

# Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Number SC047553

## Minutes of AGM

7.00 pm, Thursday 27th February 2020

Lesser Hall, The Town Hall, High Street, New Galloway

1. **Welcome:** All attendees were welcomed by Ros Hill.
  - i) **Those present were:** Avril Bridgeman, Ray Bridgeman, Janet Carlyle, Thomas Carlyle, Gerald Cinderby, Ann Glaister, Bob Glaister, David Hardy, Debbie Hardy, Ros Hill, Catrin Johnes, Jean Marsden, Jane McQueen, Christine Rankin, Maitland Rankin, Joan Walker, Mick Anson, Ginny Anson, Mike Brown, Helen Keron, Glynne Shackleton, Sam Rushton, Alan Smith, Jude Crooks, Sheila Dressler, Rex Dressler, John Barker
  - ii) **Apologies were received from:** Gordon Hill, Sue Vest, Brian Edgar, Elizabeth Johnstone, William Johnstone, Fiona Oliver, Ian Oliver, Lois Aitkenhead, Geoff Davidson, Margaret Elphinstone, Liz Nicholson, Paul Nutter, John Rowell, Penny Rowell, Deborah Thompson
  - iii) **Committee members were introduced:** Ros Hill – Chair; Bob Glaister – Treasurer; Ann Glaister – Secretary; Ray Bridgeman – Trustee; David Hardy – Trustee; Tom Carlyle - Trustee. It was explained that Eleanor Wilson and Debbie Hardy had stepped down since the last AGM and that Tom Carlyle had been co-opted.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes were proposed as an accurate reflection of the previous year's AGM by Christine Rankin, seconded by Joan Walker.
3. **Annual Report:** A copy of the Annual Report was received by the members.
  - i) Ros Hill gave a verbal account of the past year covering the viability study conducted for us by Creetown Initiative. She described the positive response from the community survey and the suggested adaptations that could be made. In particular, this included the proposed installation of a lift to make the hall accessible upstairs as well as downstairs. She explained that our current grant-seeking priorities were for the installation of a lift and the employment of a part-time member of staff. The other activities of LING were continuing with the footpaths initiative and the walled garden in the Garroch Estate. These were drawing in new volunteers, although more volunteers were always needed. Some discussion ensued about the Business Plan and the timescale in relation to Asset Transfer. It was explained that the Town Hall has been established as 'Inalienable Common Good' which means an application to transfer ownership and function has to go to the Sheriff Court in the first instance.
  - ii) Ann Glaister outlined what is happening next in terms of the interim arrangements and priorities while we pursue asset transfer; the changing contexts in which we operate in relation to grant funding, ie increased emphasis on combatting poverty and on climate change issues; and the importance of succession planning and resilience. An informal 'advisory group' has been set up, facilitated by Helen Keron, to draw in a younger age group to consider and advise on wider issues.

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The importance of co-operating with other organisations is increasingly important and it is helpful that there is some funding available through GGLP to support the further development of a New Galloway wide website.

**4. Financial Report:** Bob Glaister introduced the income and expenditure account for 2018-19, which was received by the members, and thanked Maitland Rankin for continuing as our external examiner of Accounts on a voluntary basis.

It was explained that our future viability following asset transfer depends on securing grants for capital developments. We need a lift, for example, to enable more use to be made of the hall. The timing of grants coming in and out, and some new headings in the accounts, makes the overall picture a bit hard to interpret, but we are clearing our running costs.

**7. Resignation of existing committee and election of new committee/trustees:** The resigning committee were willing to stand for re-election, with the exception of Ray Bridgeman. Appreciation was expressed for Ray's very significant contributions. Ros Hill, David Hardy, Tom Carlyle, Bob Glaister and Ann Glaister were proposed for re-election by Ray Bridgeman and seconded by Jane McQueen. Glynne Shackleton introduced himself briefly, and was proposed for election by Christine Rankin and seconded by Jean Marsden.

---- **Close of formal business** ----

**'Friends' £50 draw:** The winning token was drawn by Glynne Shackleton and the lucky winner this time was June Ferguson.