

## GLASGOW HUMANE SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting – Committee Room 8, City Chambers, Glasgow

17 June 2016 – 11.00am

**Present****Directors**

Mr John Park	Chairman, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Jim Moffat	Vice-Chairman, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Kenneth S G Fish	Hon. Treasurer, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr David B Wilson	Hon. Secretary, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Jan de Vries	Director, Glasgow Humane Society
Cllr John Kane	Director, Glasgow Humane Society
Alistair MacDonald	Director, Glasgow Humane Society
Colin McMurray	Director, Glasgow Humane Society

**Members**

Dr Stephanie Dancer	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mrs Elaine de Vries	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Colin Munn	Member & Volunteer, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Graeme McGrath	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mrs Evelyn Park	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Miss Ann Parsonage	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Benjamin Parsonage	Member & Volunteer, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr Donald Reid	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mrs Christine Taggart	Member, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr John MacLeod	Lord Dean of Guild, Merchants House of Glasgow

**Officers**

Mr George Parsonage	Member and Officer, Glasgow Humane Society
Mr William Graham	Assistant Officer, Glasgow Humane Society

**Non-Voting Observers**

Mr Tom Allison	Chairman, Peel Ports Group
Inspector Brian Gibson	Police Scotland
Mr Gordon Goldie	
Mr William Middleton	Accountant, Glasgow City Council
Mr Andy Waddell	Head of Infrastructure, Glasgow City Council
Group Commander Brian Winter	Scottish Fire & Rescue Service

## Apologies

### **Directors**

Bailie Nina Baker                      Director, Glasgow Humane Society

### **Honorary Members**

Mrs Sadie Docherty                      Lord Provost, Glasgow City Council  
Ms Ruth Maltman                      Deacon Convener, The Trades House Of Glasgow

### **Members**

Invitations were sent to 23 members who, being unable to attend, offered their apologies.

### **Non-Voting Observers**

Invitations were sent to 19 interested parties, who, on this occasion were unable to attend, and offered their apologies.

## **1. Calling Notice**

The Chairman welcomed the various members to the meeting.  
Mr Goldie was introduced and thanked for the generous cheque that he had presented to the Society.  
Mr. Park referred to the two representatives from Police Scotland and Scottish Fire & Rescue Service; namely Inspector Brian Gibson and Group Commander Brian Winter. The Chairman highlighted the good work carried out by the Society with Police Scotland, and also the close working relationship maintained with Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.  
Mr. Park also welcomed Mr. Tom Allison, Chairman of Peel Ports Group.  
The new assistant officer, William Graham, was introduced to the meeting.

## **2. Apologies for absence**

The Chairman noted that there were apologies received from 26 members.  
19 apologies were also received from interested parties.

## **3. Minute of Annual General Meeting held on 19 June 2015**

The Minute of 19/06/15 was agreed.

## **4. Report by Chairman**

The Chairman introduced himself and the other members of the Board including the positions that they hold.  
Two new directors were introduced; namely Colin McMurray and Cllr. John Kane, representative of Glasgow City Council.  
Mr. Park advised the meeting that the new Support Officer, William Graham, had been appointed from a list of four candidates.

Initial appointment will be for a probationary period, with comprehensive training overseen by Society Officer, George Parsonage.

A report from Glasgow City Council, regarding the possibility of the Society appointing a new Development Officer, was received, with David Lyon of Jobs & Business Glasgow asked to assist.

The 3 meetings held to date have proved positive.

The two initial areas highlighted for future development were as undernoted:-

(a) The new legal structure of the Society (SCIO) comprises Members and the Board.

A key future area of increased funding could derive from the Members, and in order to increase the membership substantially, a new marketing strategy has to be developed.

(b) The seeking out of private sector donors to assist in the funding of capital projects. Previously, the Society had been unable to go ahead with selected schemes due to the level of funding required which had proved beyond its means.

The Chairman also informed the meeting that a Business Plan was now in place, in order to assist with future grant applications.

The Chairman confirmed that the Development Officer post had not yet been filled and was the subject of ongoing consideration.

Mr. Park stated that, at last year's meeting, members raised very good points and he urged them to come forward to allow ideas to be implemented.

