

**JOHN RAE SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019 19.00hrs**  
**AT THE POMONA INN, FINSTOWN**

**PRESENT:** Andrew Appleby, Fiona Lettice, Norman Shearer, Neil Kermode, Fiona Gould, David Reid, Mark Newton

**APOLOGIES:** Anna Elmy, James Chalmers

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sigrid Appleby, John Welburn and Sandra Deans

**INITIALS IN BOLD DENOTE ACTION TO BE TAKEN.**

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting:**

The Minutes from the 2018 AGM were taken as read, approved and signed. Proposed by Norman Shearer and seconded by Andrew Appleby

**2. President Report 2018-19:**

Andrew Appleby presented his report at the meeting.

**Action:** Report to be published on website once reviewed. **AA/MN**

**3. Treasurer Report 2018-19:**

Fiona Lettice presented the Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2019 prepared by A.J.B. Scholes Limited and signed by the JRS Chairman, Norman Shearer.

Fiona highlighted that donations were down from last year, but this was partly due to JRS promotional efforts related to purchase of the Hall in 2018, that the costs of events had increased., and this should be managed more carefully in the future. It was agreed that a new focus was necessary to garner the public's interest.

**Action:** Events committee to carefully manage the costs of future events in conjunction with Treasurer. **Events Committee/FL**

**4. Membership Secretary Report 2018-19:**

Fiona Gould presented her report detailing how the overall membership has increased by 73, from 294 on October 2018 to 367. Just over half of these have joined since the beginning of June. The total includes 3 corporate memberships from Adventure Canada, Birsay Energy Trust and the Kirstin Linklater Voice Centre. The geographical distribution remains very constant, with Orkney members at just over 30%, Scottish and other UK members at just below 30% each and overseas members at just over just over 10%.

The Board acknowledged that there is potential for corporate membership growth and provision should be made for a targeted campaign both with local, national and international businesses.

President: **Andrew J Appleby** Chairman: **Norman Shearer** Honorary Secretary: **Anna Elmy**

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Telephone: **+44 1856 771419**

Registered Charity No.: **SC044463**

**Fursbreck Pottery, Harray, Orkney, Scotland, KW17 2JR**

**Action:** Targeted campaign produced, detail to be agreed by the Hall committee, Julie to be asked to pass on updated list and the membership form adjusted accordingly. Update at next trustee meeting – activated before the end of the year. **SD**

#### **5. Constitution Amendments:**

The Chairman presented an amended constitution for the Board's approval, which recognises the Society's ownership of and proposed developments at the Hall of Clestrain, Orphir within the organisation's purposes, and asked for the Board's approval which was seconded by Mark Newton.

**Action:** Agreed amendments to be made, new purposes included, and final copy sent to OSCAR for review. Update for next trustee meeting. **NS**

#### **6. Election of new Trustees:**

Existing trustees choose to remain in post ensuring continuity. No new trustees came forward at the meeting, but the Board agreed to approach James Grieve who had expressed interest.

**Action:** Make approach to James Grieve to see if he would consider becoming a Trustee. Update for next trustee meeting. **AA**

#### **7. AOCB**

John Welburn kindly presented his thoughts regarding the direction that the Society should take in terms of activities, ways to raise JRS's profile such as re-branding and action planning.

**Action:** John to forward report to trustees for consideration. **JW**

Andrew Appleby expressed his wish to contact Prince Charles to act as a Patron for the Society. After debate and consideration, the Trustees felt that further development of a business plan was appropriate before an approach was made.

**Action:** Trustees in conjunction with the president should identify when an approach should be made. Review on ongoing basis. **Hall Committee/AA**

#### **8. AGM**

The date of the next AGM was agreed as the **25th October 2020**. Location to be determined.

**Action:** A suitable location should be identified to suit the needs of the meeting. Update to be given at trustee meeting prior to AGM. **NS/Administrator**

Concern was raised over the lack of attendees at the AGM and it was felt that it would be useful to email members rather than just rely on announcements on the web and in the Orcadian, although that is necessary.

**Action :** Emails to be sent in future to announce AGM and proposed agenda at least two weeks in advance of meeting. **NS/FG/Administrator**

#### **9. Date of Next Trustees Meeting**

**Sunday 24th November 2019, 7pm.** Pomona Inn, Finstown.

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