



## BAILIES OF BENNACHIE 2022 Annual General Meeting – Draft

**Date:** 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2022

**Venue:** This meeting was held entirely on Zoom due to some continuing Covid restrictions on face to face meetings.

**Attendees - Trustees:** Jackie Cumberbirch (Chair), Ann Baillie (Chair from item 7), Lorna Bell, Margaret Garden, Alan Henderson, Willie Linklater, Dave Peter, Peter Stock, Donna Taylor.

**Attendees – Bailies:** Myrtle Anderson-Smith, David Andrews, David Baillie, Morag Bennett, Fiona Cormack, P. Dransart, Gladys Duguid, Abeer Eladney, Stella Gauld, David Hood, Amanda Katz, Peter D. Kellas, Alison Kennedy, Iain Laird, C. Miller, Frank Musgrave, Gordon Noble, Roselyne O'Neill, Anne Reid, Jim Rose, Rosie Sorrie, Norman S Still, Alison Sutherland, Bruce T, Helen Taylor, Janette Taylor, Sue Taylor, Arthur Williams.

### Minutes of the Meeting

1. Apologies	Apologies were received from Angela Groat, Shona Owen, Andrew Wainwright & Marion Whyte. Late apology received from Lynne Mennie.
2. Welcome	Jackie Cumberbirch opened the meeting with a welcome to all. A round up of attendees found that furthest afield were Yorkshire and Essex.
3. Previous Minutes	Willie Linklater advised that the previous AGM minutes 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 had been sent out with the Agenda and invited comments on the content. There being no adjustments to the minutes, these were unanimously accepted as approved.
4. Changes to Constitution	<p>Peter Stock reported that the Constitution was sent out with the Agenda, with the proposed changes highlighted. He added that when the Bailies of Bennachie had become a bona fide charity in 2019, the constitution was written by Burness Paull LLP. With the Covid legislation requirements and input by OSCR, amendments were made to allow complete, partial or no virtual meeting participation. While the changes were made, some additional adjustments to meet the Bailies' requirements were also made, including change to life membership and added revision control of the document.</p> <p>Questions were then invited. Peter Kellas asked if all charities had to make these changes to hold virtual meetings. Willie Linklater and Peter Stock answered that the constitution does need this amendment and was requested by OSCR.</p> <p>As there were no further questions, the changes were accepted unanimously. The new Constitution is now accepted, will be submitted</p>

	to OSCR, and will be updated on the website.
5. Accounts	<p>Alan Henderson, Treasurer, reported that the Accounts had been sent out with the Agenda. He explained that the Accounts had been signed by the independent examiner on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022. The income for the year of £36,063 was some £432 in surplus of the outgoings, leaving the final reserves of all unrestricted funds of £129,993. This compared with a deficit the previous year. Some clarification was made on the income, highlighting the successful calendar sales of £5k+, and the largest expenditure was the Landscape Project and admin costs. Questions were invited, and Sue Taylor asked if all Project funds are carried over or spent. Alan Henderson replied that they are all spent, but further grants may be available in 2022.</p> <p>With no further questions, the accounts were accepted unanimously. Jackie Cumberbirch thanked Alan Henderson for his work in preparing the accounts.</p>
6. Chairperson's Report	<p>Jackie Cumberbirch shared a presentation of her report. Working with NatureScot, the Bailies received two grants, the first of which was the Bennachie Integrated Visitor Management Plan, which worked towards shared understanding of Bennachie and its recreational use along with the local landowners, principally Forestry Land Scotland, Pittodrie Estate and the Forbes Estate. The second grant was for Better Places Green Recovery Fund, which allowed for the Visitor &amp; Volunteer Co-Ordinator of Estee Farrar, who undertook various audits, work parties starting in July, and actively engaging with recreational users. Other activities included a Litter Campaign, a Carbon Trail, Moths information gathering and learning with the Junior Bailies and a Dig on the Pittodrie Estate with the Bennachie Landscape Group. She also reported on the devastation caused by Storm Arwen and the ongoing impact with visitors.</p> <p>Jackie thanked all the trustees for their hard work, and reminded everyone that next year, 2023, the Bailies of Bennachie will celebrate 50 years. The love of the hill from all the Bailies has kept her inspired, and while she is now standing down as Chairperson, she will continue as a Bailie.</p> <p>She was thanked for her work by Jim Rose, along with thanks to all the Bailies.</p>
7. Election of Trustees	<p>As required in the Constitution, the 13 incumbent trustees, Ann Baillie, Lorna Bell, Jackie Cumberbirch, Alex Doig, Margaret Garden, Angela Groat, Alan Henderson, William Linklater, Dan Montgomery, Dave Peter, Peter Stock, Donna Taylor and Andrew Wainwright stood down.</p> <p>Ann Baillie led on the voting of the Trustees. She noted that Angela Groat, Andrew Wainwright and Jackie Cumberbirch had advised that they did not wish to stand again.</p> <p>The remaining existing Trustees (with exception of Alex Doig and Dan Montgomery who were not in attendance) were all invited to be re-elected. This was proposed by Sue Taylor and seconded by Frank Musgrave.</p> <p>New Trustees were then requested for election. Dave Peter proposed Fiona Cormack, seconded by Jackie Cumberbirch and accepted.</p>
8. Thanks to	Ann Baillie led the appreciation for the work done by those Trustees

Trustees	standing down. Angela Groat has had a keen interest in the archaeology and landscape groups and digs, and Andrew Wainwright had used his professional knowledge of geology to support the Bailies BLP group. He has indicated that he will continue to support the digs. Jackie Cumberbirch became a Trustee in 1999, serving as Senior Bailie and Chair, helping serve the Landscape project, which has seen research published. Her legacy includes promotion of Bennachie in drama, opera and film, including use of the Doric dialect. The Bennachie Bosie raised money for cancer and local charities, and ensuring the toilet facilities for visitors at RowanTree remained open. She has worked tirelessly to promote the Bailies and doesn't take personal credit but ensures it was seen as a Team. On behalf of the Bailies, she thanked them for their work.
9. AOB	Willie Linklater asked Donna Taylor to check that Alex Doig and Dan Montgomery had confirmed that they were willing to be re-elected, as not present at the meeting. If all confirmed there are now 11 Trustees. The first meeting of the Trustees is the 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb at Garioch Heritage Centre, where the office bearers will be appointed. Donna Taylor requested permission from those present to allow a screenshot of the meeting to be posted on Facebook. This was agreed unanimously. The meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signed: Ann Baillie (Chair from Item 7) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: Willie Linklater (Secretary) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A presentation then followed by Professor Gordon Noble, Head of Archaeology at the University of Aberdeen, entitled The 2019 Excavations and Discoveries on Mither Tap. This talk was recorded and will be made available.