



ANNUAL REPORT

20th June 2021-20th June 2022



Introduction.

1. As a registered Scottish Charity (SC 032395), Beautiful Perth (BP) is required to prepare its accounts and an Annual Report of its endeavours and financial activity. This Annual Report summarises another difficult year of challenging and limited activity during the year 2021-2022, but easier than the previous year as the global COVID 19 pandemic restrictions eased incrementally throughout the year in accordance with National Government Guidelines. We were finally able to hold face to face meetings with Trustees, initially at outdoor venues including at Branklyn Garden (courtesy of the National Trust for Scotland) and also at Riverside Park. Later we were able to meet indoors, but due to not being able to meet at our usual venue at Perth and Kinross Council HQ, meetings were held at the Perth Creative Exchange and at the Salutation Hotel for those able to attend indoor meetings. Beautiful Perth volunteers continued to improve the Riverside Park with the introduction of more heather varieties including new *carnea* varieties to support the aim to achieve a National Heather Collection. Work also continued to maintain areas including Rodney Gardens, Oakbank Corner bed, Bridgend Car Park, Kinnoull School Garden, various beds along Dundee Road, Curfew Row, St Leonards in The Fields Church, Craigie Cross, Oakbank Post Office planters and Oakbank Community Centre.

Scottish Charity number SC 032395

Postal address c/o PKC Community Greenspace, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth PH1 5GD

My sincere thanks to our Vice Chair, Jenny Williams, whose continued support to me as Chairman under difficult working conditions is greatly appreciated. Thanks are also conveyed to both Monica Straughan and Elspeth Bruce for undertaking the roles of Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Both are important and key positions, and we are also grateful to Monica for her duties on media promotion through press releases, the website and social media. Elspeth Bruce along with many others was also instrumental in succeeding to deliver the extremely comprehensive book on the history of the local Nurseries associated with Riverside Park and surrounding areas which illustrated the local and national importance of these former plant nurseries to the horticultural history of Perth and its economic benefit.

I would like to thank all our volunteers and Trustees for their loyal support to Beautiful Perth and each other through another challenging year. We are also very grateful to the partner organisations, sponsors and supporters who have remained loyal to Beautiful Perth throughout this time.

2 Governance

Structure, governance and management

Beautiful Perth's governing document is a Constitution, adopted in 2001 and most recently revised in 2019. The charitable objectives of Beautiful Perth are

- to improve the local environment and quality of life in Perth
- to enhance environmental education through environmental campaigns and projects
- to advance community development by fostering community spirit and public participation

Our governing body is a Committee of Trustees, drawn from the private sector, public sector, local residents and voluntary organisations. All committee members are volunteers and no remunerations are paid. During 2021 we thanked Alison Morrison for her valuable service given to Beautiful Perth as she resigned as a Trustee from Beautiful Perth to pursue other interests, and we were also very pleased to welcome Susie Eisner to be co-opted to the Committee as a valuable new member.

As required by the Constitution, the Trustees monitor the Association's financial position via regular reports to the committee by the Treasurer. Audited accounts of the Income and Expenditure and of the Balance Sheet at the end of the financial year are presented to the AGM for scrutiny and approval

We have a set of Policies and Procedures in place, covering Health & Safety, Finance, The Environment, Plastics, Volunteering, Protection of Children & Vulnerable Adults, Equal Opportunities and Intergenerational Working and Lone Working

Independent Examiner: We are very grateful to Lorna SharpFCCA for her professional independent examination of our Annual Accounts

Finance: Full details of the Association's finances are presented in the Accounts and Treasurer's Notes. The Association is in a satisfactory financial position and my thanks to those who support us for their continued contributions. Thank you to the Council for its continued financial support, to other funders and supporters including the Gannochy Trust and the Perthshire Advertiser, and to our generous sponsors Earnside Energy, Holiday Inn Express Perth, Kilmac Ltd, Live Active Leisure, Morris Leslie Ltd, St Johnstone FC, St Leonard's in the Field Church and NFU Mutual.

3 Key Projects 2021-22

COVID 19 restrictions still prevented the significant development of some key projects, with our activities being

focussed on;

