



LETHAM FEUARS COMMITTEE
Reg Scottish charity: SC 003197

Minutes of Letham Feuars committee Annual General Meeting
Friday 18th October 2024
Letham Village hall

Present:

Anne Salariya (Chair)
Paul Ainley (Secretary)
Alison Towns
Janette Henderson

Ewan Cameron (Vice chair)
Gary Anderson (Treasurer)
Karen Henderson

A total of 44 Feuars attended the meeting

Welcome & introductions from chair

The chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all Feuars who had attended, indicating an encouraging interest in the work of the committee.

Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th November 2023 had been distributed and were reviewed. A question was raised by a Feuar referring to the 2023 AGM where it had been noted that there had been issues with the committee solicitor. The chair stated that the new solicitor was now fully on board and there was a good working relationship with him (Scott Rennie, Raeburns). Another Feuar asked about ground adjacent to The Greens owned by the late Gordon Mitchell and whether it was being passed to the Feuars committee and included on the land registration application. The chair indicated that this was not the case and the application to register land was only that which had been erroneously registered to someone else. There being no further questions the minutes were proposed by E. Saunders and seconded by I. Sword.

Treasurer report

The treasurers report had been made available to the meeting and Feuars took time to read this.

The main income for the committee is from rental receipts and the village bookshop, with other amounts including the Isaac Eaton Trust and CCLA investment management.

Main outgoings included insurance, professional fees, energy and building repairs.

In summary the bank account is in a healthy position and stood at £24,620 as of 29th Feb 2024. Cash was £474.00.

The accounts had been independently verified by J. Fairlie and were proposed by D. Lumgair and seconded by W. Cameron. The accounts are shortly to be submitted to OSCR before the end of November in order to comply with charitable status responsibilities.

Chair's report

The chair presented her report to the audience. She briefly outlined the role of committee members and also mentioned the principles and activities of Letham Feuars committee, including the management of resources held in trust and engaging in community activities. Some of the challenges of fulfilling all these objectives were referred to, along with obtaining the views of Feuars and discussing these at the regular, closed monthly meetings.

The chair observed that Letham Feuars committee was one of the oldest organisations in Angus and one of only two similar in Scotland. She thanked committee members, all of whom have full time work commitments, and stated that one committee member had resigned during the year and another had stepped down from the treasurer post.

A number of achievements during the year, and motions passed at the AGM of 2023 were also referred to. The chair indicated that there had been a lot of progress on these issues:

- A new constitution had been proposed as OSCR had recommended the original was now no longer fit for purpose (see Motions/Proposals below)
- The Greens – an on-site meeting to seek views had taken place although this was quite poorly attended
- The AGM was now being held a month earlier
- The process of registering The Greens was well underway with the Land Registry
- An application had been submitted for National Lottery funding to assist in repairs to the roof of the Feuars hall.

The committee had also worked alongside other village groups, including CLEAR, Letham Scouts, and the village Paths Group. Thanks were also passed on to Kate Christie for her bookshop work, all the Feuars who attended and assisted at the Litter Pick and Dempster Day, vintage vehicle owners, the Scouts for use of the hall, Letham Community Choir, hanging basket waterers etc.

Other events organised by the committee included the Xmas lights, the Xmas Eve function which is growing annually, the Litter Pick in April which helps to keep the village looking tidy, the display of hanging baskets in the Square during the summer (thanks to Revel Green), the Paths Group for their continued good work and also businesses in the village for

contributing in so many ways: Root One, Central Motors, Keystore, Keptie Bakery, Sellars and everyone who gave of their time and effort to assist.

The chair then took questions on subjects including The Greens, the views of Feuars etc. There was also an objection by some Feuars regarding the amount of time the meeting was devoting to questions from non-Feuars and this was acknowledged by the chair.

Motions/Proposals

There was one motion/proposal to be put before the meeting as follows:

Motion

In line with the OSCR recommendation, and as a result of a vote at the 2023 AGM in favour of updating the constitution, it is proposed to adopt the constitution placed before the meeting.

The previous recommendation from OSCR was read to the meeting.

Some discussion took place surrounding qualification as a Feuar, with others stating that individuals from outwith Letham had been regarded as Feuars previously. The chair stated that it was unacceptable for a non-Feuar to ask a Feuar to present points to the meeting and subsequently asked for a show of hands on the motion as stated. There was an overwhelming show of hands in favour of the motion which was therefore passed.

A second motion (a full page, with a second accompanying page of complicated background information) had previously been ruled out as it had only been made known 24 hours prior to the meeting and was simply too complicated to be dealt with without much discussion and debate.

Any other competent business

A request was made for a public meeting to be held regarding land at The Greens, however this was unnecessary as the registration process had been agreed by legal agents and was now well underway. A further question was asked re a potential website and the chair stated that work on this would hopefully continue with a new committee.

Resignation of 2023/24 committee

The chair explained that in line with the constitution, the committee members could continue in office no longer than one year, unless re-elected. The 2023/24 committee therefore stood down at this point and arrangements for a new committee were then commenced.

Nomination forms had been publicly available for potential new committee members/trustees for some weeks, and by the deadline of 5pm on Wednesday 16th November nine (9) completed nomination forms had been received. The forms were checked for validity and found to be in order, meaning there was no requirement for an election process to be held.

The nine names are:

Gary Anderson

Karen Henderson

Colin Dallas

April Harvey

Anne Cant

Alison Towns

Ali Gellatly

Alan Cant

Penny Lockwood

The chair therefore invited the audience to approve the nine nominees as the new 2024/25 committee and congratulated them on their appointment.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm and the new committee members/trustees retired to a side room to discuss preliminary business.