Stobswell Forum AGM 27/05/2025

Present - Colin, Lorraine, Helen, Val, Fraser, Alessandro, Mike, Ali, Lisa, Joy, David, Betty, Cllr Lynn, Cllr Short, Cllr Cruickshank, Neil, Lloyd, Roy, Ivaylo

Apologies - Fionn, Robbie, Kenny, Thomas

Minutes of Previous AGM - Approved as a true representation by Helen, seconded by Mike.

Annual Accounts - Colin thanked Bruce McLeod and his team at Arthur Garty for auditing our accounts for OSCR. Copies of the independently examined accounts were available for perusal at AGM and will also be available on Stobswell Forum's website. Proposed as true representation by David and seconded by Joy.

Annual Report - Paper copies of the full report were available to all present. Colin highlighted a few points:

- Extremely active across a wide range of issues thanks to our dedicated Trustees
- Local Place Plan delivered with a huge amount of work and hours over the last 18 months by a fair chunk of our Trustees. Special thanks to Fionn, David, Helen and Ali.
- Currently working hard to expand on the Craigie Street project. DCC has lodged a funding application to Transport Scotland for Eliza Street, and we are eagerly awaiting the outcome.
- Funding obtained to fund the Connect Shop for a further 2 years
- Social media following continues to rise year on year. Our weekly update is emailed to over 400 recipients. Stobswell Voice is still very well received with lots of positive feedback.
- Festive Celebration has been going from strength to strength over the last 5 years. Many local agencies passed on thousands of gifts to families in need, with cash donations turned into Greens vouchers to help support local families throughout the year. More street lights set to be installed, Light Nights and Morgan Carol Service set to return in 2025.
- Thanks to Maryfield Empowerment Team - Fraser, Val, Sarah, Stuart and Kiera - for all their hard work, support and assistance.
- Thanks to the 3 Ward Councillors for attending the AGM this evening.

Re-election of Trustees and Office Bearers - Graeme resigned as Trustee this year to move to a new career in London. Thanks for your hard work and support over the years. Helen and Joy stood down as Trustees and all existing Office Bearers also stood down from their posts. Helen and Joy were re-elected unanimously by the meeting attendees.

Thomas Coutts and Kenny Christie, co-opted as Trustees during the last 12 months, were unanimously voted on board. Roy O'Kane was nominated by Lorraine and seconded by Helen. Welcome to Stobswell Forum Roy!

Office Bearers -		**Nominated By -**	**Seconded By -**
Chair -	Colin	David	Joy
Vice Chair -	David	Lorraine	Betty
Treasurer -	Mike	Helen	Colin
Secretary -	Lorraine	Mike	Betty

All appointed unanimously

Presentation By Roy O'Kane - Kanzen Karate's Journey to Kanzen For Life - Kanzen Karate began in 2009, currently working with over 2000 participants weekly, for karate and other activities to promote empowerment and well being, having hosted 2 World events, attracting £10m each event into the local economy. Next chapter rebrand into Kanzen For Life, a charity dedicated to creating stronger, healthier and more connected communities, promoting health, wellbeing and education.

From the 2000 attendees, 700 are fee paying and remainder attend for free. Kanzen staff are embedded in local schools working with primary and S2 and S3 pupils. They have outgrown their current premises in Mains Loan. New premises identified on Clepington Road, they will utilise the new space to complement their space on Mains Loan.

Exciting new projects coming to the new centre to make a positive impact on poverty and health and wellbeing, with easy accessibility in Stobswell, they are working flat out to achieve sufficient funding, making an impact on poverty and mental health. The new premises will also attract persons of note to Stobswell instead of hiring other events' venues.

Roy believes that change is possible, encouraging and empowering people to make the changes required to achieve their goals.

Q & A Session

Cllr Lynn - Thank you for a really inspiring talk. Did you enquire if the space in the DISC was available? Do you get any funding from NHS or Health and Social care?
Roy - Yes we have engaged with Leisure and Culture. Some of our funding comes from NHS Charitable Foundation. 65% of our work is funded by external funding.

Ali - Are you involved in any research (eg cardiovascular) projects? If so I can put you in touch with UoD funders.
Roy - That would be amazing. Thank you.

Ivaylo - Do you support other projects?
Roy - Public sector, Private sector and Third Sector must all work together. Insites keen to support with staff based at the new centre.

David - You speak about prevention of disease, what about prevention of anti-social behaviour?
Roy - We are working with partners to help in this regard.

Betty - Is there an entrance fee?
Roy - Only around 40% of our attendees pay the remainder are supported by other funding streams.

Colin - Will your funding model change with the move to the new premises?
Roy - No we don't foresee any change. We do require help with the Kiltwalk - our aim is to get as many people as possible from Stobswell walking that day!

AOCB

Ivaylo introduced himself, first time Stobswell Forum meeting attendee. Thanked Roy for Kanzen Karate which saved his physical and mental health during his transition to Scotland. The local aspect also helped, as did Kanzen's acceptance of all ages and all backgrounds.

Colin - Stobswell Together Drop In - A weekly session where you can get confidential advice and information on subjects such as Money/Debt advice, Benefits, Housing, Employment, Health and wellbeing, Food Larders, Community Activities, Childcare, and much more. Open to everyone, men and women, every Friday 10am - 3pm in DIWC, Unit 9B, Manhattan Works. Contact Chloe Monroe 07725074088 **chloe@diwc.co.uk**

Helen - Weavers Yard - After 13 applications, shortlisting now completed. Residents consultation to be completed by 1st July with an exciting new artist. Thanks to Hillcrest Homes and Caledonian Housing Association for their funding to replace existing damaged artworks. Stobswell Artist's Register has 13 new artists.

Meeting Closed.