

## **Arboricultural Association - Scottish Branch**

**Minutes of the Scottish Branch 2020 AGM held Via Zoom of the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2021 between 13.15 and 13.30.**

### **1. Apologies for absence:**

No apologies for absence were received.

### **2. Approval of 2019 AGM Minutes:**

The Chairman, Chris Simpson noted that the Minutes from last year's AGM were approved by the Committee and no comments were made. The minutes are to be posted on the AA web site and made available for review.

### **3. Matters arising from the 2019 AGM Minutes**

None.

### **4. Officer's reports:**

#### **4.1 Chair:**

Chris Simpson thanked the 42 members and non-members who had been present at the preceding Seminar and those members who had stayed on to attend the AGM.

He provided a review of the Branch activities in the past year.

He reported the Corona pandemic has enforced the cancellation of all planned excursions, technical seminars and social activities in the last 12 months.

He added, the online webinar and training opportunities provided by the Arboricultural Association and other Professional Organizations had been excellent.

He thanked Sarah Jackson from Head Office for her support over the year and thanked the committee.

He informed the membership that due to the virtual nature of the meeting it had been decided by the committee not to present the Tom Hall or Ken Martin Awards.

He noted that there had been no Branch expenditure during the year. information relating to the Scottish membership and Branch finances were held at Head Office and available through contact with them.

#### **4.2. Secretary:**

Struan Dagleish reported that the committee had remained active during the year, meeting virtually on 4 occasions and were continuing to monitor the situation as to when normal branch activity could resume.

He added, the virtual meeting format had been working well, saved considerable travel from the committee members and was keen to see this format remain for the foreseeable future.

He hope the cancelled events and gatherings planned for 2020 may be able to go ahead in 2021.

#### **4.3 Editor**

Nick Porter was very pleased with the quality and number of articles provided to the 'In Scotland' Section of the Arb. Magazine.

He asked the membership to continue providing articles to maintain the high standards of the Scottish Branch. Articles should be emailed to [nickporteruk@hotmail.com](mailto:nickporteruk@hotmail.com).

#### **5. Appointment of Committee**

Existing Committee members Will Hinchliffe, Nick Porter, Mark Foster and Simon Stuart all indicated they were happy to continue for another year and were duly re-appointed.

Keith Veron is to retire from the committee.

Three new members were proposed and duly elected.

Matthew Cooper – Proposed by Chris Simpson, Seconded by Will Hinchliffe.

Nola O'Donnell – Proposed by Fiona Melville, Seconded by Struan Dalgleish.

Andrew Whalley – Proposed by Julian Morris, Seconded by Matt Cooper.

#### **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 three Office holders were duly re-appointed by the membership.

#### **7. Any other competent business.**

The date of the next committee meeting was proposed by Struan Dalgleish.

It was agreed to be held virtually using the Scottish Branch Microsoft Teams Platform of Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> March at 1830.

*Struan Dalgleish AA Scottish Branch Secretary.*