

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 21st June 2012. d
Held in the Mining Museum of Scotland

Present: Members, associate members and members of the public
Susan Cohen, Sharron Colvin, Janet Murray, Moira Clayton, Carol Smith, Rusti Mcleod, Rosie, Caroline Crawford, Ailsa McIntosh, Tina La Page, Brian Smith, Gordon Clayton, Graham McLeod, Derek Howie, Aydan Butt, Gordon Kynoch, Addie Thomson, Magnus Gilroy, Chris Mackrell, Matthew Ronaldson, Russell Aitken, Ryan Aitken, David Aird, Bob Miller, John Ritchie, Colin McCall, Sandy Florence, Ed Wikowski, Norm Dunk, Jake McIntosh, Jim Aird, Geoff Ruderham Bill Prentice, Ted Comerford and Jim Ritchie

In Attendance:-

Laurence Reid, Midlothian Council

1. **Apologies :-** Bob Wood, Owen Johnson, Maggi Robinson, Mark Mulgrew, Graham Hall, Ruth McAlpine, Margaret Aird, Stevie Burnett, James Kerr, Davie Gillan.
2. **Chairman's Welcome – John Ritchie:** John welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanking them for coming on such a rainy night. John also explained about the important work he has been involved with over the last year
.A group of 22 radio stations has formed the Scottish Community Broadcasting Network. The main target for the work of this group is to lobby for direct funding from the Scottish Government and equal payment for information or adverts that can be put out through community radio stations.
After attempting to raise items not on the agenda and not accepting the ruling from the Chairperson of the meeting,, Mr & Mrs McIntosh were asked to leave
3. **Approval and acceptance of Minutes of Meeting of AGM April 26th 2011.**
Proposal of acceptance: - Sandy Florence – **Seconded by** Bob Miller
4. **Presentation of Accounts – Colin McCall.** Colin distributed copies of the accounts. The accounts have been done by Robert Smith and sent to Companies House, OSCR and Ofcom. All previous Accounts have been accepted by all 3 bodies. Robert Smith has now retired. All but 1 licence fees have been paid for the year, only PRS is outstanding. An outstanding issue with VAT is likely to be resolved in the Association's favour during 2012/13. The accounts were accepted as a correct record without dissent. This would be Colin McCall's last meeting as treasurer and company secretary.
5. **Chairman's Report".** John thanked Colin for all his hard work over the last 5years especially regarding the accounts. This sentiment drew generous applause from the meeting. John also expressed that he was extremely happy with the work that ALL the volunteers have done over the last year in keeping the Association in credit and 'driving' Black diamond FM forward. Support from Laurence Reid(Midlothian Council) was also acknowledged.
6. **Election & Re-Election of Board Members:** As set out in the Articles of Association three Directors were stepping down: Graham MacLeod, Colin McCall and John Ritchie. The Board thanked Norm Dunk and Sandy Florence for the time they spent on the board – they had already resigned from the board prior to AGM.
Brian Smith & Steven Horsburgh were nominated on time and signed/accepted by the company secretary. These nominations were accepted by the meeting to serve as member directors together with the re-election of John Ritchie. Sharron Colvin asked if there were younger members that could serve on the board. John explained that we had tried. but had been unsuccessful. Discussion arose about work experience and work with schools and Jim Ritchie commented on positive feedback received.

7. A.O. C. B.

Bob Miller asked about the problems of reception of the radio signal and could we extend to Pathhead. The chairman explained that we were constrained by the terms of the licences as currently issued by OFCOM.

Bob also asked about progress in securing the building next door to the Mining Museum as a studio. The chairperson advised that the building was no longer available and explained that the Board had had to focus on issues raised by disaffected volunteers with some of the bodies regulating the charity. In view of the financial situation it was good that we were at the community centre and supported by Midlothian Council.

John also explained that they are looking into Temple School for Production space praising Graham MacLeod and Bill & Ted having created their own production space.

There was a general discussion on the way forward for the station and the need to ensure high quality local news.

Other stations favoured constraining presenters with playlists but Black Diamond FM would continue to encourage diversity. There had been a number of positives in the past year including praise for a number of shows including local sport, individual programmes and a one-off involving Newtongrange PS. It is hoped that there will be developments with some of the High Schools in Midlothian

Concerns were expressed about the following: the fan in the studio, internet streaming, website and transmission. These comments would inform the work of the new Board but it was acknowledged that Chris Mackrell & Geoff Ruderham and others had put a lot of effort into keeping the station operational

Bill Prentice felt that should we hold further meeting in the Mining Museum that we should get mikes as he was struggling to hear members of the board speak.

8. The meeting closed with a very large Black Diamond FM cake given by Matthew. A group photo was taken with the cake which may be put to the Advertiser and framed on the wall in the studio.