



CUNNINGHAME
HOUSING ASSOCIATION

More than just a landlord

CUNNINGHAME



SUMMER 2021

Share Members' Edition

WELCOME to the Summer 2021 edition of our Share Members' newsletter which will give you details of the Association's news over the past six months. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and will enter our competition.

WHAT'S IN THIS EDITION?

Annual General Meeting – Date for your diary!
Making Our Communities Better Places Fund
Development
...and much more!

Annual General Meeting

Special General Meeting

Important Date for your Diary!

CHA's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 2.15pm in our Head Office, Quayside Offices, Marina Quay, Dock Road, Ardrossan KA22 8DA. You should have received your AGM pack in the post by now with all the details.

At the AGM you will receive a presentation covering a Review of the Year, which will highlight the activities of the Association over the past 12 months. In addition to this you will receive the Annual Audited Accounts for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.

We very much hope that you can attend the AGM, if you need transport to and from the office, please contact Kirsteen Wyllie on 01294 607572 or Elaine Nimmo on 01294 606043.

Prior to the AGM we will be holding a Special General Meeting to gain member support for the amendment of the rules on Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 2.15 pm. Again, you will have received your SGM pack in the post by now with all the details.

As a postal vote is required to gain member support for the adoption of the proposed new rules a Ballot Paper was included in your SGM pack. Please ensure that you complete your Ballot Paper and return back to us by 5.00 pm on Wednesday 1st September 2021.

We very much hope that you can attend both the SGM and AGM. If you require transport to and from the office, please contact Kirsteen Wyllie on 01294 607572 or Elaine Nimmo on 01294 606043.

COVID-19 Update

Following the Scottish Government's change in lockdown criteria, staff have now begun a phased return to work to the office. The Association have also been able to reinstate face to face meetings and look forward to reopening the office fully once staff have returned to a full capacity. Further updates will be provided via the Association's website: <https://www.cunninghame-housing.org/>

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Making Our Communities Better Places Fund

As previously reported, due to Covid-19 and the Scottish Government lockdown, the Board of Management agreed at their meeting of 14th May 2021 to freeze the Making Our Communities Better Places Fund 2020/21 until restrictions eased.

During lockdown, the Board of Management did award some community projects that they felt would benefit hugely during what proved to be very difficult times for our local communities.

On Thursday 22nd April 2021 Cunninghame Housing Association presented a cheque to the value of £2,000 to help support the Community Fridge which has recently been set up by Councillor Jim Montgomerie and a group of volunteers from the Inspire Motivate Celebrate project at Springvale Street, Saltcoats. The donation was awarded by the Association's voluntary Board of Management who commended the work of Councillor Jim Montgomerie and the volunteers in supporting their local community.



Pictured left to right: Frank Sweeney, Group Chief Executive of CHA, Councillor Jim Montgomerie, Chairperson of Inspire Motivate Celebrate, Councillor Jimmy Miller, John Kelly, CHA Chairperson

John Kelly, Chairperson of Cunninghame Housing Association presented the cheque to Councillor Jim Montgomerie, Chairperson of Inspire, Motivate, Celebrate.

Councillor Jim Montgomerie said, "Everyone from The Project is hugely grateful for CHA's kind donation. We all really appreciate this amount of money. It will all be spent on food to help those who use our fridge within our community."

The Community Fridge was initially set up with the aim of helping those most in need during lockdown and to ensure nobody goes without food during these challenging times.

John Kelly said, "The Board of Management and its staff are keen to help those in need and support the local community. We hope that this donation will help make a difference to people who need it most."

Now that Scottish Government restrictions are starting to lift, the Board of Management agreed at their meeting of 13th May 2021 that the Making Our Communities Better Places Fund should reopen for 2021/22 as applications are beginning to be received.

On Thursday 27th May 2021 John Kelly, Chairperson of Cunninghame Housing Association presented a cheque for £1,000 to the Scottish Association of Flower Arrangement Societies to assist with the running costs for their bi annual Conference in September 2021.

The Conference offers the opportunity for all flower club members throughout Scotland to come together for friendship, fun and flowers, whilst sharing the creative use of flowers through education as well as aiding mental health and wellbeing.