The Chairman continued that he is keen to review the role of the members in order to give them something back and ensure more involvement in the work of the Society

Mr. Park concluded by mentioning the website, and encourage members to look at it more regularly. It is intended that a donation link will be accessible shortly.

## **5. Report by Honorary Secretary**

The Honorary Secretary, David B Wilson, started by introducing himself. He then gave an update on the membership, advising that the Society has 45 individual members and 5 corporate members.

In response to a question from Mr. Goldie, regarding the level of membership fees, Mr. Wilson confirmed that current membership fee was £15, with no increase planned for the forthcoming year.

## **6. Report by Honorary Treasurer and Adoption of Annual Accounts**

The Honorary Treasurer, Kenneth S G Fish, introduced himself to the meeting.

Mr. Fish reported on the accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

Income for the year of £49,169 was offset by expenditure of £50,398, resulting in a deficit of (£1,229) being incurred.

The Honorary Treasurer highlighted the policy of the Society to keep the level of reserves at approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure, with the current level of Liquid Funds being £127k.

Mr. Fish emphasized the fact that new funds would be required to attain break even status.

The Honorary Treasurer thanked Mr. Middleton of Glasgow City Council for his assistance in the preparation of the Annual Accounts.

Mr. Fish asked if anyone had any questions regarding the accounts.

There were no questions asked.

The adoption of the Annual Accounts was proposed by Elaine de Vries and seconded by Colin McMurray.

#### **7. Election of President and Honorary Members**

It was agreed that the Lord Provost of Glasgow remain the Honorary President, with the Lord Dean of Guild of the Merchants House and the Deacon Convener of the Trades House continuing as Honorary Members.

#### **8. Election of Directors**

The Chairman advised the meeting that Jan de Vries had intimated his intention to stand down as a Director of the Society.

Mr. Park stated that Mr. de Vries had been a Director of the Society from 1996 to 2006 and had taken up the role again after a 3 year break for business commitments.

The Chairman also said that Jan had previously been rescued from the river by George's father Ben Parsonage.

Mr. Park highlighted the good work done by Mr. de Vries; namely the devising and implementation, alongside Bailie Baker, of a new constitution for the Society.

Mr. de Vries was also instrumental in revising the various insurance policies that the Society had in place.

The Chairman warmly thanked Mr. de Vries for all his hard work in his time as a Director of the Society. The rest of the meeting responded with warm applause.

The remainder of the current directors were all re-elected unanimously.

#### **9. Appointment of Examiner**

A G Taggart & Company Limited was re-appointed as the Society's independent Examiner.

#### **10. Report and Presentation by the Glasgow Humane Society Officers**

The Society Officer, George Parsonage, began by introducing himself and his two young assistants; namely William Graham and Ben Parsonage.

The Society Officer presented a brief overview of the operational activities of the Society in what turned out to be a very busy year.

In a charming gesture, George left the details of describing the details of the operational year to his able young assistants.

Brief overview of the past year is as undernoted:-

- On the water, closure of the river upstream of Polmadie Bridge, resulted in crafts being restricted to a 1200m stretch of river.
- Off the water, the Society continued to re-enforce its views on the proposed rules re water access and highlighting safety and prevention measures.
- With ongoing construction and refurbishment taking place on Clyde Bridges, advice and assistance was given to Glasgow Council and firms working on the Bridges.

- Heavy rainfall towards the end of 2015 resulted in large trees blocking the river, with the Society tasked to remove them.
- Many days were spent assisting with searches for missing persons.
- Attendance at regular meetings of the Water Safety Working Group, Friends of Glasgow Green and the River Users Partnership.
- Society looks after the lifebelts, linked to the GPS co-ordination and signage system
- The Society continues to inform the public via Facebook

George Parsonage concluded by thanking the Directors of the Society, Glasgow City Council, and to the Lifeguards and Riverwatchers who give freely of their time to assist. Mr. Parsonage concluded by thanking his wife and family, who alongside his sister Ann, are the backbone of the Society.

#### **11. Any Other Relevant Business**

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any other matters that anyone wanted to discuss, and with no further questions forthcoming, the meeting was drawn to a close.