

## **ACTION PORTY**

Minute of Annual General Meeting held on 21 February, 2019 in Bellfield

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Justin Kenrick (Chair) welcomed everyone to Action Porty's second Annual General Meeting. He confirmed that the meeting was quorate (list of attendees attached as an appendix) and then ran through the domestic arrangements. Referring to the agenda, he outlined the format of the AGM, and invited those who could, to stay on beyond the formal part of the AGM for refreshments and a discussion.

### **2. APOLOGIES / PROXY VOTES**

Apologies were received from Kyrsta Macdonald-Scott, Jim Hurford, Eric Hildrew, Sarah Cockburn, Frazer McNaughton and Gordon Turnbull.

Apologies were also received from the following 14 members, who gave their proxy vote to the chair: Oonagh O'Brien, Antonio Sanchez, Callum Booth Lewis, Chris Booth, Jane Lewis, Eva Schonveld, Ian Newton, Nick Stroud, James Lewis, Tom Black, Alastair Cameron, Michael Davidson, Olivia Furness, and Aileen Reed.

### **3. MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS AGM**

The minute of last year's Action Porty AGM, held on 18 January, 2018, was agreed as a correct record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

### **4. REVIEW: 2018/19**

Action Porty secretary, Ian Cooke, summarised the key developments and some of the highlights from the last 12 months. This included essential work undertaken, the official opening in June, various other events and activities, and the board of directors. He concluded by thanking the staff, the board and the volunteer team for their contributions throughout the year. Emma Griffiths, Development Manager, provided an overview of the range of users – both regular and occasional lets, the key contribution of the Bellfield hosts and other volunteers, and flagged up some of the issues and challenges which are becoming apparent through operating Bellfield. Finally, masters student Molly Miller presented, and talked through, a sociogram she had developed which captured Action Porty's relationships with a wide variety of people, organisations and local businesses.

There were no questions from the floor.

## **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Jennifer Elliot, treasurer, talked to a presentation on the audited accounts and the financial position of the organisation. She explained that the accounts, which had been posted on the web-site well in advance of the AGM, covered the 12 month period from August 2016 to August 2017 and the 7 month period from September 2017 to March 2018 (bringing Action Party's reporting period in line with the financial year). Jennifer explained that the former set of accounts had been audited and the latter professionally reviewed by auditors Wylie Bisset.

Jennifer then provided an update on the emerging financial situation (income and expenditure since the opening of Bellfield) and the current financial picture and challenges ahead.

In response to this presentation there were a couple of questions from the floor about the need to strike a balance between affordability for users and the organisation financially washing its face, and about the level of capacity for additional activity / income within Bellfield. Jennifer responded to both these questions.

## **6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES**

The chair explained the situation regarding the board of Action Party. There are 10 places for member directors and 2 places for co-opted directors.

Of the current 9 member directors, 3 were standing down at the AGM (as required by the articles of Action Party) but all 3 were seeking re-election. These were the longest serving directors – Justin Kenrick, Ian Cooke and Kyrsta Macdonald-Scott. The remaining 6 directors all wished to continue on the board.

Nominations for directors were flagged up in the calling notice for the AGM, and in response a nomination had been received for Fiona Crosbie.

The Chair therefore proposed that the following 10 members should serve on the board of Action Party for the coming 12 months: Justin Kenrick, Ian Cooke, Kyrsta Macdonald-Scott, Jennifer Elliot, Morag Donaldson, Shauna Macdonald, Alan Simpson, Al Reid, Jane Fletcher and Fiona Crosbie.

Justin also pointed out that any co-opted directors are also required to stand down at the AGM, but are able to be co-opted for a further term. Under this provision, Ben McLeish stood down, but was co-opted to serve for a further 12 months.

## **7. FUTURE PLANS**

The Chair offered some thoughts on the future of the Bellfield project and the potential development of Action Party as an organisation. With regards to the former he explained the need to clarify our vision and evolve a plan for developing Bellfield as a high quality, flexible and accessible community facility, and the challenges of funding the capital works required. In terms of the latter he highlighted the need for a community anchor organisation such as a development trust in Portobello and posed the question of whether Action Party could grow into that role with the support of a wider group of people.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS / CLOSE**

As there were no further issues or questions from the floor, the Chair thanked everyone again for their attendance, and closed the formal part of the AGM. He invited those who could, to stay for refreshments, and this was followed by an informal and interesting discussion around the following 3 questions:

1. What is your experience of Bellfield, and what is Bellfield doing well? How could we improve, and how can you help?
2. What are the community needs which Bellfield aren't meeting or could meet?
3. Should Action Party become an 'anchor organisation' for Portobello, and how can you help us play that role effectively?

**ATTENDANCE**

Justin Kenrick	Sue Simpson	Jennifer Elliot	Morag Donaldson
Alan Simpson	Nick Woodhead	Jon Davey	Al Reid
Ian Cooke	Margaret Munro	Jan Harkin	Kait Laghlin
Sue Hurford	Brenda Moloney	Vince Moloney	Morgan Smith
Lee Kindness	Karl Stern	Jo Jeffries	Jane Fletcher
Ian Schofield	Ash Denham, MSP	Peter McColl	Maggie Chapman (and proxy)
Lawrence Marshall	Coralie Mills	Robert Todd	Cynthia Colt (and proxy)
Rona Cornwall	Colin Cornwall	Anne Steinberg	Robin Naumann
Stephen Hawkins	Diana Cairns	Gillian Cummings	Ben McLeish
Rab Crawford	Anne Bergseng	Fiona Crosby	Ursuala Wright
Rhona Gray	Beverley Burgess	Vivian Ireland	Norm Ireland
Sean Waters	Stephen Mannfield	Cathie McLean	Beth Cross
David Cooper	Barbara Middleton	Osbert Lancaster	Shauna Macdonald
Mary Campbell			

Emma Griffiths	Molly Miller		