John Kelly, Chairperson of CHA commented, "We are delighted to be able to support the Scottish Association of Flower Arrangement Societies biannual Conference, particularly in recent times

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where people have suffered isolation due to Covid. The Conference gives all flower members something positive to focus on and look forward to in better times ahead”.



Pictured left to right (back): Linda Soutar, Heather Black and Margaret Scott

Pictured left to right (front): Sheila Chalmers, Margaret Strachan, Chairperson of SAFAS, John Kelly, Chairperson of CHA and Brenda Johnstone

Margaret Strachan, Chairperson of SAFAS said, “SAFAS are so grateful for the generous donation from Cuninghame Housing Association of £1,000. During lockdown it has become more apparent the benefit to health of flowers and gardens - many people who have never appreciated this before certainly do now. We hope to use this money to promote our love of flowers and hope to attract new members who have newly discovered and appreciate the joy that flowers can bring”.

On 24th June 2021 John Kelly the Chairperson of Cuninghame Housing Association presented a cheque for £500 to Kaileigh Brown, Executive Director and Elaine Smith, Director of The Ayrshire Community Trust (TACT) to assist with the running costs of their planned online award ceremony for volunteers who have supported others during the Covid pandemic. TACT feel it is more important than ever to hold an event to recognise volunteers who have given up their time to help others who may have experienced loneliness or poor mental health.

Volunteers are nominated from organisations such as Foodbank, hospital transport and befriending programmes.

Kaileigh Brown, Executive Director of TACT commented, “Volunteers’ Week 2021 had the theme of ‘time to say thanks’. It goes without saying that volunteers have played a pivotal role in the pandemic response. During an exceptionally difficult year, people from all walks of life have taken the time to volunteer and make a huge difference to their communities throughout North Ayrshire – just like they do every year. This is a time for us to come together and thank all volunteers for their invaluable contribution. We wouldn't be able to host such an Event where all nominated volunteers are in receipt of a goodie bag or hamper for their fantastic contribution without the support and ongoing commitment of our sponsors. Cuninghame Housing Association has been a longstanding supporter of TACT and we are very grateful for their continued support.”



From left to right: Elaine Smith, Director TACT, John Kelly, Chairperson CHA, Frank Sweeney, Group CEO CHA, Kaileigh Brown, Executive Director TACT

Frank Sweeney, Group CEO of CHA commented, “We are delighted to support this fantastic local charity whose volunteers are continuing to deliver for our communities.”

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Corrie Crescent, Saltcoats

In May 2021, a closing ceremony was held to mark the completion of the development at Corrie Crescent, Saltcoats on the site of the former St Brendan's Church.

The main contractor was Clyde Coast Contracts based in Ayr and were due to begin work in March 2020, however due to Covid-19 and lockdown, the start date was postponed, and a site start was achieved on 29th June 2020 and was completed on 10th May 2021.

The overall development costs to deliver the contract was £1,963,000. The Association was awarded £1.089m from the Scottish Charitable Bond Programme, Allia and the rest in private finance to support the delivery of these new homes. A total of 13 new homes for rent have been provided, a mixture of 2- & 3-bedroom family houses as well as 2 cottage flats.

The closing ceremony was an opportunity to showcase the naming of the street after Janet Strang, a long-standing CHA Board member and former Chairperson of Cunninghame Housing Association.



Pictured left to right: Owen McLaughlin, Contractor, Brenda Johnstone, Board Member of CHA, Frank Sweeney, Group Chief Executive of CHA, Linda Anderson, Executive Director of Development Services CHA, Janet Strang, Company Secretary CHA, Councillor Jimmy Miller, Willie Gibson, Board Member CHA, June Fenelon, Board Member CHA, Councillor Ronnie McNicol, Lesley Keenan, Board Member CHA

Frank Sweeney, Group CEO of Cunninghame Housing Association said, "working in partnership with both North Ayrshire Council and the Scottish Government to deliver this new project, we are delighted with the finished product, which offers much needed, desirable, quality accommodation for rent in this popular part of Saltcoats".

Janet Strang, CHA Company Secretary said, "I am absolutely thrilled that this street has been named after myself. My thanks to the Three Towns Area Committee for the honour – most appreciated".

West Byrehill Road, Kilwinning

In May 2021, Leader of North Ayrshire Council, Joe Cullinane carried out the official ceremony to mark the start of Cunninghame Housing Associations new build project at West Byrehill, Kilwinning.



