

BIRSE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of 24th Annual General Meeting held on 28th August 2022 in Finzean Hall

Ordinary Members Present: *Alison Bell, Alan Bennett, Liz Bracegirdle, Paul Chapman, Louise Counsell, Graham Davidson, Nancy Davidson, Robert F Dinnie, Davie Hector, Ian Hector, Wendy Hector, Dave Latham, Simon Lindsey, Sian Loftus, Jean McLeod, Karen Potter, Jayne Reader, Toby Rider, Tom Scriven, David Younie. (20)*

Proxies: *Aidan Bell, Calum Bell, Judy Baxter, Richard Davidson, Lewis MacLeod-Slater, Samantha MacLeod-Slater, John Threlfal, Gareth Wright, Richard Wright, (9)*

Others Present: *Toni Watt (1)*

Apologies from Ordinary Members *Aidan Bell, Calum Bell, Judy Baxter, Richard Davidson, Andrew Farquharson, Kate Farquharson, Adam Graham-Wright, Katy Graham-Wright, Guy Haslam, Jean Haslam, Helen Jackson, Pete Jackson, Lewis MacLeod-Slater, Samantha MacLeod-Slater, Bob Naylor, Lucy Rider, Anne Silcock, Donald Silcock, John Threlfal, Benjamin Wright, Gareth Wright, Malcolm Wright, Richard Wright, Sarah Wright, Patsy Younie (25)*

1. Welcome and Apologies.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair of BCT's Trustees, Alison Bell, welcomed everyone to BCT's 24th Annual General Meeting, and noted the apologies and the nine proxy voting forms received the requisite 48 hours before the meeting.

2. Minutes of 23rd Annual General Meeting held on the 22nd August 2021.

Alison asked for approval of the Minutes of BCT's 23rd AGM held on 22nd August 2021. They were proposed by Paul Chapman and seconded by Davie Hector, and approved by the members unopposed.

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. Trustees' Report for the Year to 31st December 2021.

Alison introduced the Trustees' Report as printed in BCT's Annual Report. This report covers all BCT's activity in 2021. It was approved by the members unopposed.

5. Approval of the Accounts for the Year to 31st December 2021.

Alison provided an overview of the Annual Accounts printed in the Annual Report, covering the main items of income and expenditure in 2021. The Accounts were proposed by Dave Latham, seconded by Alan Bennett, and approved by the members unopposed.

6. Election of Trustees.

Alison informed the meeting that BCT had received one nomination to become a Trustee, Robert Dinnie and Robert was therefore duly elected unopposed. Alison welcomed Robert to the Trustees.

7. Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner.

Alison explained that the Trustees are very satisfied with the way our current financial examiners handle BCT's accounts and proposed that they be re-appointed for this coming year. This was approved by the members unopposed.

8. Fixing of Annual Subscription for Associate Members.

Alison explained that the Trustees recommend that the Annual Subscription for Associate Members should remain at £20 (UK) and £25 (Overseas). This was approved by the members unopposed.

There being no further formal business, Alison concluded the AGM

Talks

Following the AGM there were four talks from the Trustees and BCT Manager:

Toby Rider talked about BTCo, Slewdrum and Balfour Forests and mountain bike trails in Balfour Forest. Dave Latham asked about the Commonly Forest Plan and the NHMA, (North Hill Management Agreement). Toby advised that the Commonly Forest Plan is also in progress with no significant changes planned. The NHMA is due for renewal at the end of December 2023 and talks will shortly be taking place with Ballogie and Birse estates.

Sian Loftus talked about the Old School Project, the Mills and Soutar's Shop.

Liz Bracegirdle talked about WAB, Wild About Birse.

Toni Watt talked about volunteering for BCT and thanked all our many volunteers.

Presentation to Ian Hector

Alison Bell then called upon Jean McLeod to make a presentation to Ian Hector on his retirement from grass cutting for BCT. Ian has been with BCT since its inception and will be much missed.

In Closing

Finally, Alison thanked all those who contributed to the continued success of Birse Community Trust and all those who attended the AGM today before tea and biscuits were served.