

GANDL Annual General Meeting Minutes

Monday 10th June 2019 7pm

Hopetoun Arms, Leadhills

Attendance

- Wendy Johnstone (Chair) (WJ)
- Anne Jefferies (Treasurer) (AJ)
- Rod McMillan (Secretary) (RM)
- Jerome Kyndt (Wiston volunteer) (JK)
- Nicol Johnstone (Youth Representative) (NJ)

Apologies – Jen Nicholls (Book Group Lead)

AGM Administration

Minutes of the Previous AGM

AJ proposed the minutes from last year, seconded by **WJ**, no comments, dissent or matters arising.

Resignations

The office holders all resigned.

Election of a new board

RM proposed **AJ** as Treasurer, Seconded by **WJ**, Vote Carried.

WJ proposed **RM** as Secretary, Seconded by **AJ**, Vote Carried

AJ proposed **WJ** as Chair, Seconded by **RM** and vote carried.

All votes were unanimous with no abstentions.

CHAIRS REPORT - Wendy Johnstone

Thank you for coming this evening. I think it is important to start by saying GANDL is a fantastic concept, and we have seen interest go up and down. When GANDL started there were loads of big plans and ideas – some haven't got started, some have faltered, some have run well and run their course, and some new ideas are on the horizon.

There have been lots of great initiatives and work put into events like the kids club and the cinema, and our film project. We are learning and adapting as some projects have a natural life cycle or funding changes.

What we are seeing is that the GANDL model can work, and I would like to see the model continue. Core volunteers and the board are all busy with work and commitments, but we want to continue the model, and if others want to come on to use the model in the community they can.

TREASURERS REPORT- Anne Jefferies

Bank balance as of 09-Jun-19: £373.41

Pending 2 cheques for £78 (website renewal) and £201 (public liability insurance renewal) leaving an actual balance of £94.41. Also pending outcome of School's Out disco held 7-Jun-19 (made a profit, exact amount TBC).

Various large amounts in/out were the CWFF grant for the KC Film Project.

Date ▼	Type	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
28 March 2019	INT	▼ 14MAR GRS 00164447	£0.21	-	£373.41
29 January 2019	BAC	▼ A MOONEY	£50.00	-	£373.20
28 January 2019	CHQ	▼ 000066	-	£2,574.07	£323.20
16 January 2019	CHQ	▼ 000065	-	£467.72	£2,897.27
28 December 2018	INT	▼ 16DEC-GRS 00164447	£0.11	-	£3,364.99
4 December 2018	BAC	▼ SOUTH LANARKSHIRE	£2,895.61	-	£3,364.88
22 October 2018	C/R	▼ 831611	£100.00	-	£469.27
27 September 2018	INT	▼ 13SEP GRS 00164447	£0.20	-	£369.27
23 August 2018	CHQ	▼ 000064	-	£854.00	£369.07
1 August 2018	CHQ	▼ 000063	-	£75.00	£1,223.07
17 July 2018	C/R	▼ 831611	£50.00	-	£1,298.07
11 July 2018	CHQ	▼ 000062	-	£2,872.00	£1,248.07
10 July 2018	BAC	▼ SOUTH LANARKSHIRE	£854.00	-	£4,120.07
28 June 2018	INT	▼ 14JUN GRS 00164447	£0.48	-	£3,266.07
19 June 2018	BAC	▼ MISS AH JEFFERIES	£231.00	-	£3,265.59

ARTS, CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT (ACE) REPORT- Anne Jefferies

GANDL's overall public liability insurance was covered by the cinema events.

Leadhills CC kindly awarded GANDL a £250 grant, and combined with the profit from the 2017-18 season another event was able to be run on 18-Nov-19. Due to a disappointing turnout a £110.72 loss was made. No further Cinema Events will be run unless they are fully grant funded.

Our community cinema was successful for the area, and Anne and Rodd put in a huge amount of work along with other volunteers, but due to funding rules and not being commercially sustainable, it has run its course but stands as a great example of how we can overcome challenges and GANDL can deliver for the community.

