## **Friends of Wallace Park**

Chairs report to AGM 23 October 2019

As this is the end of the first full year for the Friends of Wallace Park, it is time to reflect on what we have achieved and how the future is looking.

Wallace Park is a fantastic resource and we believe it can offer something for everyone in the village. I think that most , if not all, villagers will have used the park for something during the year. This year has seen an increase in volunteering in the park both through our volunteer days and by more people engaging with the group via social media or directly with Committee members .

You will have already seen the impact of the Friends of Wallace Park during the year with the tidying up of overgrowth areas and the improvement of the sun clock.

During the year we have more firmly established our key principles:

- The park aims to encourage all villagers to use and get the best out of the park
- Everyone in Glenfarg and surrounding area is considered to be a 'Friend of Wallace Park' and the committee is working on behalf of everyone
- We want and need engagement from as many people as possible
- We will promote the use of sustainable and renewable resources wherever possible

The development plans have now been drafted by Perth and Kinross Council's Landscape Architect and we are now in the serious business of trying to fundraise for the various aspects of the development. The biggest and most costly element of the development will be the extension of the path around the whole park. Other projects include the children's play area, adult gym, picnic benches and notice board. We have been successful with getting funds from the Kinross-shire Fund for the fees for the Landscape Architect and a generous contribution from the Glenfarg Gala towards the overall development plan. We have also benefited hugely from advice and support from personnel in Perth and Kinross Council, in particular Russell, Diane and Rachel. As you may be aware the Council plans are to do their scheduled upgrade the children's play area next year and we want to coordinate some of our development plans with their timescales so there is a lot of work to do over the next few months. Offers of helping raising funds will be very welcomed.

Over the next year we will be having more volunteer activity/fun days which we hope will involve more and more villagers. There are lots of ideas about what we can do next so I hope to see as many people involved as possible.

Finally I would like to thank the other members of the Committee (Janet, Margaret, Alison, Hannah, Daniel and Sheena) for their input and help

Here's to a green, fun and prosperous 2020

**Richard Ibbotson**