

ACTION PORTY

Minute of Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 27 February, 2020 in Bellfield

1. INTRODUCTION

Justin Kenrick (Chair) welcomed everyone to Action Porty's 2020 Annual General Meeting. He confirmed that between those present and proxy votes submitted in advance of the meeting, the AGM was quorate (list of attendees, apologies and proxy votes attached as an appendix).

2. MINUTE OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

The minute of last year's Action Porty AGM, held on 21 February, 2019 was agreed as a correct record of the meeting. Moved Karl Stern, seconded Charlie Wright. There were no matters arising from the minute.

3. 2019/20 ACTIVITY

The chair provided an overview of the previous 12 months – he highlighted key achievements and other successes, and outlined some of the challenges. He touched on how Bellfield has become a vital community space, summarised the range of activities which Bellfield hosts and touched on changes in the small staff team during the year. Action Porty had endeavoured to be a good steward of Bellfield, carrying out essential repairs and improvements, whenever money was available. The Chair also highlighted what Action Porty was doing in relation to the climate emergency. He explained that following issues about information raised at last year's AGM, there had been an overhaul of the web-site, which will be re-launched in the next few weeks. The Chair finished by thanking the Board and all the other Bellfield volunteers for their contributions.

Board member, Al Reid, then provided the AGM with a summary of the project to install solar panels on the roof of the large hall. Action Porty had just managed to register for feed-in-tariffs before the deadline, and thereafter had worked hard to deliver the project within the required time frame. This had involved planning consent, over-seeing the installation of the solar panels and the financing of the project – greatly aided by an unexpected contribution from SPENN. Al was pleased to report that the solar panels were now fully operational and generating!

Following the presentations, a number of comments were made from the floor – particularly around getting the right balance between Bellfield activities and neighbour concerns. Many neighbours were keen to express their support for Bellfield and appreciated the willingness of

the Board to engage with them to ensure they and the wider community can benefit from Bellfield in a way that causes minimum disruption to those people living near Bellfield.

4. 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 up to end of March, 2019. Jennifer pointed out that the accounts had been audited by Wylie Bisset and subsequently approved by the Action Party board. It was noted that the last of our revenue grant funding had contributed to our revenue costs and a positive end of year position.

Jennifer then provided a financial overview of the current financial year to date. The Board had set an income and expenditure target of £5k per month, and by in large, this was being achieved without any revenue grant funding. Repairs and building improvements were being funded from capital grant income brought in to the project, and from our own reserves. Action Party was operating with sufficient reserves to cover 3 months running costs.

In response to this presentation there were a couple of questions from the floor which Jennifer responded to.

5. MOTION – CHANGE OF QUORUM

Ian Cooke explained that Clause 45 in the Articles of Action Party sets the quorum for the AGM (and General Meetings) at “the greater of (a) 8 Ordinary Members or (b) 10% of the Ordinary Members, in either event being present or by proxy”. With a membership of 460 and growing the Board was proposing to reset the quorum to a more realistic level of 25 ordinary members to ensure quorate AGMs going forward.

After a couple of questions, the motion - *this AGM agrees to change the quorum for general meetings, set out in clause 45 of our Articles, to 25 ordinary members* – was moved by Ian Cooke, seconded by Justin Kenrick, and passed unanimously by those present.

6. BOARD OF DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES

Ian Cooke 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 10 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 – Jennifer Elliot, Shauna MacDonald and Morag Donaldson. The remaining 7 directors all wished to continue on the board.

No nominations to the board had been received from the calling notice sent out which had invited new people to come forward.

Ian 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, Fiona Crosbie and Cathy Maclean, and this was agreed by the AGM.

Ian 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. VOLUNTEERING

Rose Dodgson, a student currently volunteering with Action Party, gave an overview of the range of volunteering opportunities at Bellfield, and encouraged those present to consider volunteering. It was pointed out that the organisation now had a volunteer co-ordinator, who helps ensure that people coming forward get matched to appropriate volunteering opportunities. Other volunteers shared their experience of Bellfield and anyone interested in finding out more was asked to leave their name at the end of the meeting.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Jennifer Elliot gave a brief summary of the formation of a group of people, under the auspices of Action Party, who were currently exploring ways to address the current closure of Portobello Town Hall.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no other business, the chair closed the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

Justin Kenrick	Alan Simpson	Jennifer Elliot	Morag Donaldson
Ian Cooke	Nick Woodhead	Alison Kinghorn	Al Reid
Anna Brand	Margaret Munro	Beth Cross	Brenda Molony
Barbara Middleton	Beryl Neil	Bill Jamieson	Charles Wright
Eileen Cook	Karl Stern	Elma Sheppard	Fraser McMillan
Fraser McNaughton	Jan Killeen	Kerry Oliver	Cynthia Colt
Mary Camell	Lynn Sheppard	David Newlands	Robin Naumann
Rona Cornwall	Colin Cornwall*	Ursula Wright	Vince Molony
Yvonne Longwill	Kyrsta Macdonald-Scott	David Calder*	Cathy Maclean
Cecile Levenson*			

* Non-members

APOLOGIES (and proxy votes)

Fiona Crosby	Ben McLeish	Alastair Cameron	Shauna Macdonald
Oonagh O'Brien	Antonio Sanchez	Michael Davidson	Jane Lewis
Nick Johnson	Adam Ramsay	Gemma Sethsmith	Serge Marti
Jane Chisholm	Joanne Power	Maureen Child	Eva Parsons
Eva Schonveld	Ian Schofield	Heather Stacey	Mark Ballard
Donald Bloxham	Ian Newton	Nick Stroud	Anna Coldham
Blue Kenrick	Laura Plumb	Peter Jones	Stephen Hawkins
Diana Cairns	Oli Furness	Osbert Lancaster	Cal MacAninch
Jon Davey	Heather Macdonald	Gus Macdonald	

