

Annual General Meeting

Ormidale Pavilion

Sunday 17th November 2019 – 2pm

Draft Minutes

Present:

Trustees: Meeting Chair – Helen Ross, Esther Brown, Treasurer – Hilary Maguire & Beverley Walker

Members: Elsa Rodeck, Diana Turbett, Donald McNicol, Megan Fyfe, Chris Attkins, Karyn Costa, Catherine Brown, Carol Lee, Jan Attkins, Nanette Cowieson, Mark Wickstead, Tricia Sloss, Keith Robertson, Rory Rutherford.

In attendance: Jude King, Sustainable Island Project Manager

Apologies: Trustee: Sue Weaver, Member: Nicola Kelly

Helen Ross, meeting chair, welcomed all to the Arran Eco Savvy Community AGM 2019.

1. **The minutes of the 2018 AGM** were proposed by Esther Brown, seconded by Hilary Maguire and adopted by the meeting.
2. Matters arising: None – apart from those dealt with in the Chairperson's report.
3. Esther Brown presented the **Chairperson's annual report** on the activities of Eco Savvy. [Please use this link to view Chair Person's Report.](#)

Adoption of the Chairs Report: Proposed by Keith Robertson, Seconded by Chris Attkins.

All volunteers were thanked for their excellent contributions in the shop, the food share work and in other projects. Esther gave a special thanks to Elizabeth (who was given a round of applause in her absence) for her dedicated work in the Eco Savvy shop. Gerald Tattersfield was congratulated on his award for his voluntary work.

There was a good discussion about the report including a number of questions and comments.

Members asked for information and clarification about what could be recycled on Arran. North Ayrshire Council has a [Zero Waste Strategy](#) however there are always challenges to be overcome. Eco Savvy are very supportive of reducing waste overall and increasing the percentage that is recycled. Esther referred to the informative "Day at the Dump" event where Eco Savvy members were given a tour by the Local Authority and this very question was discussed.

Hilary referred members to the [Think About Plastic website](#) for some useful information.

Esther was thanked for her work as Eco Savvy Chair and for her Eco Savvy developments role. The report was well received by the meeting.

4. Hilary Maguire presented the annual accounts. [Please use this link to view Treasurer's Report](#) 6th April 2018 – 5th April 2019 – The statutory accounts will be available online and with OSCAR once independently reviewed. Adoption of the Treasurer's Report: Proposed by Chris Attkins, Seconded by Keith Robertson.

Hilary was thanked for her sterling efforts in developing a new accounting system for Eco Savvy which had taken many hours of work.

5. **Constitutional changes:** Following the discussion at the AGM held in 2018, and consultation with the members in accordance with the current constitution, the proposal was made to change the constitution.

Why did we have a consultation? During project development work the board of trustees were advised by a number of funding bodies from the Big Lottery to the Highlands and Islands Enterprise that under our current constitution Eco Savvy is not eligible for their support. If Eco Savvy wishes to apply for further funding we need to update our constitution. Part of the reasoning behind this is to ensure there is genuine community control of the charity and that the community we represent will benefit from future projects.

How did the Board of Trustees decide to do this? Currently we have an SCVO model Constitution. The simplest and most effective way to change the constitution is to adopt the Scottish Government model SCIO constitution. It is more comprehensive and complies with all the requirements of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCAR) as well as with major funders.

Both the current and proposed constitutions had been made available to members in advance of the AGM.

The headlines changes were as follows; –

1. Only members who are ordinarily resident on Arran will be able to vote on decisions at members meetings.
2. There must be a majority of residents on the board at all times and present in all meetings.
3. The community we represent will be clearly defined as the whole of the Island of Arran.
4. The board will be able to bring in trustees who are not residents which is an important feature to ensure the board has the skills it requires.

What would not change? The charitable purposes of the charity and the legal structure of the registered charity.

In more detail:

Geographical Identification

1. Our current constitution does not identify the geographical area of Arran, it will be referred to as postcode KA27 and this will comply with requirements.

Members

1. Ordinary members must be eligible to vote in local elections on the Isle of Arran.
2. Associate membership will be open to all supporters who are not eligible to vote in local elections on the Island of Arran.
3. Ordinary members will have one vote per member at Annual General and other Members meetings.
4. Associate members will not have a vote at any meetings.

Trustee Board

1. The maximum number of board members will increase from 7 to 10.
2. 'Elected Board Members' who are eligible to vote at local elections on the Isle of Arran will be able to invite to the board 'Appointed Charity Trustees' with full voting rights.
3. 'Elected Board Members' who are eligible to vote at local elections on the Isle of Arran will be able to invite to the board 'Co-opted Charity Trustees' with full voting rights.
4. There must always be a board majority of "Elected Charity Trustees' who are eligible to vote at local elections on the Isle of Arran.

Additional

1. Staff of the organisation will be eligible to be ordinary members if they are eligible to vote at local elections on the Isle of Arran. However, they will be barred from being board members.
2. We will be able to have junior members aged 12 to 15.

All members had been consulted within the required timescale and were given the opportunity to vote in a secret ballot at the meeting.

Appointment of Scrutineer: Esther Brown proposed Chris Attkins, Seconded by Helen Ross.

The votes were counted by Chris Aitkins who was independent of the trustees putting forward the proposed changes.

The Decision: The members voted unanimously to change the constitution.

6. Election of Charity Trustees (new constitution)

All trustees were thanked for their contributions to Eco Savvy.

Although, supportive of Eco Savvy Beverly Walker and Sue Weaver had decided to step down due to changes in their personal circumstances – work pressures for Beverley, and for Sue, a move away from Arran. However Beverley is still keen to volunteer for Eco Savvy with the project developments and Sue is keen to keep in touch and meet up when she visits the island.

The following members were elected onto the Board of Charity Trustees:

Esther Brown: proposed Helen Ross seconded Hilary Maguire

Helen Ross: proposed Esther Brown seconded Tricia Sloss

Hilary Maguire: proposed Esther Brown seconded Keith Robertson

Elsa Rodeck: proposed Helen Ross seconded Esther Brown

7. Consultation

The members at the meeting were asked to consider 2 questions in small groups whilst taking much needed refreshments:

- a. List in order of importance the key things that Arran needs to fight climate change
- b. List in order of importance the key things that Arran Eco Savvy could do to fight climate change.

The outcome of the discussions were posted onto flipchart paper for all to see. The key points were written up and will be circulated to those interested in contributing to the Eco Savvy Future Projects meeting (open to all) taking place on Thursday 28th November at Home Farm at 5pm.

Keith Robertson thanked Eco Savvy for our great work – there is more ahead. He was keen that we go ahead with purchasing a piece of land to enable us to realise the vision.

Esther encouraged all to consider attending the event on 28th November to add input, energy and ideas. Eco Savvy is keen to encourage more people to become members and more members to participate in and contribute to the developments.

8. The meeting finished at 4.30pm.