

Protest In Harmony

AGM 9 April 2022, Broughton St Mary's Church, Broughton Street, Edinburgh

Minute

1. Present: (see last page for full list).

2. Welcome – John Ireson chaired the meeting and warmly welcomed everyone to the AGM. He reminded us that last year we met via ZOOM, and spoke about how good it felt to be able to celebrate Protest in Harmony together, in person.

3. Minutes of last AGM, 28 May 2021 (circulated on line)

There were no amendments. Sheila McKay proposed acceptance of the minute, seconded by Caroline Glas and unanimously approved by the membership.

4. Treasurer's report (circulated on-line)

Margaret Bremner, Treasurer, presented the annual financial statement. In summary, Margaret confirmed that our financial position healthy and very close to that of last year. She highlighted the donation we made to support the Black Lives Matter Choir Natural Voice Network Commissioning Project; and the COP26 grant, which was used to support the network in Chile.

Margaret thanked everyone for their support through membership fees. She stressed that fees paid by Bank Transfer eased administration, but equally welcomed cash payments. Neil Duguid was thanked for being on the door every month to collect fees; and Hilary Patrick for agreeing to audit our annual financial statement. Hilary and Neil have agreed to alternate years as auditors.

Acceptance of the report was proposed by Margaret Christie, seconded by Sylvia McGowan and unanimously approved by the membership.

5. Chair's report (will be posted on the website)

Kathy Jenkins, Chairperson, delivered highlights from her report.

Kathy reminded us of the very moving and inspiring report presented last year by Hilery Williams, who was unable to attend to-day. Over the year, as Covid restrictions have partially eased, we have progressed from: monthly zoom sessions; to socially distanced rehearsals outside at the Bellfield Hub, Portobello; to meeting inside for the first time in two years. We first met in person at St Augustine's Church, and today at Broughton St Mary's Church. Kathy expressed our thanks to both Church Committees for allowing and

supporting us to use their facilities. Thanks also to Penny Stone and all our song leaders, for their invaluable and time consuming research into safe singing.

We have been able to celebrate singing in the streets again, in solidarity with a number of causes, raising awareness to make the world a better place. We have been singing together and singing joyfully thanks to our song-leaders, Penny, Jane and Shereen. Kathy expressed her thanks for to all the committee members, and especially to Margaret Bremner for taking on the role of Treasurer again, also to Chris Pearson and Chris Booth for keeping our website going.

John thanked Kathy for acting as Chairperson, which she had agreed to do for a year in anticipation of someone else taking on the role. However, Kathy said she was prepared to stay on for one year longer and happy to work alongside anyone willing to gradually take over. John announced that come November, Protest in Harmony will be 19 years old. That the group has been sustained for so long owes much to the commitment of committee members over the years.

6. Election to the Committee - It was agreed to elect all those named below en block. Proposer: Hilary Patrick, Seconder, Ian Davies, unanimously approved by members.

Current Committee willing to stand again:

Margaret Bremner
Margaret Christie
Sue Cowgill
Margot Duffy (stepping down)
Kathy Jenkins
Sheila MacKay
Sylvia McGowan
Jane Rubens
Lyn Tarlton

Proposed new members

Belle Claudi
Jane Dudman
Susan Moffat
Christine Schoeck

6. AOB – no other business

7. Date of next AGM - to be confirmed. John thanked everyone, and with a touch of humour from Sooty, closed the meeting.

Present

Margaret Allen
Katherine Ashe
Maxine Beahan

Shereen Benjamin
Margaret Bremner
Belle Claudi
Margaret Christie
Laura Coll
Sue Cowgill
Brid Cullen
Ian Davies
Eileen Dickie
Jane Dudman
Margot Duffy
Jo Duguid
Neil Duguid
Margaret Ferguson Burns
Hala George
Caroline Glas
Elsbeth Gracey
Rona Gray
Cleo Greenwood
Margot Hudson
John Ireson
Kathy Jenkins
Jan Kileen
Jane Lewis
Mary McCann
Kath McDonald
Sylvia McGowan
Sheila MacKay
Helen Mein
Susan Moffat
Jessie Normaschild
Hilary Patrick
Eileen Penman
Helen Pilling
Beth Piper
Kate Prasher
Gareth Rae
Jane Rubens
Eurig Scandrett
Carmen Simon
May Smith
Carol Sullivan
Lyn Tarlton
Margaret Tomkins
Graham Turner
Elaine Wallace
Fi Williams