

**CAMPHILL SCOTLAND
AGM 14 SEPTEMBER 2021 – VIRTUAL
DRAFT MINUTE**

PRESENT:

Laurence Alfred (CSA), Sandy Walton (Tiphereth), Susan Campbell (CBD joined during item 4), Jeannie Carlson (Beannachar), Charlie Cross, Tiffany Bailey and Ruraidh (Tiphereth)

Ulrike Mall (Trustee), Alex Busch (Trustee joined during item 3), Marcus Sangster (Chair), Richard Costigan (Trustee), Allison Morgan (Trustee), Margaret Swerling (Vice Chair), Ines Maier (Trustee)

APOLOGIES:

Jason Glass (CBD), Andrew Plant (Trustee), Aideen O'Malley (Tiphereth)

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

Kirsten Robertson (Helen Lowe Accountants, left after item 3).

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. He noted that Zoom had limitations over meeting together, and the constraints were challenging - he has only been able to meet with CS's new Director, Emma Walker, three times in person in the past year, and Emma is very keen to continue to meet in person with members as soon as she can. Marcus talked about the current political environment for people with learning disabilities, and of CS's concerns; he noted that CS is keen that members' views are heard in the political arena. He talked about CS's aims and highlighted key areas of work in 2020/21, noting that Camphill continues to have a lot to contribute to contemporary society. Whilst some planned work had to be set aside this was replaced with more Covid focused work; Marcus went on to say that the time is now right to reflect on what we do, what we've learned through the pandemic and how to identify the best way to move forward.

2. ADOPTION OF 2020 MINUTES:

The minutes from the last AGM in September 2020 were approved by Richard Costigan and seconded by Ulrike Mall.

3. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2020/21:

Kirsten Robertson, accountant, gave a short presentation on the accounts for 2020/21, which were approved by Council in September. Our financial position remains stable.

There followed a Q&A and there were no questions from members. Alex and Michelle accepted the accounts. Marcus thanked Kirsten for keeping our accounts in good order.

4. PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR, EMMA WALKER

Emma talked about Camphill Scotland's work during the past 12 months before asking members for their thoughts on the future. A presentation was shared online, which highlighted Camphill Scotland's aim to help our members to thrive through a number of different work themes.

Emma noted that Robert McGeachy, Policy & Engagement Manager, continues to do a sterling job on leading policy for Camphill in Scotland, and members receive regular updates about this work.

Emma said that members are at the heart of everything that Camphill Scotland does. Camphill Scotland will start a consultation process including the CS board and the wider membership to verify how the organisation can provide best benefit to members in the current climate, given the small staff team and financial resource constraints.

5. MEMBERS/ASSOCIATES Q&A:

Jeannie Carlson thanked Emma for her enthusiasm which is a breath of fresh air in a tough year; she said that this was appreciated, along with Emma's desire to support Camphill to network more widely within Camphill. Jeannie encouraged Camphill Scotland to carry on finding new ways for Camphill in Scotland to connect, eg through international co-workers. Jeannie advised the CS team not to feel discouraged if members are slow at responding to some initiatives; this was endorsed by Allison Morgan.

Laurence Alfred said that he agreed with Jeannie. The progress that Camphill Scotland has made this year, such as sitting at top policy tables, despite constraints caused by the pandemic, are significant for a tiny team; he noted that there will always be more requests put to Camphill Scotland than the team is able to respond to. Laurence said that given this new impetus Camphill Scotland was now ready to increase the size of the CS team, using some reserves, and taking the time to rethink what the organisation is about and what its tasks should be. He thanked the CS team for all that they do.

Emma noted that all 3 staff members are now working at full capacity; she finished by saying that the consultation is important as it will guide the new 5-year strategy.

6. CLOSING REMARKS

Marcus was pleased to hear such positive comments from members and noted that Camphill Scotland's job for the coming year is going to change.

Emma thanked Robert and Jennifer for their contributions, stating that for a tiny team the organisation is punching above our weight. She is looking forward to visiting more members soon, and she pointed out that Camphill Scotland has an open door policy, and that we want to be open and accessible and listening to all members. It will be an exciting year with lots of opportunities for communities to get involved.

Marcus said it was a great pleasure to be involved with Camphill and thanked members for attending; he looks forward to visiting communities.

Jennifer Leiper, 14.09.2021

Approved by members on

and signed on their behalf by: