

2018 AGM PAPERS

Notice of The Moray Society Annual General Meeting 6.30 pm Friday 27th April 2018 at Elgin Museum *DRAFT*

Agenda:

1. Welcome from the President, Grenville Johnston (Chair)
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of AGM 2017 - for approval
4. Matters arising from above
5. President's written report on the activities of the Society (Grenville Johnston)
6. Receive the Financial Report, including Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017 and report of the independent financial examiners, Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin (Treasurer and Company Secretary, Graham Robertson)
7. Appointment of Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin as independent financial examiner for 2018.
8. Board membership - annual election
The following existing Trustees are resigning and standing for re-election having been duly proposed by two Ordinary Members. See notes for the Agenda:
Grenville Johnston
Janet Trythall
Bill Dalgarno
Edna Cameron
Rebecca Russell
Mary Shand
Graham Robertson
Claire Herbert
Donna Skelly
And new candidate member, Caroline Webster.
9. Fixing of annual subscriptions for the categories: Ordinary, Family, Junior, Student, Life, Corporate membership. The Board recommends the subscriptions remain as:
Ordinary member not paid by Standing Order, £30 (otherwise £25).
Family member not paid by Standing Order, £50 (otherwise £40)

Junior (Young Marvel) - a single joining fee of £1, not an annual subscription.

10. AOCB

11. Close

The timetable for the evening of the AGM: NB Entry for the evening will be via the main Museum entrance.

5 – 8.30 pm. Art preview on the Mezzanine floor. Artist: Frances Innes. “Hazy Horizons”. Refreshments.

6.30 – 7 pm. AGM in Side Hall.

7.30 – 8.30 pm. Lecture in Side Hall. “CARS: Opportunities and Challenges” by Pinny Neill, Architect with LDN, the project manager for the restorative building works on Elgin Museum over the winter partly funded by Elgin’s Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme. Come and hear about the very unexpected challenges experienced not only for our building but elsewhere in the town.

Entry free but donations welcome.

Minutes from The Moray Society Annual General Meeting 6.30 pm 28th April 2017 at Elgin Museum

1. Welcome from the President (Chair)

Grenville Johnston (GSJ), President, welcomed those present.

2. Present and absent (name lists in file)

26 members present

9 apologies for absence

In attendance: Museum Assistant

3. Minutes of the AGM of 2016 – accuracy: Agreed nem com

4. Matters arising from AGM minutes 2016 – none

5. President’s report

He referred to the regular updates to members in the Newsletters for which reason he had not prepared a written report. He made the following remarks about the Museum and the Society:

- He noted with regret the death of Jenna Shaw, past-President of The Moray Society and longstanding supporter of the Society as a local Councillor and Moray Society member.
- Di Hannan, our Education/Outreach Officer, has left us at short notice with her husband's posting south. This is a huge loss as she made an outstanding contribution to our engagement with children and families. We are currently seeking funding and a replacement.
- The opening day, April Fools' Day was a great success with 170 visitors enjoying jesters, learning circus skills and telling old jokes.
- This is the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology and we have a full programme of events, with family activities, historical visits and walks and culminating in the archaeology conference on 4th/5th November, with some contributory funding from HLF.
- Volunteers for front-of-house duty – we struggle some weeks to keep open as we need two per half day session, 6 days a week. There is no need to be a member of the Moray Society although we always hope volunteers will chose to support us by membership as well. Forms are available at the back of the Hall and on the website and the Volunteer Mentor will make sure applicants are comfortable in their role. It can be fun!
- Membership stands at 247 Ordinary members, 63 Life members. Unfortunately, although we have new members this year, their number is exceeded by the losses, usually because of death. Young Marvels have 160 members, an increase of 20%.
- In summary, the Museum is in great heart, all due to Heather Townsend, Museum Assistant, and the volunteers. Despite the challenges, the beauty of it is we somehow cope.

6. Financial report (Ken Ferguson) – see statement of income/expenditure and balance sheet to year end 31/12/2016 (Extracts from full accounts examined by Ritsons, and ready for presentation to OSCR – full copies can be seen on request and will be on the OSCR and Companies House websites.) See full notes prepared by Ken Ferguson, Treasurer and Company Secretary.