- **Riverside Park – new Heathers planted and maintained and general improvements to this growing garden. Preparations made for new signage and interpretation of the Garden based on the Landscape Architect’s plans starting from the entrance and throughout the Garden. Funding secured from local grant sources and BP funds to complete this work which has been badly held up by COVID 19 restrictions**
- **Kinnoull Church and churchyard - the Committee agreed to help a ‘Friends of Kinnoull Church’ voluntary group to be set up under the guidance of Robert Ross from the Community Greenspace Team of the Perth and Kinross Council as part of a Council ‘Friends of Cemeteries’ Initiative.**
- **The Compassionate Friends Garden at Riverside Park- Beautiful Perth volunteers continued to enhance the Compassionate Friends’ garden, with new planting and also the purchase of a Sculpture of a Garden Fork designed by Kevin Paxton of Art Fe. This was unveiled at the hosting by BP of the visit by members of the Compassionate Friends Group to the garden on 7th May 2022 as part of their Annual Assembly in Scotland**
- **Rodney Gardens- Volunteers continue to maintain the Gardens to a high standard by regular volunteering sessions sometimes supported by Community Payback personnel. This area is an important asset to Perth and the support of the regular volunteers, ably led by Tom Lowdon, is vital to presenting this area in its best light for visitors and locals alike.**
- **Partnership with Rosie’s Garden – we continue to work in partnership with Rosie’s Garden (part of the charity Turning Point Scotland), where service users improve areas in Perth including Curfew Row and floral tubs at Bridgend in spring and summer**
- **Working with Keep Scotland Beautiful to find a route back into National ‘Bloom’ Competitions after the cessation due to COVID 19 over the last few years.**
- **Working with Scotrail at Perth Station and the Station Garden to support the efforts of the staff at the Station to resume work which has been severely curtailed by National COVID 19 restrictions at one of Perth’s most important entrances for residents and visitors**
- **Continuing to promote and encourage sustainable planting choices to support the environment whilst maintaining colour and vibrancy in displays**

4 Community Engagement, Participation and Partnership Working

Partnerships are key to our success and we continue to have valuable working relationships with both long-standing supporters and new partners. Together, we really do make a difference and listed below are some of the people and groups who have made valuable contributions to our success. I am very grateful to all those involved. Key partnerships include:

Perth and Kinross Council: The positive and longstanding partnership with Perth and Kinross Council’s Community Greenspace Team continues to help us deliver beneficial outcomes in horticultural excellence, environmental responsibility and community participation. We also have support from wider council teams. Our collaborative working is beneficial and ensures positive outcomes in helping keep Perth beautiful. Planters have been provided in some City Centre areas by the Council and we continue to work with the Council Nursery in Jeanfield Rd. The effect of Council Horticulture maintenance staff being redeployed to Statutory duties like Refuse Collection etc due to COVID 19 restrictions has had an effect on the ability to continue past support and discussions are ongoing about how BP can assist in maintaining floral attractions formerly looked after previously by Council Staff. Community

Payback continue to be a great support to BP in delivering compost to Riverside Park, removing graffiti and general assistance where they can

Schools: Partnership working temporarily suspended during 2021-2022 due to inability to work within schools due to COVID 19

5 Environmental Responsibility

Activities have been limited to working on a City Centre anti-graffiti campaign and financial assistance with equipment purchase (High Pressure Washer)

6 Local Awards - No local awards have taken place this year.

7. Conclusion

Our motivation is to make Perth a beautiful place to live, work and visit and attempt to return to normal active operations soon. It is anticipated that even more volunteers will be recruited in response to personal re-evaluations post pandemic, and in recognition of the value of their local environment in terms of health and wellbeing, social interaction and its positive relationship with good mental health.

The backing from Local Councillors and staff from Perth and Kinross Council is essential to the success of Beautiful Perth and is much appreciated. We have been grateful for continuing sponsorship support from private sector companies during 2021-2022

As Chairman I must thank all the Executive Committee Members, Office Bearers and volunteers who have helped once again to chart Beautiful Perth through another challenging year with great tenacity, loyalty and goodwill.

John Summers

John P Summers OBE, Chairman

20th June 2022

8. Annex 1: List of Partnerships

Schools and youth groups

Kinnoull Primary School
10th Perthshire Beaver Scouts

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

Charities, voluntary groups & social enterprises

Beautiful Scotland
Branklyn Garden
Bridgend Affiliate Group
Butterfly Conservation East Scotland
Church of The Nazarene
Compassionate Friends Scotland
Heather Society
Moncreiffe Island allotment group
Oakbank Community Centre
Perth Station Garden Club
Perthshire Wildlife Trust
RHS of Perthshire

Royal Scottish Geographical Society
Salvation Army Skinnergate House
South Perth Greenspace Partnerships
Take A Pride in P&K Association
Tayside Biodiversity Partnership
Tulloch's Blooming Lade
Turning Point Scotland – Rosie's Garden Perth
Viewlands Venture

Businesses & agencies

AK Bell Library
Black Watch Museum
Community Safety Partnership
Craigie Cross businesses
Perth City Centre Management
Perth Concert Hall
Perthshire Advertiser
Scottish Natural Heritage

Perth & Kinross Council Teams

Community Greenspace
Criminal Justice (Community Payback)
Dog Control
Finance
Operations (Grounds Maintenance)
Parking Services
Regeneration
Roads
Street Lighting
Waste Services
Westbank Nursery