

# BAILIES OF BENNACHIE 2019 AGM MINUTES

## WELCOME

The meeting was held at the Garioch Heritage Centre on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm and was chaired by Jackie Cumberbirch, who welcomed more than 40 members and friends to the meeting (as per appended attendee list).

## APOLOGIES

Florence Arlett, Frank Musgrave, Anne Reid and Sue Taylor.

## MINUTES OF 2018 AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM, held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018, were proposed by Chris Foster and seconded by Donna Taylor.

## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT Jackie Cumberbirch

A detailed report was circulated in the Annual Report sent to members prior to the meeting, but Jackie emphasised the following items.

- The work of "Save Bennachie" to ensure that the proposed route for the dualling of A96 nearest to Bennachie, was taken out of the options.
- Tree planting on Bennachie at Shepherd's Lodge. Native trees, fruit trees and bushes have been planted, some to commemorate people who made a great contribution to the work of the Bailies, such as James Mackay and Geoff Gill.
- The Wildlife Group who have been monitoring wildlife on the hill, with the use of trail cameras and have been particularly interested in researching pine martens, water voles and wild cats, with the help of experts in their fields.
- The creation of a paid part time post of Outreach Officer, to improve the Bailies public profile. Fiona Cormack has been appointed from those interviewed and will fill the post in April.
- The Bennachie Colony App which was launched in June, "a step into the future to look at the past". It can be downloaded from Google play store.
- A new website for the Bailies which is to be launched with the help of Global Web Limited, a local but international website and consultancy company.
- Archaeology digs which continue at Druminnor and at the Bede House near Pittodrie, by the Bennachie Landscapes Group. A further publication of their work is due out later this year.
- In June a dig is to take place on Mither Tap, led by the University of Aberdeen.
- Also in June, the Bailies are organising an event to raise money for Breast Cancer charities, called MT518, where it is planned that about 400 people will hold hands round Mither Tap.
- In September there will be an event to mark the anniversary of the war time plane crash on Bennachie.
- During the year, Alex Thomson, in conjunction with the Bailies, plans to produce a film about Bennachie.

Finally, Jackie thanked all the trustees and members of the Landscapes Group and Wildlife Group for their work throughout the year.

## TREASURER'S REPORT Brian Cornock

A detailed report was available on the night and in the Annual Report. Brian explained that the Bailies are now a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and that OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator) has approved the new organisation and its financial accounts for 2018, which are the first for this SCIO (SC047231). Although a set of figures for the period 13/3/17 to 31/12/17 were requested by OSCR, these were just a set of zeros because financial matters were dealt with under the previous unincorporated charity (SC013298), which was still active until being dissolved on 31/12/17. On 1/1/18 all assets and liabilities were transferred to the SCIO.

Income in 2018 was dominated by donations, and expenditure by the carryover from the HLF project. A large sum of grant funding from Aberdeen University was also handled for the Landscapes Group. The financial summary for 2018 was an income of £17,486 and expenditure of £21,681, with the balance of £4,195 coming from reserves. At year end the reserves were £144,240.

The approval of the meeting was sought to amend the Constitution in order to allow a fourth signatory for financial matters to be added. This was agreed, so that financial transactions can now be approved by any 2 of 4 trustee signatories.

## ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The current trustees, Ann Baillie, Brian Cornock, Jackie Cumberbirch, Margaret Garden, Angela Groat, Harry Leil, William Linklater, Dave Peter, Rosemary Sievewright, Donna Taylor, Sue Taylor and Andrew Wainwright all agreed to stand for re-election for a further year. They were all re-elected unopposed. A call for new trustees was unsuccessful this time.

## MEMBERSHIP FEE

Members present were asked to confirm the current membership fee of £10 for life. This was agreed.

## AOB

No items were raised.

This concluded the business part of the meeting and was followed by refreshments and an opportunity to socialise with those present. We were then entertained by Mark Stephen, a broadcaster for Radio Scotland's "Out of Doors" program, who lives locally and has been inspired and influenced by Bennachie all his life.

## ATTENDEES

A.Baillie, L.Bell, M.Blackmore, C.Burgess, F.Cormack, B.Cornock, M.Coutts, J.Cumberbirch, G.Duguid, P.Duncan, P.Elrick, B.Foster, C.Foster, P.Galloway, M.Garden, A.Groat, C.Hawkins, J.Hawkins, D.Hood, R.Jardine, P.Kellas, A.Kennedy, H.Leil, W.Linklater, S.MacIntyre, M.Mack, M.MacKay, A.Massey, J.Matthews, G.McGregor, L.McKinlay, L.Melvin, C.Miller, R.Mitchell, D.Peter, I.Ralston, J.Robinson, J.Sangster, R.Sievewright, R.Smith, D.Taylor, H.Taylor, M.Taylor, D.Valentine, A.Wainwright, L.Wainwright, J.Wills