In summary, while our finances show a surplus in unrestricted funds, we still require to have some £45-50k annually to run the museum. We no longer receive direct financial support from Moray Council, and the consequent anonymous donation was intended to cover our anticipated £15k per annum deficit over the following 3 years. The majority of our other funds are restricted and not available for general maintenance and outgoings. Apart from the salaries of the part-time Museum Assistant and Janitor, any wages, special events or capital expenditures are funded from project grants whenever possible. Donations have been most welcome, as has the return from investments, but they are an unpredictable income for the future. Adoption of Treasurer's report: 1. Mary Byatt 2. Bill Dalgarno. Agreed nem com.

7. Appointment of Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin as independent financial examiners for 2016 – Agreed nem com.

8. Board membership

(a) Resignations: under our revised Constitution, all Trustees resign at the AGM. Ken Ferguson, Phil Dacre, Angela Monro and Marion Yool were not standing for re-election and were sincerely thanked for their contributions as Board members.

(b) All the existing Trustees offered themselves for re-election and were duly re-elected. Notes for this Agenda item were circulated with the Agenda, including an indication of the candidates' background or skills, and individual Proposers and Seconders:

Grenville Johnston (President)

Janet Trythall (Vice-president)

Graham Robertson (new Treasurer and Company Secretary)

Bill Dalgarno

Edna Cameron

Mary Shand

Rebecca Russell

Claire Herbert

Donna Skelly (new candidate)

Agreed nem com.

9. Special Resolution to amend Article 9 of the existing Articles of Association to say: "The Board shall meet as soon as practicable immediately after each AGM to appoint the Office-Bearers from the Board (all or any of whom can be Co-opted Trustees), usually being the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Unless the Board of Trustees at any time resolves otherwise, each Office-Bearer shall hold office for a period of three years, provided that he or she remains a Trustee for that whole period. At the end of his or her period the Office-Bearer shall be capable of re-appointment for a further three years, but no Office-Bearer can serve more than six years in office, without at least one term out of office before being eligible for reappointment again, unless the Board of Trustees at any time resolves otherwise."

Proposed: The Moray Society Board. Agreed: nem com.

11. Fixing of annual subscriptions for the categories: Ordinary, Family, Junior, Life, Corporate membership. The Board recommends the subscriptions to remain as: Ordinary member not paid by Standing Order, £30 (otherwise £25). Family member not paid by Standing Order, £50 (otherwise £40) Junior (Young Marvel) - a single joining fee of £1, not an annual subscription. Agreed nem com.

12. AOCB:

i) Double glazing – Mary Byatt asked whether consideration had been given to double glazing the large window in the Main Gallery to save heat loss. GSJ said that it was understood that this would not be possible because of the listed status of the building. Claire Herbert (Board member and Aberdeenshire Council archaeologist) endorsed this view and also commented that changes to the internal environment need to be made with caution. ACTION: GSJ will make enquiries.

ii) CARS project – GSJ gave an update about The Society's position with regard to this project for the restoration of the frontage of buildings in Elgin High Street and South Street. The grants were originally offered for only 50% of the cost; it was unrealistic for us to find 50% of the several £100k total. The Board is now looking at a resubmission with scaled down works, potentially backed by an anticipated far higher % contribution from CARS.

iii) No 3 High Street – The President still has a strong desire to restore and bring into use the upstairs of No.3 and the feasibility is under active deliberation.

iv) Ken Ferguson, retiring Treasurer/Company Secretary was thanked heartily for his work on our behalf, particularly handling the complexities of our grant/ring-fenced funding, and at the outset, getting our accounts into an exemplary format and up to date with OSCR, and then maintaining this record.

To fulfil his long expressed wish to see Lego Picts in the Museum, he was presented with a diorama of the Battle of Mons Graupius, created by Claire Herbert.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1900.

It was followed by drinks and nibbles, and at 1930 by a lecture, **A Taste for Indian Sculpture: India, Moray and Elgin Museum** by Professor Richard Jeffrey, University of Edinburgh and Friederike Voigt, Senior Curator, Middle East & South Asia, National Museums Scotland - a follow up to the donation of Elgin Museum's Hindu sculptures to NMS at our AGM 2016.

Janet Trythall 30/4/2017

PLEASE NOTE!

Other papers and copies of the accounts will be available for viewing in the Museum prior to the AGM, from Monday 23rd April. If you have any queries regarding the AGM, do not hesitate to contact curator@elginmuseum.org.uk for the attention of Janet Trythall, Bill Dalgarno or Graham Robertson.