

Minutes of Autumn Voices Annual General Meeting on Thursday 26 January 2023 at 17.00 (UK time). Online via Zoom

1. Simon Berry, steering group member of Autumn Voices (the constituted unincorporated association) and trustee of the new Autumn Voices SCIO acted as chairperson and welcomed all attending to the AGM.
2. Present: Robin Lloyd Jones (founder of Autumn Voices)  
Simon Berry, steering group member and SCIO trustee  
Lesley Buchan, member  
Helen Cormack, steering group member and SCIO trustee  
Ken Cockburn, freelance AV Project Manager and member  
Morag Forsyth, member  
Susan Garnsworthy, freelance AV Fundraising & Development  
Ashley Stein, freelance AV Marketing and Social Media  
Martin Stepek, steering group member and SCIO trustee  
Sukhema (Larry Butler), steering group member  
David Thompson, member  
Apologies: Anne Clarke, member  
Christine Hamilton, steering group member  
Kriss Nichol, steering group member  
Roddy Scott, member
3. Chairperson's Report, including update on Autumn Voices SCIO application. Simon Berry, as acting chair, signposted those attending to the Annual Report posted on the website, and highlighted two projects which have taken place since: the Annual Poetry Competition which had a very good level of entries and was judged by poet, Des Dillon; and *Tales of Birnam & Dunkeld*, with writer Jane Archer and Birnam Arts which culminated in a book launch in December.
4. Annual Report for July 2021 to June 2022, including accounts prepared by the Independent Financial Examiner. SB invited Ken Cockburn to speak to these accounts. KC reported that we ended the year with a healthy balance of £26,500, mostly grant income allocated to specific projects in 2022-23.
5. Approval of the Annual Accounts. Proposed by Robin Lloyd Jones and Seconded by Martin Stepek. Passed unanimously.
6. Election of office bearers. SB reported that a steering group for Autumn Voices was established in July 2021. Three steering group members have volunteered to be trustees of the new SCIO: Simon Berry, Helen Cormack and Martin Stepek.  
That they be appointed office bearers, to dovetail with their positions as trustees for the SCIO; proposed by Susan Garnsworthy and seconded by Sukhema (Larry Butler).  
Passed unanimously.
7. Appointment of independent financial examiner

That Eric Wishart, our independent financial examiner be reappointed.  
Proposed by Ken Cockburn and seconded by Martin Stepek

8. SB introduced the main business of this AGM which was the motion to dissolve Autumn Voices as currently constituted. SB asked SG to explain why she had recommended that Autumn Voices become a SCIO- Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation and SG explained that it gave opportunities to raise income from trusts and foundations and other sources of funding. Autumn Voices work which is providing creative activities for older people either on line or in person is essentially charitable.

SB then invited RLJ to speak to the motion.

RLJ said that it was a very positive move to dissolve Autumn Voices from its current constituted but unincorporated association to become a SCIO.

SB read out the motion as follows:

*It is proposed to dissolve Autumn Voices as currently constituted, and to transfer its debts and liabilities to Autumn Voices, an incorporated body having charitable status under the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, which has been allocated the charity number SC052154, dissolution and transfer to be effective from 1 May 2023, or such date as the SCIO's bank account is operational, whichever is sooner.*

Passed unanimously by all present.

#### 9. AOCB

Sukhema (Larry Butler) said he had been wondering as the publisher of the book *Autumn Voices* if some of the featured authors could be approached to be patrons (or trustees) of the Autumn Voices SCIO. Martin Stepek seconded this idea as he had just been reading musician Midge Ure's memoir *If I was*, which was excellent on the challenges faced by older creative individuals.

Sukhema thanked Simon Berry for chairing the AGM.

30/1/23