

NEOS Special General Meeting Sunday 7th November 2021 2pm

Mannofield Church, Great Western Road, Aberdeen AB10 6UZ

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM 10th October 2021
3. Matters arising and not dealt with later
4. Election of new Chairperson
5. Election of new Vice Chairperson
6. Election of new Secretary
7. Election of new Committee members
8. Website
9. Confirm the dates for NEOS 2022
10. AOB

Fiona opened proceedings by welcoming everyone to the Special General Meeting. She conducted a roll call of attendees and confirmed the list of apologies would be added to the minutes.

Attendees

Fiona Duckett, Louise Lemmon, Emma Rodenhurst-Grant, Brian Burnett, Amy Shennan-Pates, Isabel Pye, Anne Buckle, Alison Craigon, Lynne Staples-Scott, Val Thomson, Gerrie Sommerville, Gemma Hares, Trina Stark, Mahri Prince, Suz MacInnes, Nicola Seal, Hilary Duncan, Lois Carson, Eleanor Rattenbury, Lynda Rattenbury, Charley Sim, Hilary Firth, Matt Wood, Carine Eunson, Jamie Fergusson, Ranjit Barry, Margaret Delday, Katya Anderson, Gay Halley, Helen Jackson, Alun Dyson (plus one proxy Pam Dyson), Jane McMillan, Karen Hadjitofi, Helen Stephen, Lorna Purvis, Frances Crawford, Alan Baillie, Ash Brammer, Erika Brammer, Paula Silvester, Gerard Stott, Gladys Williams, Morag Stevenson.

1. Apologies

Brian Cook Shand, Lorraine Gahagan, Rusudana Glonti, Fiona Sinclair, Linda Watson, Judith Mcrorie, Linda Forde, Anne (Plaid in Scotland), Rodd Scott, Irene Hunter, Decima (Dolly) Simpson, Angela Neilson, Mo Barbour, Jill Mackenzie, Moira Milne, Carol Hines, Connie Robertson, Kimberly Smith, Liz Twyman, Tony Scott.

Fiona addressed the members stating that she wished we didn't have to be here today. Following the Annual General meeting in October, where nobody came forward to take on the roles of Chair and Vice Chair, she has been contacted by a number of people willing to join the committee to help. Before we discuss and elect new members to the committee she asked that we deal with the AGM minutes and any matters arising first.

2. AGM minutes from 10th October

All agreed they had received and read the minutes. Proposed by Louise and Seconded by Amy.

3. Matters arising and not dealt with later

Fiona stated that a slight anomaly in the wording regarding Social Media issues in the AGM minutes had been identified and will be amended on the website.

Fiona then asked the members if she could alter the agenda slightly* to elect new committee members first before tackling the election of the chair, vice chair and secretary. All agreed.

****please note- the numbers assigned to each section relate to the agenda as it was sent out and listed at the top of the minutes***

7. Election of New Committee Members

Fiona listed the people who had come forward to be ordinary members of the new committee:

Gerrie Sommerville, Gemma Hares, Trina Stark, Connie Robertson (not at the SGM), Carol Hines (not at the SGM), Liz Twyman (not at the SGM), Nicola Seal, Kimberly Smith, Mahri Prince, Suz MacInnes and Margaret Deldy.

Those continuing in their roles are:

Amy Shennan-Pates (Treasurer)

Louise Lemmon (Co-ordinator)

Alison Craigon (Website)

Catriona Yates

Brian Burnett

Anne Buckle

Rather than propose and second each person individually she suggested we do this in one go. All agreed. Proposed by Emma and Seconded by Louise.

Fiona thanked everyone for agreeing to come onto the committee. It really helps NEOS if everyone is willing to help.

4. Election of Chairperson

Fiona then said that Lynne Staples-Scott had kindly agreed to take on the role of Chairperson. Her appointment was Proposed by Hilary Duncan and Seconded by Lorna Purvis. Lynne stood up and the members welcomed her with a round of applause.

In a slight change to the agenda once again Fiona suggested we elect the secretary next.

6. Election of Secretary

Fiona has spoken with Val Thomson recently and she has agreed to become secretary. She was Proposed by Fiona and Seconded by Anne.

5. Election of Vice Chair

Fiona spoke about the role of the vice chair. Some, she feels, may be under the impression that this position automatically means they have to take over from the Chair when they step down. This is not true. The role supports the chair, promotes NEOS and takes on tasks as and when required.

Anne Buckle and Margaret Staple both suggested they could share this role. There was a pause in the meeting while they went outside to discuss potentially sharing the position. While this was happening Fiona spoke to another member, Charley Sim, with whom she had spoken with recently about taking on a committee role.

At the end of these discussions Charley Sim agreed to be Vice Chair. His appointment was Proposed by Louise and Seconded by Amy. He stood up to introduce himself and was greeted with a round of applause.

8. Website

This was a topic carried over from the AGM in October. Fiona explained to the members that the website was inherited from a previous committee and is about 7 years old now. Matt, our website expert, spends quite a lot of time each year (and around £500-£1000) patching it so that it works properly for sign up, navigation etc. He has proposed creating a brand new website for NEOS which will be much easier to use and maintain. He suggests it will cost around £2,500 to £3,000. Fiona asks if the membership is happy for the new committee to pursue this, given the costs involved. All agreed.

9. Dates for NEOS 2022

The dates for next year will be 10th-18th September 2022.

10. AOB

No other business identified.

Fiona closed the meeting by thanking everyone for coming today and saying that it has been a pleasure to serve as Chair. She received thank you's and a round of applause from the members for her five years of hard work and service to NEOS.