

**Minutes of the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, held on  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023,  
Maritime Museum Education Suite, Shiprow, Aberdeen AB11 5BY  
and online via Zoom.**



### **Introductory remarks**

The Chair, Linda Rosborough, welcomed people and thanked everyone for joining the Scottish Wildlife Trust's 59<sup>th</sup> AGM, the Trust's first hybrid AGM. The Chair also noted that this was her final AGM as Chair of the Trust.

Ruchir Shah, Director of External Affairs, outlined how members could participate within the event using the Q&A and chat function for those joining online, and how to interact with the Q&A in person. He also made members aware that the AGM was being recorded.

The Chair opened the AGM with a run-through of the programme.

#### **1. Apologies**

There were no apologies received.

#### **2. To approve the minutes from the 58th AGM held online via zoom.**

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

**Proposer:** Anthony Robson

**Seconder:** Hayley Whyte

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

#### **3. To receive the Council's report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023**

The Chair extended gratitude to Jo Pike and the staff team, and all Trustees for their tremendous efforts and dedication during the past year's recovery from the pandemic. The Chair emphasised the Trust's significant achievements and the extraordinary range of work accomplished with people and nature across Scotland.

The Chair then highlighted some of the Trust's key achievements during 2022-23 which included the completion of a major habitat restoration project at Dullatur Marsh Wildlife Reserve, the launch of the Nextdoor Nature Pioneers Programme, the conclusion of the five-year Coigach & Assynt Living Landscape Partnership Scheme, the restoration of three urban peat bogs as part of the Cumbernauld Living Landscape, and the remarkable progress in the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrel project in Aberdeen.

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.

Martin Cullen, 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 second 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:** Ronald McLean

**Seconder:** David Elston

**5. Council Election**

The Chair advised that due to the number of individuals standing for re-election being less than the number of vacancies, all the individuals standing for re-election were therefore elected. Those re-elected were Emma Steel and Alastair Lemon.

The Chair offered her congratulations and thanked the individuals standing for re-election for their continued and much valued support. The Chair also took the opportunity to offer her best wishes to incoming Chair, Dr Kenny Taylor.

**6. Special business**

There was no special business.

**APPEND SEDARUNT**

**Footnote:**

***A short video was shared from the Creating Natural Connections project, followed by 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. The Q&A session was followed by a presentation from the Aberdeen Local Group, then some selected clips from the Oceans of Value video.***