

Friends of Old Cove

The summer months have been much quieter for the FOOC group than the usual busy activity but nevertheless their impact has been significant and colourful. Our partners, Cove In Bloom, provided us with forty flower troughs which were distributed and willingly displayed by residents throughout the village, this enhanced the beauty of the area considerably. Residents will soon receive a note about the storage of the troughs throughout the winter season with suggestions about their use during 2016. Work also continued on the raised flower beds beside the sub - station.

At the recent meeting of the action group a number of suggestions for and decisions about the way ahead were discussed;

1) approaches have been made to the local authority to upgrade our roads, especially those that have pot holes, the pathways, street lights and street signage all need attention, We believe we should have the same level of care and investment from the Council that similar conservation areas like Old Aberdeen and Footdee receive.

2) we have been donated 1,000 daffodil bulbs and we hope to plant these on the road verges, especially the road leading down to the harbour, we are going to arrange a day for planting these during autumn and we trust that this initiative will be something many Old Cove residents will participate in.

3) we discussed the possibility of having an Old Cove Christmas Tree this

year, so we are actively seeking advice on the H & S aspects of this and should know about it's feasibility soon. This possibility will really lighten up the area during the dark month of December.

4) we are aware that the harbour area is included within the Old Cove Conservation area as a whole which has suffered years of neglect since the inception of the status in 1975. We are keen to help the owner of the harbour and those who fish out of the harbour to find ways to improve and enhance the area and restore its natural beauty and practicality.

5) one longer term project which affects Old Cove is the creation of a nature trail from the Bay of Nigg to Cove Bay. The trail would pass through Old Cove and include the Isie Caie sensory garden which Cove in Bloom are hoping to establish. This sounds a very ambitious project and we are looking forward to playing our part in it's creation.

In conclusion;

We are conscious that not everyone who wishes to do so is able to attend our regular meetings in the Cove Bay Hotel on the third Thursday of the month, so we are going to change our regular meetings to a Monday evening. The next one will be on Monday, 2nd November, in the same venue and all will be made welcome.

Hector McKenzie

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