Left to right: Councillor Donald Reid, Councillor Jimmy Miller, Frank Sweeney, Group CEO, CHA, Gary Climson, McTaggart Construction, Councillor Joe Cullinane, John Kelly, Chair, CHA, Drew Hall, Board Member, CHA, Willie Gibson, Chair of Development Services, CHA.

Work on site commenced on 12th April 2021 and the overall contract period is 95 weeks.

McTaggart Construction are the main contractors who are based in Dalry and will deliver the works under a design and build contract. A total of 72 new homes are being provided, predominantly 2- and 3-bedroom houses as well as 8 bungalows designed for older people and 3 bungalows designed specifically for wheelchair users.

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With total development costs of £11.8 million, the project has benefitted from £6.351 million in Housing Association grant awarded from the Scottish Government.

Councillor Joe Cullinane said, "I am delighted to see the construction of this new housing development here in Kilwinning which will provide 72, first-class new homes including 8 bespoke bungalows."

Recently there has been an increase in demand for homes designed to specifically meet the needs of our older residents and those with disabilities, therefore it is reassuring to know that North Ayrshire Council and Housing Associations such as Cunninghame Housing Association, are working in tandem to address those needs and deliver for the people of North Ayrshire."

Frank Sweeney, Group CEO of CHA stated, "Great to see this quality partnership development now progressing". The project is due to be completed by February 2023.

Green Street, Saltcoats

Cunninghame Housing Association, working in partnership with North Ayrshire Council and the Scottish Government, have agreed the inclusion of the Green Street/Vernon Street building within the North Ayrshire Strategic Housing Investment Plan. The existing building will be demolished with a new development planned. The new project will see the delivery of 24 new flats, with lift access to enable the flats to be fully accessible on all floors. The flats will be designed to accommodate those with mobility needs.

The demolition contract was awarded to Geo Beattie & Sons and demolition work commenced

on site on 4th May 2021 and was successfully completed on 22nd July 2021 with the new build project scheduled to start early next year.



Pictured left to right: Frank Sweeney, Group CEO CHA, Drew Hall, Board Member CHA, June Fenelon, Board Member CHA, John Kelly, Chairperson CHA, Janet Strang, Company Secretary CHA, Councillor Jim Montgomerie, Willie Gibson, Board Member CHA, John Nisbet, Board Member CHA, Margaret Davison, Board Member CHA, Brenda Johnstone, Board Member CHA.

A ceremony was held on site on 17th May 2021 to mark the start of the demolition contract, with Councillor Jim Montgomerie (who started the demolition) and the Association's Board members in attendance. Councillor Jim Montgomerie said, "I am delighted to seeing our latest housing development start in Saltcoats. It is in a fantastic location with easy access to the Town, bus stop and railway station. I am really looking forward to seeing it completed".



GENERAL NEWS

Cunninghame Housing Association Sponsors Ayrshire Key Workers Awards

Cunninghame Housing Association are proud to be sponsors of this years (2021) Ayrshire Weekly Press Health & Keyworker awards.

The awards celebrate the hard work and dedication of keyworkers throughout Ayrshire, during what has been one of the most difficult periods we have had to live through.



The awards were held in July 2021, with some truly astonishing achievements hailed during the virtual ceremony, hosted by comedian Billy Kirkwood. Nominations flooded in from across the country, leaving the judging panel with some very difficult decisions to make.

Frank Sweeney, Chief Executive of Cunninghame Housing Association who was part of the judging panel said, "It is great to be associated with these awards that celebrate our keyworkers in the community. It fits perfect with the Associations on-going mission to be more than just a landlord, making our communities better places".

You can watch the awards ceremony via the following link: [Ayrshire Health & Key Worker Awards 2021 - YouTube](#)

Christmas Newsletter Competition Winners



All correct Christmas newsletter competition entries received were put in a hat and first three winners were pulled as follows:

- 1st Prize** - £30.00 - Margaret Brown, Largs
- 2nd Prize** - £20.00 - Catherine Donnelly, Ardrossan
- 3rd Prize** - £10.00 Moira Bingham, Saltcoats

Why not have a go at our Summer newsletter competition!

Get Social with us!

To stay updated on all that's going on at CHA, please like & follow our Facebook page and check out our website. It's updated regularly with news, events and our new build developments in North & East Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway.

