

SCONE REMEMBERS

SCIO No SC044799

www.sconeremembers.org.uk

MINUTES of the **FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of **SCONE**

REMEMBERS held on Wednesday 11 March 2015 at Scone New Church Hall at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Pete Olsen, in the Chair

Margaret Allan

Evelyn Curtis

Keith Dale

David Dykes

Brian Farey

Pauline Farey

Helen Flatley

Bill Jamieson

Marion Jamieson

Jan Macduff

Robert Macduff-Duncan

Hugh Mackenzie

Ron Morrison

Dawn Olsen

Elaine Pirie

Gordon Pirie

Rodger Scott

Lewis Simpson

Bid Strachan

Graham Watson

1. Welcome

Pete Olsen welcomed all those present to this our first Annual General Meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Bill Farquhar, Frances Halley, Derek Mitchell, Paul Schofield

3. Resignations and appointments

Pete explained that all Trustees retire at the AGM and apart from Frances Halley, who had resigned as Treasurer, were willing to stand again. Brian Farey agreed to fill the post of Trustee but we still need a Treasurer. Pete agreed to take on this post temporarily. The maximum number for Trustees is nine, the minimum five, which we have. Pete thanked Frances Halley for all her hard work and support over the year she had been Treasurer.

4. Chairperson's Reports

Copies of the report were made available to those present. Pete reported that we had achieved charitable status in record time and for this he thanked Bob Gillespie and others for their support, in particular Dawn Olsen who had given worked tirelessly and wholeheartedly support to achieve charitable status for the project. He also praised the people of Scone who had given their support at all the fund raising events that had taken place throughout last year; this included support from the Scone youth group with the video of their art work which was shown at the Cultural Event which some of the young people also attended.

He thanked Robert Macduff-Duncan for his helpful and speedy responses while the Trustees were drawing up a contract with Scone Estates relating to the use of the land. This is needed to satisfy funders. Pete was able to report that we had had a response from Scone Estates and were almost there with an agreed contract.

He explained that the research team had been looking beyond names on the Memorial - families, battles they were in, impact on the families. The research results were appearing regularly in Destiny. He recounted one example which still resonates with the family today.

He went on to tell those present that the work of installing the paths needs a professional to manage the work. This is necessary for funders who will want to know how we are going to progress with the project before they can commit to agreeing to fund us. We had taken advice and £3,000 - £4,000 is needed to employ someone. The necessary funds were raised throughout the year with a wide range of fund raising events supported by individuals and businesses in the community. He hoped we would have a full contract by the summer.

Evelyn Curtis asked about the management of the project; would the organisations be interviewed and would the contract be fixed.

5. Financial Situation

Pete said that the accounts had been prepared in accordance with OSCAR's regulations. He explained that the figures will not change, just the format.

In response to a question he explained that good quality tee-shirts had been purchased and had been worn by the fund raising committee at each fund raising event which helped raise the profile. Payment had also been made for design costs.

Pete also said that as the accounts will be available to the public through OSCAR there was no need to vote on them.

He thanked Dawn's team of fund raisers for all the hard work they put into achieving this remarkable sum in just one year.

6. Battlefield Presentation

Dawn and Pete had visited the WW1 battlefields at their own expense. The visit had dispelled myths about the burial of British soldiers by the Germans. Dawn said she had been unable to find out about a Cpl(?) Bell who had died with military honours but she had been unable to find any details about him. There followed a short pictorial presentation of the visit which was appreciated by all those present.

A good deal of information about those named on the Memorial has come from William Stormont who has been researching the men who worked on the Estate and went to war. In particular he has a wealth of newspaper cuttings.

7. Open Forum

Bid Strachan of Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust said that the area of the path towards the bottom is very damp, thus creating challenges but she felt these were not insurmountable.

The definition of motorised vehicle is causing a problem, it must not travel at more than eight miles per hour. It was not thought that rally bikes are currently a problem in Perth & Kinross, so are not likely to impact on the project when completed. However, the forest is a crop and will be worked as such which means machinery will need to use the paths at some time in the future. Part of the path is already a public right of way as part of the core path network.

The Trustees have been looking at the best way of maintaining the path in the very long term. We may have to set up another organisation of volunteers to do this. This also has to be addressed to satisfy both Scone Estates and major funders.

Gordon Pirie asked about the notice boards. They will be of good quality, graffiti resistant and ultraviolet stabilised. Natural wood is being considered for the seating areas.

Ongoing discussions with Scone Estates will be about where the paths will go. A meeting has been arranged for a day in April.

The construction of the paths is not expected to take long once agreement and funders are on board. Pete mentioned that PKAVS had also been helpful with suggestions for funding avenues.

Jan Macduff urged us to keep up the momentum of fund raising and to keep the profile in the public eye. Suggestions were for a coffee morning and a ceilidh.

A "donate" button was mentioned for the website which it was felt might encourage people to donate who have an interest in what we are doing and live abroad. Three or four names on the Memorial were men who had been in the Canadian and Australian forces; Scone in New South Wales has shown an interest. Pete urged everyone to have a look at the website.

8. Close

The meeting closed at 8.30pm