

The SOC Scotland's Bird Club



85th SOC Annual General Meeting 26th November 2022

*SOC Scottish Charity Number: SC 009859
A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation*

- 1 Present** Ruth Briggs (President & Chair), Jeremy Wilson (Vice-President), David Lindgren (Hon. Secretary), Andrew Thorpe (Hon. Treasurer), c43 Members.
- 2 Apologies for absence** Apologies had been received from Lesley Creamer, Hannah Lemon, Norman Elkins, Rob Doets, Rona McLeod, Gerry Mercer, Eric and Lesley McCabe, Ian Darling, Elizabeth and John Irwin, Joan Howie, Ron and Marlies MacLean, Will Cresswell, Zul Bhatia, David and Gill Parmee and Sandy Mitchell.
- 3 Minutes of the 84th AGM, 21st November 2020** The Secretary reminded the meeting that it had not been possible to hold an AGM in 2021 due to the proscriptions in the Club's Constitution and in terms of the anti-COVID 19 Regulations then applying, and that therefore the meeting was asked to consider the AGM minutes from 2020.

The adoption of the Minutes of the virtual meeting held on 21st November 2020 were proposed and seconded before being approved unanimously and without amendment. There were no matters arising.
- 4 Annual Report and Accounts 2019-2020** The Chair, Ruth Briggs, presented the Annual Report and Accounts for the period 2021 – 2022.

The Treasurer commented on the financial results shown in the Annual Accounts.

After a proposer and seconder had been found, the members unanimously voted to receive the Annual Report and Annual Accounts.
- 6 Election and re-election of Office Bearers** The Chair explained that in the period since the previous AGM, it had been necessary to fill the roles of President and Treasurer, and in that regard, Council had co-opted both Ruth Briggs as President and Rich Kerr as Treasurer. In terms of the Club's Constitution, both appointments now required to be the subject of members' approval. The Chair also asked that

the meeting approve the re-election of Lesley Creamer as Vice-President *Management and Infrastructure* and David Lindgren as Secretary, as their terms had ended, but both had indicated that they would continue in office if re-elected. It was also noted that the office of Vice-President *Birding and Science* was vacant, although the Chair assured the meeting that a temporary solution to this had been found whilst a new candidate was recruited.

The resolutions to elect and re-elect the various office bearers were considered together, proposed and seconded appropriately, and approved unanimously.

7 Election and re-election of Elected Council Members

The Chair asked the meeting to elect Hannah Lemon to Council and to re-elect Chris Wernham.

The resolutions to elect and re-elect the Elected Council Members were considered together, proposed and seconded appropriately, and approved unanimously.

8 Amendment to SOC Constitution

The Chair asked the Secretary to explain the amendments to the Constitution that were being proposed. The Secretary summarised the current provisions, noting that they had precluded the Club holding an AGM in 2021. In order to give more flexibility in the future, he asked the meeting to consider the suggested changes to the Constitution set out in the notice of the Meeting. These changes were being recommended by Council, and would enable the Club to comply with the recommendations of OSCR, the Charity Regulator, by giving the Club the flexibility to hold virtual meetings (and hybrid meetings) in the future -noting that control over the format of future meetings would lie in the hands of their convenors. He also asked the meeting to note that the resolution to change the Constitution had to be passed by a special majority of those present and voting.

The Resolution to change the Constitution was considered, proposed, seconded and approved unanimously, meaning that the amendments were duly incorporated in the Constitution and would apply to all future meetings.

9 AOCB

There was no other business, and after it had been intimated that the next AGM would follow the Annual Conference in November 2023, probably at the Atholl Palace Hotel again (although this would be intimated to members in due course), the meeting concluded.