

DRUMOIG RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE AGM, JANUARY 2023

This is the first time since 2020 that we can hold an 'in person' Annual General Meeting and I hope it will provide an opportunity for members to get involved. The Association exists to promote the interests of Drumoig as a location and the more engagement we get from members the better we can fulfil our role.

The period since the 2020 AGM has been a curious mix of inertia due to COVID and frantic activity with the sale of the development land to Kirkwood Homes and the rapid construction of new houses.

The early stages of the pandemic, and the first lockdown, showed the benefits of community involvement, with numerous volunteers coming forward to assist those in need with shopping and other daily tasks. On behalf of the Committee I would like to thank those who so readily volunteered their time.

Another benefit of community cooperation is the agreement of preferential prices for gas. I am sure all members will join me in thanking John Cuthbertson for his diligent and successful discussions. The timing of the last renewal, which saw a reduction in the unit price for gas, could not have been better, given subsequent world events, but I suspect that the negotiations when the current agreement ends in August 2023 will be much more difficult. Whatever the outcome, John will have my sincere gratitude and support.

As we learn to coexist with COVID it is heartening to see some of the clubs and gatherings resume, with ramblers, mah jong and other groups gaining momentum, not forgetting the "Drop in for a drink" sessions on Friday at the hotel. I am also enjoying the regular wildlife newsletters edited by Martin Hepworth, building on the excellent foundations built by Paul and Chrissie Edwards.

I would also like to recognise the substantial work throughout the past years of Ian Wilson as Secretary to the Association. He has worked tirelessly to keep us all informed of the ever-changing rules and regulations during the pandemic through e-mails and the website as well as dealing with substantial volumes of correspondence and discussions with, amongst others, local Community Councils, utility companies, councillors and MSP's and, of course, Kirkwood Homes. Without these efforts the Association would not be able to function.

As the new Kirkwood Homes development progresses it will inevitably alter the profile of Drumoig but I hope that the new households will join the Association and participate in the community.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow committee members for the time they give to the Association and work they undertake on its behalf.

Euan MacGregor