

### **Introductory remarks**

The Chair, Linda Rosborough, welcomed people and thanked everyone for joining the Scottish Wildlife Trust's 58<sup>th</sup> AGM, the Trust's third online AGM.

Ruchir Shah, Director of External Affairs, outlined how members could participate within the event using the Q&A and chat function. He also made members aware that the AGM was being recorded.

The Chair opened the AGM with a run-through of the programme which was followed by a video of a selection of wildlife highlights supporters have shared over the past year.

#### **1. Apologies**

There were no apologies received.

#### **2. To approve the minutes from the 57th AGM held online via zoom.**

The minutes were formally **approved** as a true and accurate record.

**Proposer:** Anthony Robson

**Seconder:** Steward Smith

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

#### **3. To receive the Council's report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021**

The Chair noted that her fifth year as Chair had been as busy as ever and the Trust had faced many challenges throughout, from increased extreme weather events to the continued presence of Covid-19. However, the Trust had risen to the challenge and the Chair thanked Jo Pike and the staff team for their continued hard work and dedication, as well as her fellow Trustees for their unwavering support during the year.

The Chair then highlighted some of the Trust's key achievements during 2021-22 which included carrying out vital habitat restoration and access improvements, successfully campaigning for new legally binding nature targets in partnership with Scottish Environment Link, developing Scotland's first Nature Network, coordinating a wide range of successful online events and creating Strategy 2030, which captures the Trust's priorities for the UN's Decade of Ecosystem Restoration.

The Chair gave sincere thanks to all of the Trust's funders and partners for their continued and much needed support and recorded her deepest thanks on behalf of all of Council and the staff team to all members and supporters, for making the Trust's achievements possible.

Susan McKenzie, Director of Finance and Resources, presented the report and accounts to the Annual General Meeting and provided an overview on the Trust's financial situation.

#### **4. To re-appoint auditors of the Trust: Chiene + Tait, 61 Dublin Street, Edinburgh EH5 6NL**

The Chair advised that Chiene + Tait had completed their first year's audit and a comprehensive audit findings report had been provided to the Finance and Audit Committee, and subsequently Council. The Chair reported that the audit had gone well and there was no cause for concern.

The Chair proposed the re-appointment of Chiene + Tait as external auditors. Chiene + Tait were formally re-appointed as external auditors.

**Proposer:** Craig Marshall

**Seconder:** Jane Stuart-Smith

#### **5. Council Election**

The Chair advised that due to the number of individuals standing for election being no more than the number of vacancies, both the individuals standing for election were elected.

The Chair noted that the two nominations received were for Jennifer Baxter and Hayley White, who were therefore elected.

The Chair offered her congratulations and a very warm welcome to the new members of Council.

#### **6. Special business**

There was no special business.

#### **APPEND SEDARUNT**

##### **Footnote:**

*There was then a presentation from Chief Executive Jo Pike sharing thoughts for the future, followed by an open Q&A session on any aspect of the Trust's work. Topics included partnership working, highly protected marine areas and marine protected areas, the living seas campaign and demographics of members. The Q&A session was followed by the Trustees' Award for Volunteering and then a panel discussion titled 'Making Peace with Nature' hosted by Julian Caldecott.*