

HIGHLAND WOODTURNERS CLUB, Club Premises, Munloch Village Hall

AGM 2022 - THURSDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 6.45pm at Munloch

MINUTES

The Chairman Alec Mutch welcomed everyone to the 2022 AGM. A total of 19 members were in attendance.

1. To receive and adopt the Minutes from the previous EGM of 25th March 2021.

These were proposed and seconded by Peter Lawrence & David Ross. Agreed by all present.

2. To receive and adopt the Chairperson's report.

See attached report. The Chairperson Alec Mutch presented a 3 page report this included:-

The request for anyone with any questions to bring them to the meeting's attention at any time.

He thanked Committee members leaving (Jim Kelman, Mike Day and Douglas Ross) for their contributions in helping run the Club. An appreciation was shown by all.

He had been Chairman for 3 years and highlighted that although we had been locked down for the last 2 years the Committee had continued to be busy and in touch with each other and the membership at all times. He thanked the Committee for their great help in running the Club.

3. To receive and adopt the Treasurer's report and verified annual accounts covering the affairs of the Club during the previous year.

Copies of the Statement of Income and Expenditure to 31st December 2021, which are signed by J M Clarkson and G Leitch, were distributed. The Treasurer Cliff Sim highlighted the figures in the statement and invited any questions. There were no questions. The Club has a healthy bank balance.

He emphasised that he thought the Club was well run and had great leadership especially during the last difficult period.

4. To vote for or against the adoption of the proposed Amended Constitution.

The proposed new amended Constitution had been on display at Munloch and on the HWC website for a few weeks. AM requested any comments. There were none. Adoption of the Constitution was proposed by Bill Munro and seconded by David Line and approved unanimously by all present.

5. To dissolve the current Committee.

The current Committee was dissolved and the outgoing Vice Chair, Peter Lawrence requested nominations for the role of Chairperson.

6. The election and appointment of the new Chairperson.

Alec Mutch was proposed by David Ross and seconded by David Hobson. AM was unanimously elected as HWC Chairperson by all present.

7. The election of the rest of the Committee.

Continuing Committee members - Cliff Sim, Peter Lawrence, Geoff Potter, John Ruickbie, Errol Levings, Nick Simpson, David Line, Alan Geddes were all proposed by Bill Munro and seconded by Jeff Buttress. David Ross was proposed by George Cameron and seconded by Andy Smith. David Hobson was proposed by David Ross and seconded by Jeff Buttress. There were no other nominations. These 10 no. proposed members were elected unanimously to the Committee by all present.

8. To receive and decide on any other competent motions on the running of the Club.

AM confirmed that Training would be discussed at the next Committee meeting to be held on Saturday 5th February 2022 and it was likely to be reinstated by end of March.

Errol Levings asked that any requests for HWC smocks be sent to him. An example was displayed and cost c£41.

9. END OF MEETING

Chairmans report for the 2022 AGM.

Welcome everyone to our 2022 AGM, it was February 2020 when we held our last AGM, the Covid-19 restrictions were introduced in early March of 2020 that had the effect of closing us down for a considerable period of time. We had no way of knowing how long the shut down would be, so your committee through email initially looked at what we would need to do here to make it Covid safe only to conclude it might be better to look for new premises. This we did and new premises were found in Maryburgh, we entered into talks with the Men's Shed in Maryburgh and the building was secured from the council by the Men's Shed, we were to be tenants, however after considerable deliberation agreement could not be found for us to give up these premises in favour of the Maryburgh premises, so we walked away. That brought us back to looking again at our Munloch premises, and how were we going to make this a safer environment to allow us to re-open once some of the restrictions were lifted. Your committee realised that the main issues against us were the lack of ventilation and the lack of any meaningful extraction system, it was felt that if we dealt with these 2 items seriously and do a little bit of re-arranging internally to increase the floor space available that we could meet the challenges that Covid threw up. This was done in the late spring of 2021, several of your committee members were very involved with all the changes that needed to take place, all on a voluntary basis with the club only paying for the equipment and materials required, the bulk of the costs were raised by an appeal your committee put out to all our members, that appeal was very successful and the work was all but complete when the first signs of being able to open again happened. We knew on opening again that there would be some members who would choose to stay away, and that was ok with us, we did manage to attract about 50% of our members right from the start of the re-opening and that figure has remained fairly constant to this day, what was surprising we kept getting enquiries from people to join the club right throughout the shut down period and at least half a dozen of those enquiries ended up joining the club. There had to be some new rules introduced to have us comply with the governments restrictions, things like making sanitizing equipment available, wearing face masks, all being seated and not making use of the training programme for the time being, it was also decided by your committee that only one lathe would be used and for demonstration purposes only. This was a shortened version of the clubs facilities but it did mean we could re-open and that was your committee's priority.

During 2021 it was not possible for us to have an AGM meeting in the February of that year the restrictions were in full force at this time, your committee were in contact by zoom meetings and the question of an AGM was discussed, a decision was reached that we were to right off the whole year from the AGM in February 2020 to the February 2021. That threw up some constitutional questions not least of which was my position as Chairman, I should have been required to step down in February 2021 having served my allocated time according to the current constitution, by writing off the whole year it was decided that my position as Chairman would be extended to 2022, as was the whole committee. The constitution was then the subject of a review, the result of that review was to recommend some changes to the constitution, that we will be discussing and voting on at this meeting.

Looking to the future, the restrictions are gradually being reduced, we should be back to normal in the very near future, that will mean we can operate all 5 lathes again and re-start the training programme, your new committee will have a meeting after the AGM to discuss and determine when exactly to return to normal.

As for the present committee, 9 of the 12 would offer to remain committee members, 3 existing members, Jim Kelman, Douglas Stewart and Mike day have all indicated they are not going to stand for re-election, most of you will know all 3 of these members, Jim Kelman is stepping down for medical reasons the other 2, Douglas Stewart and Mike Day for personal reasons. I along with the rest of the committee are very grateful for all 3 of them being on the committee and for their contributions towards the smooth running of the club, I would like you all to put your hands together in a show of thanks to all 3 for their sterling work on the committee.

As for my own position as chairman, I have over the last 3 years been your chairman, a lot of that time we were in lock down but the work of chairman did not stop for this pandemic nor did it stop for your committee, we were in close contact by email and zoom throughout the whole time we were locked down. I have to say I was more than pleased with all the support your committee gave me through this troubled time as indeed I also got from you the membership my in box on email was very busy with mainly positive support which I thank you all for.

We will be moving on to discuss the rest of the AGM agenda, starting with the Treasurers report and to verify the annual accounts, then we will be discussing the proposed constitutional changes and voting on it. I will then dissolve the whole current committee, you will then be asked to elect a new chairperson followed by electing the new committee including replacing those committee members stepping down.

There will be an opportunity for any member to raise any issue under what we call A.O.C.B.