

# John Muir Trust Annual General Meeting 2015

Members are cordially invited to attend the Thirty-second Annual General Meeting at 11.30am on Saturday 16 May 2015 at Galeri Caernarfon, Doc Victoria, Caernarfon LL55 1SQ

## Agenda and resolutions

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Minute of the Thirty-first Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the Minute
4. Chairman's report
5. Financial report and annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014
6. Special Resolution: "To increase membership subscription rates to the new rates proposed in Figure 1. To apply from 1 July 2015."
7. Reappointment of auditors Messrs Scott-Moncrieff
8. Election of Trustees
9. Other relevant business

## 2015 AGM Special Resolution:

"To increase membership subscription rates to the new rates proposed in Figure 1. To apply from 1 July 2015."

*Figure 1.*

	Rates from 2009-present (£)	Proposed new rates (£)
Individual	30	36
Joint/Family	42	48
Concession	15	18
Joint/Family Concession	30	36
Life Individual	650	750
Life Joint/Family	975	1075
Group	60	72
Corporate Bronze	250	300
Corporate Silver	500	600
Corporate Gold	1000	1200

## Draft Minute 2014

Thirty-first Annual General Meeting of the John Muir Trust, held at Dunbar Parish Church, Dunbar on Saturday 3 May 2014

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

John Hutchison (chairman) welcomed 148 members and staff to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

Apologies had been received from: Ann Williams, R F Jenkinson, Alison Russell, Oliver Barratt, Lindsay Morrison, Alison McGachy, Peter Gorecki and David Ashford.

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minute of the Thirtieth Annual General Meeting, held on 4 May 2013, was approved.

### 3. Matters Arising from the Minute

None.



#### 4. Chairman's Report

In his report, the chairman commented on the Trust's increased social media presence which is reaching out to newer audiences. He highlighted the continuing success of the John Muir Award, stressing that it is 'not just for the young'. He spoke favourably about other successes including the Trust's healthy finances, the recent footpath report and our advocacy work. John provided an update on the 'Wales Appeal' and commended the work of trustees and staff involved in the earlier negotiations. The Governance Review had continued over the past 12 months leading to some 'fine tuning' of the Trust's standing orders. Both the chairman and chief executive had also attended a beneficial charity governance course.

The chairman stated that trustees were examining the issue of the forthcoming Referendum and how it could affect the Trust which is a UK charity based in Scotland. Prompted by the Referendum, the Trust is bringing forward its strategic review by 12 months.

John informed members that he is approaching the end of his second three-year term as chairman and the Board is now looking for his successor.

Finally, tribute was paid to the lasting legacy of John Muir and his work as a conservator and writer.

The chairman's Annual Report was approved.

#### 5. Financial Report and Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013

The chair of the Finance Committee, Peter Pearson, gave thanks to retired treasurer, Walter Semple, and the previous director of resources, Alison Russell for putting in place the Trust's sound financial basis and processes. This year has seen a deficit budget return to a surplus and the audited accounts were approved by trustees at their meeting in March.

An external consultant undertook a positive fundraising audit in 2013 and following recommendation the Trust has agreed to recruit two additional fundraising staff and to investigate trusts in England in line with the Trust's desire to acquire property in England and Wales.

The Trust is looking into its investment strategy to ensure that we receive the best value return.

Finally Peter gave thanks to Fiona Kindness, director of resources for her work over the past 12 months.

Fiona presented the accounts to the members, drawing attention to a slow but steady growth in membership and to the contribution made by the Wild Space, in terms of income, donations and raising the Trust's profile.

The accounts were accepted unanimously.

Full company accounts are available on the Trust's website or downloadable from Companies House.

#### 6. Re-appointment of auditors, Messrs Scott-Moncrieff

Messrs Scott-Moncrieff were re-appointed as auditors.

#### 7. Election of Trustees

The chairman acknowledged the service of retiring trustee, Deirdre Wilson, who had completed two full terms as trustee. Five trustee places became vacant in May and three existing trustees were re-elected: John Finney, Jim Gibson and David MacLehose. There is one new trustee, John Fox-Davies, who was warmly welcomed to the Board. The Trust currently has once trustee vacancy. The chairman remarked upon the higher ratio of males to females on the Board and requested that more women come forward in 2015.

#### 8. Other Relevant Business

There was no other relevant business.

#### Vote of Thanks

The chairman closed the meeting by giving thanks to Peter Pearson, the convenor of the Finance Committee and Fiona Kindness, director of resources. He also commended the chief executive and Trust staff. Particular thanks were given to Iona Sutherland for organising the AGM and Members' Gathering.

To be approved... May 2015