

## **BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST**

### **Minutes of Twentieth Annual General Meeting**

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**Finzean Hall**

Ordinary Members Present: *Aiden Bell, Alison Bell, Doug Boyle, Eoghan Cameron, Margaret Chapman, Rex Chapman, David Cochran, Louise Counsell, Tim Coxe, Andrew Craig, Nancy Davidson, Dorothy Dinnie, Robert Dinnie, Andrew Farquharson, Donald Farquharson, Kate Farquharson, Ellie Flather, Gill Gordon, Jim Gordon, Guy Haslam, Jean Haslam, Davie Hector, John Hector, Wendy Hector, Chris Hockley, Kate Hockley, Helen Jackson, Dale Kitching, Jonathan Kitching, Sian Loftus, Liz McConnach, Jean McLeod, Sheila McPherson, Neil Middleton, Anne Paul, Rick Paul, Elizabeth Rose, Allan Shand, Mel Shand, Anneka Stolte, Joanne Strachan, Paul Tanner, David Winton, Jane Winton, Sarah Wright, David Younie (46)*

Others Present: *Lorna MacGill, Jim Reid (2)*

Apologies from Ordinary Members: *Calum Bell, Jacqui Chapman, Paul Chapman, Deborah Dinnie, Hazel Dinnie, Robert F Dinnie, David Duncan, Hamish Forbes, Alexandra Haslam, Peter Jackson, Christina Nicol, Malcolm Nicol, Zoe Paul, Mark White, Gareth Wright, Richard Wright, Samantha Wright, Patsy Younie(18)*

Apologies from Others: *Colin Liddell, Sarah Rennie, Stuart Young (3)*

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies.**

On behalf of the Board, the Chair of BCT's Trustees, Guy Haslam, welcomed everyone to BCT's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, and noted the apologies.

#### **2. Minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017.**

Guy asked for approval of the Minutes of BCT's 19<sup>th</sup> AGM on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017, these having been made available. Approval was proposed by Paul Tanner and seconded by Ellie Flather.

#### **3. Matters Arising.**

It was confirmed that there were no Matters Arising from last year's AGM.

#### **4. Trustees' Report for the Year to 31st December 2017.**

Guy introduced the Trustees' Report as printed in BCT's Annual Report. This Report was adopted by the members present.

#### **5. Approval of the Accounts for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.**

Guy introduced the Annual Accounts as printed in BCT's Annual Report, and gave an overview of income and expenditure in 2017. He also noted that the full set of the BTC and the BTco accounts were available from the BCT website. The Annual Accounts were approved in a show of hands by a clear majority.

#### **6. Election of Trustees**

Guy informed those present that Doug Boyle was retiring as a Trustee having completed his 5 year term. He thanked Doug for all his hard work and noted that Doug would still be a Director of BTCo.

Next he informed those present that Jonathan Kitching was also retiring having completed his 5 year term but was seeking re-election. He was duly elected unopposed.

He then informed the meeting that BCT has received four nominations to become new Trustees. He explained that in order to avoid the need for a vote, he proposed that 3 Trustees would be elected and one Trustee would be co-opted. This was agreed and Nancy Davidson, Pam Taylor and Toby Rider were then duly elected. Alison Bell was elected as a Co-opted Trustee immediately after the AGM.

7. **Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner.**

Guy explained that the Trustees are very satisfied with the way our current financial examiners handle BCT's accounts, but asked permission from those present to explore alternatives for next year in order to try and reduce the costs as other similar organisations were paying less to have their accounts audited, but only if we could secure a similar level of service. This was approved in a show of hands by a clear majority

8. **Fixing of Annual Subscription for Associate Members.**

Guy explained that the Trustees recommend that the Annual Subscription for Associate Members should remain at £20 (UK) and £25 (Overseas). This was approved in a show of hands by a clear majority.

There being no further formal business, Guy concluded the AGM

---

*Following the AGM, Guy Haslam, supported by the other Trustees, gave a presentation on BCT. He described the key principles of operation, and explained the workings of Slewdrum and Balfour forests (which are managed by BTco) and the Commonty. He followed this with information on the Water Mills and Old School/Archive complex. Finally, he explained the reasoning behind the appointment of Eoghan Cameron as BCT's manager.*

*He responded to questions and comments from the floor on:-*

- *The new format Annual Report which the meeting approved. He agreed that BCT would include a budget for the next financial year in the 2018 Report*
- *The repair of the weirs on the Feugh*
- *The possibility of new build housing for locals (The Trustees agreed to discuss at the next Trustee Meeting)*
- *Community Engagement workshops*
- *Community Action Plan*
- *Broadband speed (The Trustees agreed to discuss at the next Trustee Meeting)*
- *Sustainable forest management*

*Finally he thanked everyone for attending and invited them to join the Trustees in the refreshments provided.*