

HIGHLAND WOODTURNERS CLUB, Club Premises, Munloch Village Hall

AGM 2024 - THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY 6.45pm at Munloch

MINUTES

The Chairman Alec Mutch welcomed everyone to the 2023 AGM. A total of 21 members were present and signed in at the AGM.

1. To receive and adopt the Minutes from the previous AGM of 2nd February 2022

These were proposed by P Lawrence & and seconded by D Line. Agreed by all present.

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

See attached report. The Chairperson Alec Mutch (AM) presented his 2 page report.

He requested that anyone with any questions that they should bring them to the meeting's attention at any time.

He asked for a vote of thanks for both J Webster and E Levings who are stepping down from the Committee.

Alec has been Chairman for 5 years and 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.

The Treasurer Alan Geddes presented his report *which is attached below*. Copies of the Statement of Income and Expenditure to 31st December 2023, which are signed by G Potter and E Levings was circulated at the AGM. AG highlighted the figures in the statement. The Club has a healthy bank balance.

It was noted that the income from the raffle balances most of the expenditure on rent.

AG invited any questions.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by D Ross and seconded by D Line. Approved by all.

4. To discuss the situation with name tags and vote on a new proposal

A motion had been received by email from R Sawicki and an email had been received from F Campbell. Both expressed the view that it was unfair to disqualify a member's entries after they had already been accepted as entries into the competition if they were not wearing a badge.

Name badges were discussed in great detail by all present. Most, nearly everyone, were in favour of name badges because it helped people remember names in the identification and recognition of particularly new members. However, some members expressed strong reservations about the requirement to wear a badge for competitions or indeed at all. A vote that one raffle prize at each meeting be restricted to only wearers of badges or names was carried by a 12 to 5 majority. AM said that this subject and members opinions would be brought forward at the Committee meeting on 3rd February (on Saturday).

5. To dissolve the current Committee.

The current Committee was dissolved and the outgoing Deputy Chairman P Lawrence requested nominations for the role of Chairperson. Alec Mutch was proposed by the whole outgoing Committee and seconded by E Levings. There were no other nominations.

6. The election and appointment of the new Chairperson.

AM was unanimously elected as HWC Chairperson by all present.

7. The election of the rest of the Committee.

Committee Members who wished to stand for re-election - Peter Lawrence, Geoff Potter, John Ruickbie, Nick Simpson, Susan Drew, Alan Smith, David Hobson, David Line, Alan Geddes, Joe Webster were all proposed by David Ross and seconded by E Levings. These 10 no. proposed members were elected unanimously to the Committee by all present.

E Levings and J Webster were stepping down and gave short addresses. They both received a vote of thanks from all present.

Member B Cummings was proposed as a Committee Member by David Line and seconded by S Drew. K Brown was proposed by N Simpson and seconded by D Line. Both members accepted the nomination and were elected by all present.

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

J Cox proposed some changes to the HWC website and he was invited to discuss these with AM later.

A vote of thanks was given to A Mutch by all.

9. END OF MEETING

HWC Chairman's report for 2023.

At the AGM on the 1ST February 2024.

Another busy year for the club, with quite a few changes and improvements, your committee operates on 3 main fronts, the 1st being the advancement of skills on the woodturning front through our fortnightly meetings and the training facility it provides, the 2nd is on the safety front, this is paramount in everything we do at the club where we try to lead by example good practice in everything that happens at the club, the 3rd is on the personal aspect where the club becomes a meeting place for like minded people who want to use this time to interact with each other.

We did have most of the year's programme almost complete and the year was kicked off by John Ruickbie in a solo demonstration making a wooden clock. That was followed by Nick Simpson who arranged for a pub type quiz on mainly matters of wood, something that had never been done by the club before and was a great success and will be repeated.

February came about and the annual AGM was the next meeting, where the constitutional requirements were followed and your present Chairman and committee members were re-elected. Some changes to the club subscriptions were also approved at this meeting.

