

## **BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST**

### **Minutes of BCT's Eleventh Annual General Meeting**

**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009**

**Finzean Hall**

**Members Present:** *Maree Anderson, Mark Bilsby, Robin Callander, Paul Chapman, George Christie, Jacqui Christie, Kevin Christie, William Christie (Sen.), Dorothy Dinnie (Marywell), Gordon Dinnie, Dorothy Dinnie (Birsebeg), Robert Dinnie, Claire Easton, Angus Farquharson, Alison Farquharson, John Forbes, Douglas Gray, Elizabeth Gray, Sheila Harper, Guy Haslam, Ian Hector, Wendy Hector, Charles Insch, James Ironside, Ean Mcleod, Jean Mcleod, James Mortimer, Andrew Nicol, Julie Nicol, Brian Page, Martin Page, Brian Pattinson, Shirley Pattinson, Richard Paul, Alastair Pout, William Powrie, Edith Riddell, Hector Riddell, Allan Shand, Mel Shand, Donald Silcock, Anne Silcock, Andrew Walker, Christine Wright, Richard Wright: (45)*

**Associate Members Present:**, *Eileen Bailey, William Bailey, Alastair McGregor, Mary McGregor: (4)*

**Apologies from Ordinary Members:** *Helen Bilsby, Alan Butchart, Ursula Butchart, Jacqui Chapman, Margaret Chapman, Rex Chapman, Elsie Christie, Mary Christie, Elizabeth Clarke, Robert Dinnie (Jnr), Jenni Eke, Michael Eke, Andrew Farquharson, Kate Farquharson, Rosemary Forbes, John Forster, Sandra Forster, Esther Gooch, Ronnie Harper, Jean Haslam, David Hector, Isabel Insch, David Latham, Audrey Litterick, Bobbie Page, Anne Paul, Hazel Strachan, Kevin Strachan, Donna Thow, Craig Thow: (30)*

**Apologies from Associate Members** *David Jenkins, John King, Prudence King, Colin Liddell & Duncan Thomson of J & H Mitchell WS, Malcolm Nicol, Graeme Young, Jane Young: (8)*

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

BCT's Chairman, Donald Silcock, welcomed everyone on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the 11th Annual General Meeting. The apologies received were noted.

#### **2. Minutes of the Tenth Annual General Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

The Minutes of the Tenth AGM having been made available, the Chairman asked that they be approved. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Guy Haslam, seconded by Charles Insch and unanimously approved by the Members present.

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

There were no Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Tenth AGM.

#### **4. Trustees Report for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008**

On behalf of the Board, Donald Silcock presented the Trustees Report for 2008, the full text of which formed part of the 2008 Annual Report that had been sent to all members.

The Chairman highlighted the substantial effort that had been required during 2008 to complete all the funding applications and other requirements for BCT's proposed project to buy Balfour Wood and install the woodchip heating scheme at Finzean Old School. He also noted BCT's frustration at the apparent basis for the project's subsequent rejection at the final stage in 2009 by the Big Lottery Fund.

In commenting on BCT's more positive financial results in 2008, the Chairman showed slides of BCT's income and expenditure during its first ten years including the different sources of income and types of expenditure. He highlighted how

each year over 75% of BCT's expenditure had been within the parish and mid Deeside area to an average of over forty different contractors.

The Chairman thanked his fellow Trustees and all involved in carrying out BCT's work. Following a brief discussion about timber production from Slewdrum Forest and ongoing efforts to acquire Balfour Wood, the Trustees Report was unanimously approved by the Members present.

#### **5. Election of One Trustee**

The Chairman thanked Jacqui Christie, who was standing down as a Trustee due to other commitments, for her contribution. He reported that three nominations had been received for the vacancy and introduced the three candidates: James Mortimer, proposed by Alexander Gray and seconded by John Gordon, Allan Shand, proposed by Jane Winton and seconded by Melanie Shand, and Andrew Walker, proposed by Gordon Dinnie and seconded by Sabine Shand.

The Chairman explained the ballot process. After the votes had been counted, the Chairman reported that there had been a total of 47 votes, including 5 votes by proxies, and that the candidates had received the following votes: James Mortimer 11, Allan Shand 14 and Andrew Walker 22. The Chairman declared that Andrew Walker had therefore been elected as the new Trustee.

#### **6. Company Accounts for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008**

The Annual Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 had been prepared by Anderson, Anderson & Brown, Chartered Accountants and an Extract of the Accounts had been published in the Annual Report sent out with the Notice of the Annual General Meeting. The Chairman noted the assistance with BCT's accounts given by Christine Wright. He asked for approval of the 2008 Accounts and they were unanimously approved by the Members present.

#### **8. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner and Fixing of the Independent Financial Examiner's Remuneration**

Those present were asked to delegate responsibility to the Trustees to appoint a suitable Independent Financial Examiner on behalf of BCT and to fix their remuneration. This was unanimously approved by the Members present.

#### **9. Fixing of Annual Subscription for Associate Members**

It was recommended by Trustees that the Annual Subscription for Associate Members should remain unchanged at £20 (UK) and £25 (Overseas). This was unanimously approved by the Members present.

The Chairman noted the end of the formal business of the meeting. He then invited BCT's Honorary Patron, Robert Dinnie, to cut the cake prepared to mark the completion of BCT's first ten years and which had icing to match BCT's logo.

Hector Riddell, local resident and Scotland's Champion of Champions Bothy Ballad Singer 2009, then gave a performance of bothy ballads that was greatly appreciated.

BCT's Patron closed the meeting by thanking those responsible for its organisation and thanking all present for their attendance.

*Tea and Coffee were served after the Meeting.*

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