COMMUNICATIONS LEAD REPORT- Anne Jefferies

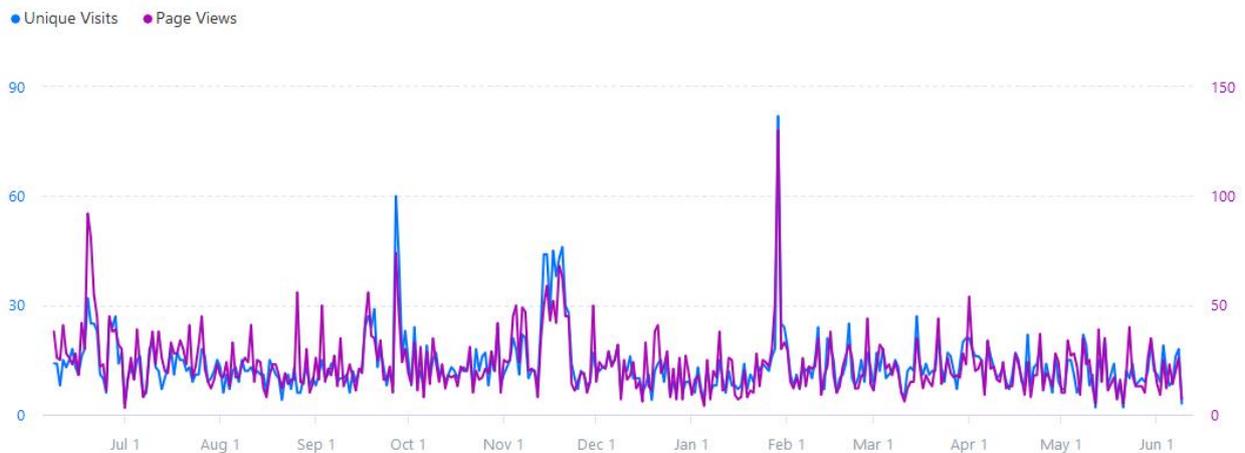
With the help of 16 wonderful volunteer distributors we created and hand-delivered 3 Events Newsletters through people's doors over the past 12 months. Community feedback continues to be very positive for this service. Advertising from local community organisations and businesses has covered the printing costs and made GANDL £112.

Since the start of 2019 the Newsletter moved to online only, massively minimising the financial risk to GANDL. The physical copy is missed, especially with those that are not online, but it became unsustainable due to irregular advertising, and the time-cost of managing and distributing physical copies (a 90 mile round trip to distributors). The group voted to change the advert donation to £50 for A4 and £25 for A5.

The GANDL Facebook group is up 2.2% from 265 to 271 members, we have likely reached all interested parties now. New members are expected to come from people moving into the villages and any organisations that want to start sharing events/info with our members.

Our website gandl.org.uk is still being used despite our organisation being less active, with an average of 129 page views a week from 91 different people.

In the last year there have been 5,005 unique visits and 8,587 page views, with activity spikes each time a new Events Newsletter is launched.



BOOK GROUP – covered by AJ for Jen Nicholls

Jen has run 11 book group meetings run over the past year that have continued to prove popular. They will continue in 2019-2020.

KIDS' CLUB REPORT- Wendy Johnstone

Insurance is current, CPT is current, We would like to update and refresh our child protection training for new volunteers coming aboard. We have our policies and procedures in place.

KC successfully delivered the Youth Film Project in 2018. Thanks to CWFF grant funding the kids got £1500 worth of professional video kit that any of the GANDL kids can use to make films. We made a film with GMAC, who are youth film facilitation experts. We ran a competition, we had 22 kids apply

and 20 got places, and they made a film a year ago in Wiston. It's a beautiful film, really special, there was a competition for the script, and the link to the film can be found on gandl.org.uk.

Youth Disco

Huge congratulations to the young team on the discos. Rowan Johnstone organised the past 2 discos. We are going to do another disco at Halloween. It was very well received, they give kids the chance to communicate with children in other villages. The tuckshop made a profit. It's also being used as a training opportunity in time management for the child organisers. Providing guidance and organisation support to the organisers is where a youth worker would excel.

