

Arboricultural Association - Scottish Branch

Minutes of the Scottish Branch 2019 AGM held at Camperdown Park, Dundee on 25th January 2020.

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Jacqueline Waring, Nick Porter, Keith Vernon, David Gallagher and Ken Harvey.

2. Approval of 2018 AGM Minutes:

Chris Simpson noted that the Minutes from last year's AGM were up on the Scottish Branch page of the Association's website for anyone who wanted to see them. There were no comments, and the minutes were accepted.

3. Matters arising from the 2018 AGM Minutes

None.

4. Officer's reports:

4.1 Chair:

Chris Simpson thanked everyone for coming and said he was grateful for members' support over another successful year.

He provided a brief review of the year's events. This included the trip and branch event to Mount Stuart on the Isle of Bute; the Summer Seminar on Highway Tree Inspection when the branch welcomed Jeremy Barrell to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (RBGE); the Autumn Excursion to the library of the RBGE and the Hazard Tree Inspection Course run by Informed Tree Services in Stirling in October.

He set out the objectives for the coming year to encourage participation of members, in particular those working as tree surgeons and younger members.

4.2. Secretary:

Struan Dagleish gave an update on the Association's current membership numbers for the Scottish Branch.

The available information showed there were 115 individual members. This comprises the following grades; 14 Student, 14 Foundation, 45 Associate, 14 Technical, 21 Professional, 1 Professional CEnv, 1 Professional Retired, 2 Fellow, and 3 Fellow CEnv.

The records indicate that there were no Corporate Members or Retired Fellows in 2019. This requires to be checked for accuracy with Head Office.

No data relating to the numbers of Approved Contractors or Registered Consultants were available at the time of the AGM and these number require to be confirmed with Head Office.

4.3. Treasurer:

Robert Paterson provided a review of the financial situation, shown on the annual accounts prepared by Head Office.

He noted that the Scottish Branch provided two income generating events in 2019, the Summer Seminar which, after expenses produced a £575.06 surplus, and the Hazard Tree Inspection Course, a £965.76 surplus.

Income from Membership Fees was £15184.00.

Robert Paterson is to step down after 5 years in the role of Treasurer. He was thanked by all present for his hard work during that period and his diligence to the task will be missed.

5. Appointment of Committee

Chris Simpson noted that along with Robert Paterson, Jacqueline Waring and Jeremy Davies are to step down from the committee.

The remaining Committee members; Chris Simpson (Chair), Alan McDowell (Vice Chair), Struan Dalgleish (Secretary), Will Hinchliffe, Nick Porter, and Keith Vernon were all duly elected to stand for another year.

Mark Foster was proposed to join the committee by Angus MacKay and Seconded by Will Hinchliffe and duly elected to serve on the Committee.

6. Election of Officers

Chris Simpson (Chair), Alan McDowell (Vice Chair) and Struan Dalgleish (Secretary) were all happy to continue in their roles for another year. The departure of Robert Paterson leaves the Treasures post vacant.

It was noted by Chris Simpson that the task of Treasurer is now perhaps less onerous than in previous years as the Branch finances are controlled by Head Office. Chris indicated he would be happy to assume the Treasurer's role.

The three remaining Office holders were appointed by a unanimous show of hands.

7. Any other competent business.

Eamonn Wall noted he had been unaware of the Autumn Excursion and several others had difficulty with the on-line booking system. The matter was to be investigated with Head Office.

Chris Simpson thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was closed.

Struan Dalgleish AA Scottish Branch Secretary.