



**THE 6TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY
CHAMBER OF THE ARTS**

DG Unlimited

1:00PM on Thursday 25th November 2020

Via Zoom

Minutes

Present: 42 members (including Trustees) attended via Zoom.

Trustees:

Cathy Agnew (Chair), Stephen Lacey (Vice Chair), Anne Barclay (Treasurer),
Catriona McGhee, David McMillan, Karen Ward Boyd, and Julian Watson

In attendance:

David McDonald (Arts Development Director), Maggie Broadley (Programmes
Manager), Tabitha Mudaliar (Creatives Unlimited Creative Producer) and Katie Nairn
(Membership Officer)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 6th Annual General meeting of D & G Chamber of the Arts, taking place in a different format, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, via Zoom.

The meeting was confirmed as quorate; 42 members attended via Zoom. In addition, 23 electronic voting forms and 6 proxy forms were received in advance of the meeting.

Apologies were received from Karen Dick of Creative Scotland, Lynn Anderson, and Carolyn Yates.

2. Minutes of the 5th AGM of Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts held at Catstrand on the 28th of November 2019.

Chair confirmed the Minutes, along with the Annual Accounts and all other documents, had been published on the DGU website for the last 14 days. No matters arising.

The meeting approved the Minutes without amendment.

Proposer - Anne Barclay

Seconder - James Kelly

3. Presentation and approval of the annual report 2019-20

The Annual Report was presented by the Chair, who acknowledged that DGU as an organisation has developed and become more confident and established which is reflected in an increase in activities and membership numbers. Some highlights noted included:

- Continued financial support for the creative community through the Regional Arts Fund with investment of £55,000 for 14 projects which combined brought in additional £8 of investment for every £1 of Council funding
- Support for the professional development of creative practitioners through the Innovate Create Cultivate Fund, and
- The contribution of the Creatives Unlimited programme in enhancing the sustainability and resilience of the region's creative community through a range of activities. Creatives Unlimited has also made a significant difference to DGU's visibility across the region and in connecting and engaging with the membership.

The Chair thanked and congratulated the DGU team on its performance, particularly given the challenges of COVID-19. Thanks especially to David McDonald, Arts Development Director, Maggie Broadley, Programmes Manager, Tabi Mudaliar, Creative Producer and Katie Nairn, Membership and Communications. They have been ably supported by DGU's pARTners group and both have been guided throughout by DGU Board of Trustees.

The Chair offered her sincere thanks to the Board for its support and commitment which has been unflinching. Thanks to Karen Ward Boyd, who has been involved from the start, for her support and commitment.

The Chair made a special mention of thanks to the Wigtown Festival Company who came to DGU's aid during a banking hiccup due an administrative error by the Charity's banking provider.

The meeting approved the Annual Report.

Proposer - Eva Milroy

Secunder - Renita Boyle

4. Presentation and approval of the annual accounts 2019-20

Anne Barclay, Treasurer, highlighted the principal features of the annual accounts, prepared by Carson & Trotter, and published on DGU's website as noted:

- Total income increased significantly from £70,962 to £119,313 which came from Creative Scotland award for Creatives Unlimited (CU) programme and Dumfries & Galloway Council in respect of work conducted towards the Cultural Strategy
- Expenditure has increased significantly as expected in line with starting to deliver the CU programme. Other cost centres were reduced; most significant due to the conference being postponed due to the pandemic. Expenditure also linked to dissemination of two funds; 'Get Involved, Get Inspired' and 'Innovate, Create, Cultivate.' Net result is an annual surplus of £28,783 which left a closing balance of £37,400; of this £21,322 is restricted in respect of Creatives Unlimited.

The Chair noted thanks to the Treasurer for her work throughout the year.

The meeting approved the Annual Accounts.

Proposer - Alan Cameron

Secunder - Ken Gouge

5. Re-appointment of existing Trustees.

Three existing Trustees are stepping down at the conclusion of this AGM, they are Cathy Agnew, Katharine Wheeler and Karen Ward Boyd. All the remaining current Trustees were put forward for reappointment, they are Stephen Lacey, Anne Barclay, Davie McMillan, Catriona McGhee and Julian Watson. No objections were noted at the meeting or from the Electronic or Proxy Voting Forms received. Agreement to reappoint 'en bloc.'

Reappointment of remaining current Trustees approved.

Proposer - Karen Ward Boyd

Secunder - Marc Zygadlo

6. Appointment of new Trustees

The following members have applied to become Trustees of DGU: Lucy MacLeod, Frank Hayes, and Mandy Green. No objections were noted at the meeting or from the Electronic or Proxy Voting Forms received. Agreement to appoint 'en bloc.'

All new Trustee applications approved

Proposed by Jason Maitland

Secundered by Denise Zygadlo

7. Election of Chair

With Cathy Agnew's term of Chair coming to an end, DGU's Memorandum and Articles states that the DGU Board of Trustees has the responsibility for nominating the new Chair. The Board of Trustees has nominated Stephen Lacey as the new chair. No objections were noted at the meeting or from the Electronic or Proxy Voting Forms received. Agreement to appoint Stephen Lacey as Chair.

Stephen Lacey's appointment as new Chair approved

Proposed by Ken Gouge

Secundered by Bea Last

8. Re-appointment of Carson & Trotter

No objections were noted at the meeting or from the Electronic or Proxy Voting Forms received. The Chair noted one abstention had been received. Agreement to reappoint Carson and Trotter as the independent examiner of DGU's accounts.

Carson & Trotter re-appointment approved

Proposed by Karen Ward-Boyd

Secundered by Eva Milroy

9. AOCB

No notices had been received in advance and no matters raised from those attending.

Before closing the formal business of the AGM, outgoing Chair Cathy Agnew provided a brief synopsis of DGU's development to date before handing over to the incoming Chair Stephen Lacey. Stephen ended the formal proceedings firstly by thanking everyone for allowing him to become Chair of DGU. Stephen then acknowledged Cathy's outstanding impact on the Arts, Culture and Heritage of Dumfries & Galloway, her huge role in supporting, promoting, and developing that - and the scale of legacy she had created. Vote of thanks given not just for DGU but for the entire arts and cultural community in the region.

AGM concluded at 1:30PM