

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Eighteenth Annual General Meeting

17th May 2016

Finzean Hall

Ordinary Members Present: Alison Bell, Alan Bennett, Doug Boyle, Dave Bracegirdle, Robin Callander, Margaret Chapman, Paul Chapman, Bill Davidson, Dorothy Dinnie (Birsebeg), Robert Dinnie, Andrew Farquharson, Catriona Farquharson, Ellie Flather, Ann Fletcher, Gary Grant, Guy Haslam, Jean Haslam, David Hector, Ian Hector, John Hector, Jonathan Kitching, Andrea Littlejohn, Jean McLeod, Rick Paul, Alastair Rose, Elizabeth Rose, Allan Shand, Mel Shand, Anita Stutter, Catriona Tanner, Paul Tanner, Mark White, David Winton, Jane Winton, Andrew Wright, David Younie (36)

Others Present: Ian Stutter (1)

Apologies from Ordinary Members: Jane Bennett, Jacqui Chapman, Rex Chapman, Andrew Counsell, Louise Counsell, Deborah Dinnie, Hazel Dinnie, Robert F Dinnie, Alison Farquharson, Angus Farquharson, Wendy Hector, Diana Hogarth, Dale Kitching, Dave Latham, Sian Loftus, Ean McLeod, Anne Paul, Zoe Paul, Jim Reid, Gareth Wright, Richard Wright, Samantha Wright, Patsy Younie (23)

1. Welcome and Apologies.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair of BCT's Trustees, Jean McLeod, welcomed everyone to BCT's 18th Annual General Meeting and introduced the other Trustees.

2. Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting.

Jean McLeod asked for approval of the Minutes of BCT's 17th AGM on 12th May 2015, these having been made available. Approval was proposed by Andrea Littlejohn and seconded by Paul Tanner.

3. Matters Arising.

Jean McLeod explained that BCT's Strategic Plan would be dealt with after the formal business. It was confirmed that there were no other Matters Arising.

4. Trustees' Report for the Year to 31st December 2015.

Trustee Doug Boyle introduced the Trustees' Report as printed in BCT's Annual Report. The Trustees' Report was approved in a show of hands by a clear majority of the members present with none against.

5. Approval of the Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2015.

Doug Boyle introduced the Annual Accounts as printed in BCT's Annual Report. He apologised for two small mistakes on page 16 of the Report and drew attention to the amended version which had been distributed at the meeting, and noted that the copy of the Report on BCT's website was correct. He referred to the results in the Accounts and noted that BCT had a net expenditure over the year of £10,231 partly due to delays in receiving the Pinewood planting grant and the Scottish Land Fund purchase grant. The Annual Accounts were approved in a show of hands by a clear majority with none against.

6. Election of Trustees

Trustee Mark White explained that due to other commitments, Anita Stutter had decided to step down from the Board. On behalf of BCT and the wider community, he thanked her for her contribution during her three years as a Trustee. He explained that there were three vacancies on the Board for which two nominations had been received. He confirmed that these two nominees, John Hector who was co-opted last year, and Guy Haslam were therefore duly elected unopposed as Trustees.

7. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner.

Mark White asked the members present for approval for the Board to re-appoint Bain Henry Reid as the Trust's independent financial examiners for a further year. This was approved in a show of hands by a clear majority with none against.

8. Fixing of Annual Subscription for Associate Members.

Mark White explained that Trustees recommended 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 with none against.

There being no further formal business, Jean McLeod concluded the AGM

Following the AGM, Robin Callander reported on BCT's progress in developing its Strategic Plan 2016-20 and in carrying out repairs at the Mills following the damage in the New Year floods. During discussion of these, several members emphasised that BCT should increase the level of community involvement in its activities, both in general and in particular with respect to deer control, the mills and educational opportunities involving the School. The Trust reiterated that it was keen for the community to come forward with suggestions for possible future projects. The Trustees were also asked to look at other options to raise income for the Trust, to improve its financial position and reduce the risk from a lack of grants.

The discussion was followed by a musical performance by Dave Bracegirdle.

Afterwards, there were refreshments courtesy of Dorothy Dinnie (Birsebeg).