action Partnership as well as taking an interest in how we manage green space within the town.

We have the same three councillors re-elected to the local authority, but their roles have changed. We congratulate Xander McDade on being elected

Provost. Mike Williamson now sits on the council administration, and John Duff has been asked to lead his party group. As usual, we continue to receive good support from PKC staff when we ask for help with specific issues, and I would like to give a special mention to Heartland Radio who have been attending all our meetings and taking an interest in what we are doing.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped us and contributed to our meetings over the past year or so. We have been able to get back in to the Town Hall again, and people seem to be happy and comfortable with that. While we may use Zoom as part of hybrid meetings in future, hopefully we will never have to go back to a situation where we are not allowed out of our houses again.

Victor Clements

4th October 2022

Chairman