

**Scottish Tourism Alliance  
Annual General Meeting  
held on 1 October 2015  
at 13.00**

**The Edinburgh International Conference Centre, The Exchange,  
Edinburgh, EH3 8EE**

**Present:** 93 Members

**In attendance:** Elaine Townsend (ET), Marc Crothall (MC), Mhairi Clarke, Gillian Brymer, Caroline Warburton

**Welcome and introduction:**

Marc Crothall welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MC handed over to Stephen Leckie (SL), STA Chair.

**Apologies:** 26 apologies received; taken as read.

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014.**

Minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

Proposed – John Mauchline, Seconded – Judy Rae.

**Matters Arising**

There were no Matters Arising.

**Annual Report 2014-2015 / STA Business Plan – Summary Headlines**

The STA has presented at and/or attended a number of Industry Events during the course of the year to maximise engagement as much as possible.

STW2015 received support to the value of £45K both in-kind and cash. This support is valuable to enable the STA to put on an event of this calibre; MC thanked all supporters.

Mhairi Clarke has joined the team as PR, Communications and Marketing Manager. We have improved the way we communicate to Industry – ‘The Pulse’ is our new weekly communication and ‘The Talker’ will be coming soon, which will be our new Bi-Monthly E magazine.

Launched today the STA’s Policy Agenda for 2015-2020 with the following headlines:

- Minimise the burden of regulation & associated costs
- Recognise the essential role of marketing Scotland at UK & international levels
- Provide sustainable support to enable industry to deliver ‘high quality, value for money & memorable experiences
- Support the growth of a skilled, professional & inclusive tourism workforce
- Continue investment in Scotland’s digital infrastructure to accelerate growth
- Align transport policies, practice & taxation with the industry’s tourism strategy

The STA continue to bring added benefits to our members; two new Member benefits to highlight are **The Buell Group** – a new Support Help Line and **French Duncan** are delighted to offer FOC time to provide ‘a range of specialist advice’ to STA members up to the value of £400.

Fergus Ewing MSP complimentary of the STA Strategy Document.  
Stephen Leckie encouraged members to feed back any comments to the STA team/board.

**Question from the floor:**

Reference to the HMRC deficit on page 3 of the accounts, can the board clarify that all is in good shape going forward?

MC response – The deficit will be paid off by the end of the next financial year. The organisation is in good shape - having made a profit the last 3 years. We are 100% confident the STA will continue to grow.

**Motions**

**To receive the Director's Report and Annual Accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015**

SL asked the members present to accept the Directors Report to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

The Report was accepted by the Members. Proposed – Robin Worsnop, Seconded – Gordon Dewar.

SL asked the members present to accept the Accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

The Accounts were accepted by the Members. Proposed – Robin Worsnop, Seconded – Gordon Dewar.

**Re-appointment of Auditors**

SL asked for approval to re-appoint French Duncan as auditors for the coming year.

The Auditors were re-appointed for a further 12months. Proposed – Gordon Dewar, Seconded – Judy Rae.

**THAT the following be considered and, if thought fit, passed as a special resolution:**

“STA members are asked to approve a motion to amend:

Article 17 ‘Methods of appointing directors’ to increase the number of directors to 12.

Article 17.1 to read ‘There may be a maximum of 12 directors at any time

appointed as follows: (i) 9 directors appointed pursuant to article

17.2; and (ii) 3 directors appointed pursuant to article 17.3.”

The Motion was approved by the Members. Proposed – Henk Berits, Seconded – David Lonsdale.

**To re-appoint the following directors for a further term of 3 years:**

Martin Bennett, Rebecca Brooks, Marina Huggett, Stephen Leckie and Calum Ross.

The above directors were re-appointed for a further term of 3 years. Proposed – Judy Rae, Seconded – Sandra Hutton.

**To re-appoint Stephen Leckie as Chair for a further term of 3 years.**

Stephen Leckie was re-appointed as Chair for a further term of 3 years. . Proposed – Judy Rae, Seconded – Sandra Hutton.

**Any other competent business**

SL highlighted the STA ‘One Hours Pay’ appeal.

SL thanked the STA Team and Board & Council members.

The meeting closed at 13.30.