Upcoming Projects, plans and Ideas

Youth Worker & Event

There is a need for a youth worker in the area – there are nearly 70 kids in the area, they would be the best person to help the kids to organise events such as the discos, and also to act as a non-parent/school based support closer to their own age but outside their immediate circle. There are some issues with vulnerable kids in the area, and some problems with – for example – bullying on school buses. There are 8 or 9 parents who are happy to help or act in loco parentis at events, but are not willing or able to lead and create events. There is a need to provide additional support. Current funding won't cover a job such as a youth worker but we can look for sources of funding that will support specific projects as a possibility that could overlap, or seek new sources of funding. Wiston Hall would be open to doing regular events with a Youth Worker just as one example. Possibly they could start running events now to build interest and show demand. There is a 'community field' which could also be utilised.

As well as the social aspect there is very much a support failing in the area as well, in Biggar they might have some kit but no support based or issue based youth work to talk about drugs or sex education or as a clear referral path when a problem arises. The Kid's Club has a lot of the admin in structure in place that could support a Youth Worker. If funding was available, then the employment and HR could be offered out to different organisations to bid such as Wiston Lodge or the Rural Development Trust.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This may be most easily done as an independent group that works in partnership with the school, outside of the direct GANDL umbrella, but GANDL can still be aware and support. There is an opportunity to work with other organisations and SLC on boosting the Duke of Edinburgh award in the region, in alignment with Schools in Biggar, and making sure it is as affordable as it's meant to be. Wendy is going to take a year to look at the training and set up and requirements to implement this as a longer term project, and will be communicating with the GANDL and DCC teams. DOE can supplement failures in local education to help boost employability. It will be available to kids living in the GANDL area. Free Child Protection training/ insurance would come through the council, there is a precedent for this, this insurance is quite complex, and the Biggar youth project might get involved.

Youth Consultation

Nicol spoke about the sorts of events kids would like to attend, like football and archery. Wendy has evidence of demand where there are children in the area who would like to attend these sort of events but even when they are available (e.g. at Wiston) they are not always able to afford them, so that is something GANDL could potentially facilitate. There are some pockets of events - Ayr beach trip, and a trip that a Crawford resident is organising to "Go Ape" that could be a model.

One issue is transport – kids in villages without transport tend to get to do fewer things in the summer.

With the Community Cinema we attracted paying heads from outside the area to help with sustainability – there is no reason we could not do that with youth trips – e.g. tie in with Brownies or Scouts across a wider area.

Questions From the Floor

Can we bring the printed newsletter back?

Yes: if someone else does the heavy lifting of the distribution.

- The newsletter suffers the same fate as many initiatives which are seen as popular – Everybody wants it, but nobody wants to do it, or can't spare the time to do it, or don't feel confident in doing it.
- There was an open discussion around issues with the printing and advertising and costs and times – it takes a significant amount of time and physical effort to prep for publication, order from the printers, divide the order into multiple counted parcels and then do a 90 mile round trip to distribute them to volunteers across the gandl area, to manage the volunteers, and to cover villages where no distributor has been found or replaced yet.
- Not being professionally printed any physically distributed means we need to revise advertising costs to match the different distribution of online and notice boards.
- Getting batches printed and sent directly from the printers to individual villages was discussed but is cost prohibitive.
- Individual villages using micro-grants to get short runs printed is also cost inefficient compared to a single centralised run.
- It was suggested there could be a distributed satellite printing version – where a volunteer in a street or village might print off or photocopy from the online version and distribute off their own back.

Has the Community worker been placed yet?

Yes – the new community worker is Liz Steele, Once she is fully in place the DCC will make an announcement. She is employed by the Rural Development Trust who are doing the HR and employment side of things.

Are there issues in overlap between DCC funding and GANDL area funding, any potential conflict?

We work openly and within the rules to ensure there is no conflict – for example if something has DCC funding it is strictly within the DCC area – but an event funding in the DCC area by the DCC can still then be open to people from across GANDL to come to, and each event will thank the source or sources of any funding.

Do we ever have anyone ‘come down from Hamilton’ - I’ve never seen anyone from the council?

Yes, local councillors regularly hold surgeries and attend community council meetings- and when we reached out to SLC they were responsive in, for example, organising mobile citizens advice bureau visits.

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