

**Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting
 On Monday 25th November 2024 In Person and via Teams**

Attendees Ordinary Members (T denotes by Teams)

Jo Austin	John Austin	Terry Hegarty (T)	Barry Whenman
Sandy Brunton	Carolyne Charrington (T)	Derek Crook	Jane Griffiths
Nina Pope	Rob MacManaway (T)	Donella Fernyhough (T)	Jane Brunton (T)
Anne Evans	Sue Hawkes	Colin Morrison (T)	Jenny Smith (T)
Judy Gibson (T)	Jan Sutch Pickard (T)	Liz White (T)	Mark Strevens (T)
Gary Wiltshire	John Maughan	Fergus Reade	Natalie Dowling(T)
Susan Ringwood	Sarah James		

Attendees Associate Members (T denotes by Teams)

James McKay (T)	Duncan Gilmour (T)	Des Woods (T)
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Attendees Non-members (T denotes by Teams)

Moray Finch	Mairi Greig	Hazel Cowe	Sian Scott
Phil Rodgers	Jan Dunlop	Helen MacDonald	Cally Fleming
Kate Payton	Emily Wilkins	Debbie Morrison	Paul McAdam

Prior to the official start of the AGM, Moray Finch welcomed everyone. Mairi Greig, Moray Finch, and project staff covered MICT's highlights during 2023-24.

1. Welcome and Apologies & AOB

Convenor Sandy Brunton welcomed all present, thanked everyone for coming. Apologies noted. Sandy confirmed that the meeting is quorate.

Apologies

Dave Currie, Ian Jones, Nick Turnbull, Leen Skinner, Nick Evans, Mark Strevens, Tracy Mayo.

Instruments of Proxy received

Margaret Black	Martin Putsey	Ian Jones	Jenny Wright
Neil Hutton	Pam Wisher	Ted Dowling	Norma Dowling
Nigel Burgess	Jane Brunton	Carol Finch	Mary MacGregor
Tony Jeffree	Alexa Kershaw	Carolyn Whenman	Colin Morrison
Felicity Pollard	Nick Evans	Brik Halcrow	

Any other business

2. Previous Minutes of AGM 20th November 2023

- No corrections to previous minutes.
- The previous minutes were proposed by Anne Evans and seconded by John Austin.
- No matters arising from previous minutes.

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3. Report from General Manager

- Moray Finch (General Manager) thanked everyone involved in MICT: Funders, Directors, Volunteers, Tenants, MESS Shoppers, and Staff for their loyalty and hard work. This has been a year of major contrasts, with a lot of successes and huge losses of both Heather Waller and Robin Harrowsmith. Both Moray and Mairi have had health issues, and they wanted to thank the staff and directors for their hard work and support. The organisation remains in a financially sound state, with reserves of six months' running costs.

4. Report from the Convenor

- Sandy Brunton has been Convenor for eleven years. Focus on the last two words: community and trust. The wider meaning of trust: assured reliance of character; the ability, strength, ability of someone or something; one in which confidence is placed. These are all a fair reflection of what we aspire to do. Community means people, and as Moray said, we've had some tough times in the last year. Sandy wanted to pay tribute to all of the people, some not here, some are here, the volunteers, the partners, the staff, board and the supporters. We do have high ambitions about our work, but we can't do everything, hard as we may try. Sandy asks that we all consider our fellow human beings, and how we can treat them with kindness and generosity, even when our opinions are different. We really do try very hard to make the lives of those who live here better in the longer term.

5. Presentation & Approval of Annual Accounts April 2023 to March 2024

- Phil Rodgers explained that MICT ended the year in a positive financial position. We have been able to end this year with more in reserve than is needed, and we have designated £448,000 as spending on future projects.
- Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) was presented by Phil Rodgers, who concluded that MICT is in a very strong financial position.
- A full, approved copy of the accounts will be available shortly for review.
- Questions raised by members at the meeting:
 - Are you feeling positive about the future? Yes, absolutely! Sian Scott, Fundraising Manager, presented a caveat that the funding environment has become more challenging, so this may impact the charity into the future.
 - Does Gift Aid play a role in income – is it reflected in donations? Yes, we do receive Gift Aid, and it makes quite a significant impact.
 - Any thoughts of how to mitigate the effects of the NI employers increase? Acknowledged that MICT will have to absorb it, and it may impact future hiring unless the costs will definitely be met.
 - Is there a way to increase the number of Gift Aid contributors? Yes, communication to the wider community, engagement and involvement.
- Approval of the accounts was proposed by Sarah James and seconded by John Maughan.

6. Election of Board Directors – Retirement of One Third of the Board

- As required by the Articles of Association, one third of the board are required to resign at each AGM. There are 4 Directors resigning but standing for re-election – Rob MacManaway, Jane Griffiths, and Robbie Cameron. One Director is retiring – Derek Crook.
- We have three standing to be elected: Fergus Reade, Sarah James, and Sarah Akehurst. Fergus and Sarah James gave a brief introduction.
- We have one standing to be co-opted: Teresa Munby.
- We have one co-opted Director that will stand down to be re-co-opted: Robbie Cameron.
- Re-Elections and re-co-opting proposed by Barry Whenman and seconded by Sue Hawkes.
- Board directors continuing were listed.

7. Fixing of Annual Subscriptions

- The members resolved that subscriptions should be a one-off lifetime membership fee of £5 with no annual subscription thereafter.
- Proposed by John Austin and seconded by Terry Hegarty.

8. Appointment of the Auditor

- The Finance Standing Committee and Board were in favour of continuing with WGB as Auditor of the annual accounts. There is no intention to change the auditor.
- Proposed by Barry Whenman and seconded by Jane Griffiths.

9. Any Other Competent Business

- Recognition of Derek Crook and his 23 years of service on the board.
- Sandy Brunton closed the AGM and thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 3:31 pm.