

**CAMPHILL SCOTLAND
AGM 1 SEPTEMBER 2020 – VIRTUAL
DRAFT MINUTE**

PRESENT:

Bill Nicol (CCST), Trudi Nicol (OTS), Jo Plunkett (Corbenic), Helen Darwell (Loch Arthur), Alistair Ritchie (Newton Dee), Laurence Alfred (CSA), Sandy Walton (Tiphereth), Norma Hart (CSA), Miriam Puccianti (OTS), Grant Cowper (OTS), David Cullen (Newton Dee), Stephanie Newbatt (CSA), Liz Cappelletto (CSA), Naomi Paton (CSA), Alison Nicolson (Tiphereth), Aideen O'Malley (Tiphereth), Betty Marx (CSA), Maria Peter (Beannachar), Nicolas Nino-Ramirez (CSA), Tobi Emonts-Holley (Tiphereth), Jim Alexander (OTS)

Ulrike Mall (Trustee), Alex Busch (Trustee), Marcus Sangster (Chair), Julianne Busacker (Trustee), Colum Pooler (Treasurer), Jason Glass (Trustee), Richard Costigan (Trustee), Andrew Plant (Trustee), Allison Morgan (Trustee), Margaret Swerling (Vice Chair)

APOLOGIES:

Marjan Loman (Newton Dee), Anne Gibson (Ochil Tower School), Wiepke Busch (Camphill School Aberdeen), Martin Alfred (Camphill School Aberdeen and Tigh a'Chomainn)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Camphill Scotland: Emma Walker (Director), Robert McGeachy (Policy & Engagement Manager), Jennifer Leiper (Administration and Communications Officer)

Charlie McMillan (CEO, SCLD), Kate Monahan (parent and activist)

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed members to our first online AGM. Marcus reviewed the highlights from Camphill Scotland's work during 2019/20 and paid tribute to the dedication of our members, particularly during the coronavirus pandemic.

The meeting was then opened with a poem written and performed by Jon Plunkett, Camphill Corbenic.

2. FORMAL BUSINESS

2.1 Adoption of 2019 minutes:

The minutes from the last AGM in September 2019 were approved by Colum Pooler and seconded by Allison Morgan.

2.2 Presentation of annual accounts 2019/20:

Colum Pooler, Treasurer, presented the accounts. No questions were raised. Colum (Treasurer) thanked Jennifer for her support with book-keeping, and said the figures are meticulously looked after by CS.

3. PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR, EMMA WALKER

Emma thanked staff for their support whilst she settled in to her role, and said that she was very disappointed not to be able to celebrate Camphill's 80th birthday in person with members. Emma

noted that she will visit all communities as soon as it is safe to do so, and she wants members to get to know her, and vice versa. She gave some background to her career and her vision for Camphill Scotland and for Camphill in Scotland.

Due to a sudden loss of her internet connection her presentation was cut short, and completed towards the end of the meeting once Emma was able to get back online.

Charlie McMillan and Kate Monahan were introduced and there was a short comfort break.

4. GUEST SPEAKERS:

Kate Monahan spoke about her experiences as a parent with a son with learning disabilities. She thanked Camphill on behalf of all parents for the positive impact Camphill has on families' lives, noting that the "profound calm, acceptance, stability and genuine care" has enabled her son to become the lovely young man that he now is, belonging and safe. Kate said that she had been glad to support CS's work on the transitions bill, which has the potential to profoundly alter people's lives, like her son's, and she hopes that Camphill will come to view families as part of the Camphill family, and call on them to support our work. Alex thanked Kate on behalf of CSA, where her son lives.

Charlie McMillan, CEO of SCLD explained that he works closely with the Scottish Government and the Keys to Life strategy. He spoke about how the conversation and focus has changed because of the coronavirus pandemic, and the experience of people with a learning disability and their parents/carers has been a tipping point to bring about significant change. There is going to be a national review of adult care as lockdown has magnified the discrimination and inequalities which people with a learning disability face daily. He spoke about building forward differently, not building back better, with the country deciding on new priorities, and ensuring that people have their differences recognised and the additional support which they need is put in place. Charlie spoke about organisations such as Camphill working as a bridge to enable people to live their best lives, to support marginalised individuals and to promote their rights.

Robert McGeachy said that he welcomes the opportunity to work with SCLD, noting that we have worked closely together already on the transitions bill and on inclusive communication. He said that there are opportunities for a strong partnership between CS and SCLD to develop.

5. MEMBERS Q&A

A question was raised about service delivery in a coronavirus context, and the conversations that are taking place with the Scottish government. Charlie said that the government are listening and are hearing us and responding. There is a gap between Ministers and the local experience which hasn't been understood, but this is changing slowly.

Laurence Alfred asked if CS might be able to link with SCLD and SPPA, in light of the recent children's service review and the forthcoming adult service review, to raise the profile of adequate strength-based training for people in the care sector. This was supported by Miriam Puccianti. The point was noted by Emma.

Aideen O'Malley asked about the current situation with day service changes, including reduced fee income but with providers still facing fixed costs. Charlie said that there was a lack of consistency between local authority responses. Emma explained about the work that CS are undertaking on this significant issue. Kate said she thinks this is where CS's work with policy makers is so essential.

6. CLOSING REMARKS

Marcus extended his thanks to our guests for speaking in such a committed and passionate way, noting that systems and processes are a constant battle. Thanks were extended to all our members for their engagement.

Jennifer Leiper, 01.09.2020

Approved by members on

and signed on their behalf by

DRAFT