During this time the programme on Training was in full flow but nearing its end for the present intake of members, the fee for the Training was also increased to £10 per session. On the maintenance front, John Ruickbie and some of the maintenance team were still very much involved with the work room, building benches, putting up shelving and installing an extraction system, a new extractor was purchased for this room which is now up and running and has proved to be very successful. In addition to the work John and others did in the workroom an opportunity to get a Planer Thicknesser was made available and the club purchased it, It has been installed into the work room but still requires some work prior to the training that will have to be done before it's used, John Ruickbie will oversee the training, that should be starting shortly, the training will be starting with some members of the committee in the first instance with limited access being afforded due to the inherent dangers this machine possesses.

This year has also seen the training on the Bandsaw advanced, we now have all of the committee trained in its use along with several of the club members having also done the training, there is room for more to be trained, you only need to request the training and John Ruickbie will take you through the course, it is usual for the Bandsaw training to be done in small groups of 3 or 4 people and that system will remain.

Other areas where improvements have been made is with the First Aid team, we have now 10 members who are registered as First Aiders all led by Joe Webster, Joe also put on a familiarization and demonstration in the use of Fire Extinguishers, something that had not been done in the club before, all these measures are in the interests of safety for the individual and the club members.

Later in the year some changes to the Show And Tell meetings were introduced, these changes were piloted and seem to have gone very well, we will be using this format for all future Show And Tell meetings, this was mainly achieved through Errol Levings promoting the new system and your committee accepting the changes.

Also later in the year we were approached by an individual about the club attending and demonstrating at the Black Isle Show, having talked to the Black Isle Show organizers it turned out we were too late to be included for the 2023 show but this is something we may pursue for this year. We are always mindful of the need for new people to come into the club especially if we

can attract some youngsters to join, the Black Isle Show would be one of the perfect venues to promote our club and to gain new members.

Getting new people into our club is high on my agenda for 2024 and I will be discussing with your committee how we go about this.

Your committee is made up of 12 individuals including myself, a notice will be on the notice board with all of the committee members and the areas each of them will be responsible for, if you have any query about anything check to see who is best placed to deal with your query and ask them for assistance, if they can't give a definitive answer at the time, they will raise it at the next committee meeting when an answer will be forthcoming.

It only remains for me to thank the members of the committee who have supported me throughout 2023 in everything that we have done, without their assistance none of this would be possible, it takes a dedicated team effort to run this club. This ends my 5th year as Chairman, I will be available for a 6th term if elected but that will be my last year on the committee, I think 6 years doing this job is enough, it's time for new blood with new ideas to be brought into the club. Thank you all for the support you have given me in 2023.

Alec Mutch. 01-02-2024

HWC Treasurers Report Year ended December 2023

The year has shown a complete programme of Club meetings and activities.

As can be seen from the statement the opening position for the year was a balance of £1462.07. During the year the Club received £4513.88 in income from various sources and incurred expenditure of £4307.21 leaving a balance at the end of the year of £1668.74. This represents a small surplus from the activities throughout the year of £206.67.

On the income side membership fees for the year came to £2095 with the regular raffle generating income of £1352.55. In addition, the Club generated £245 from the provision of training.

On the expenditure side the Club spent £1051.16 on various items of equipment. The largest sums were incurred on a chuck package and pin jaws, a new dust and chip collector, calipers and a lamination set. Health and safety was improved also with new fire extinguishers put in place along with eye wash kits and dispensers provided.

The Xmas raffle raised a sum of £429.95 off set by expenditure of £399.29.

It should be noted that the Club has not received any bill for electricity from the Hall Committee. It is assumed this will eventually appear but at this point in time is still awaited.

Finally, I would like to place on record a vote of thanks from the Committee for all the voluntary effort and contributions made by individuals that allow the Club to continue and thrive.

The accounts have been checked and signed off by Geoff Potter and Errol Levings. My thanks to both.

**Alan Geddes Highland Woodturners Club
25th January 2024**