

Callander Community Council
8 March 2021

Associate Members

As I understand the scheme of establishment allows for the Community Council can by invitation to an individual that are active within the boundary. They can be appointed by a simple majority that a need has arisen to appoint individuals with particular skills, knowledge or experience. I propose that the CCC should openly welcome Associate Members. I understand that Associate Members serve for only 12 months.

CCC is at present dominated by individuals who are elderly residents of the community and as such in my opinion do not represent the whole community. We must find a way of encouraging participation by younger members of the community to get more involved and one way of doing this is via Associate Members. For example, if someone comes along with an idea which is going to help the community then that must be dealt with full cooperation and support to allow the creativity and to assist that individual to develop the idea hopefully by bringing in others to help. Any project must not be seen to be micro- managed by any one individual within the Community Council. However should a Community Councillor have a particular skill which can enhance the project/ idea then there should no reason not to get involved.

As with any other sub- group any project proposed would be scrutinised and discussed within the CCC. This could also help improve the image of CCC.

During a recent Zoom meeting hosted by Dick Johnson some of the innovative ideas discussed were enlightening. Ways to help bring the community together after such a difficult year. Cheer Up Callander. This supports Roger Watt's community building.

There could be a huge advantage in appointing Associate Members as this may stimulate more involvement by the community and encourage them to become Community Councillors in the next election.

The question may arise as to how we find such members. We could advertise via social media and BLV but we do know the online meetings has resulted in more of the community attending so perhaps we could start by asking their opinion.

Elaine Watterson
5 March 2021