**Minutes of the 179th Annual General Meeting of Kirkintilloch Horticultural Society held on Thursday 18 May 2023 at 7.30pm in Enterprise House, Kirkintilloch**

**Present:** N Anderson, A Bryson, W Bryson, E Burchell, D Cadger, A Cairney, A Carswell, S Cowan, L Finlayson, T Farnell, M Gibb, Andrew Lothian, Alison Lothian, P Malcolm, M Matheson, J McCann, N. McCann, A McDowall, R McMeekin, R Paterson, M Reid, B Scott, A Sherlock, B Sherlock, A Welsh.

**Apologies:** R Hatcher, I Hatcher, B Wood

**Minutes of the AGM on 26 MAY 2022**: Andrea apologised that although she had taken notes these had been lost so none are available.

**Matters Arising**: There were none.

**Correspondence:** None

**President’s Report:** Paul summarised last year’s programme**.** We had two speakers, both interesting, a lovely Summer outing to Falkland Palace – although our numbers at 18 were much lower than normal, and a successful, much reduced Annual Flower Show. Quizzes at the Christmas social and Annual Dinner produced by our Vice-President, Andrew were appreciated by all and the Annual Dinner in the Broadcroft Hotel was enjoyed by 18 this year.

There had been much discussion at committee meetings about what to do with the numerous trophies. New members, Alan and Bob, have now offered to look at any with hallmarks to identify any of value. June will review list to see if she might identify any where family/donors may wish these returned. Consider giving any remaining to library.

Attendance at meetings has been much lower than pre-Covid. Tender Shoots to be checked out to scope if the organisation can be of use with tips and information on how to grow our membership to keep the Society viable.

**Secretary’s Report**: In the absence of a Secretary there was none.

**Treasurer's Report:** Due to health problems, Robert has not had the accounts independently audited, therefore he has produced a pre-audit summary for the meeting. Potential creditors noted.

**Approval of Accounts:** Since these are not yet audited approval could not be given.

**Show Convenor’s Report:** St Mary’s lesser hall has been booked for Saturday 2 September 2023 and a Schedule will be circulated in due course once Classes have been clarified. Grant Farquharson has agreed to judge the horticultural exhibits and Paul will contact Jean Bickerton to invite her to judge the Domestics. Paul appealed for helpers to set up from 9am.

**Press Secretary’s Report**: Margaret has been very pleased with the Kirkintilloch Herald response to her submissions and the fact that they have often enhanced the articles with attractive and relevant photographs.

**Social Secretary’s Report**: Andrea advised that we need more people to sign up to the proposed Summer outing **to Dumfries House on Saturday 5 August 2023** in order for this to go ahead. A sign- up sheet is on the side table for anyone interested in going and the cost will be £15 for members and £20 for non-members. House Tours need to be booked in advance and details are on the Dumfries House website for anyone interested. There are two wheelchairs available free of charge and these need to be booked in advance should anyone with reduced mobility wish to use one. No powered wheelchairs are allowed inside the house.

**Scone Palace Garden Fair** is taking place again this year **on Friday 2 and Saturday 3 June 2023** from **10am to 5pm**. Tickets can be purchased online and parking is free with booking.

**Ayr & District Flower Show** will take place once again in Ayr Racecourse on **Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 August 2023 from 10am to 5pm.**

**The Scottish Gardeners’ Forum AGM** will be held in Colinton on **Saturday 28 October 2023.** For anyone interested in attending, please email me and I will pass on further details when these are available.

**Web Admin & Social Media:** Isabel had prepared a report which was tabled for all to read. A number of members voiced that they don’t use Facebook so website is preferable to them.

**Election of Office Bearers:**

**President** Paul Malcolm, proposed by Andrew Lothian, seconded by M Gibb.

**Vice-President** Andrew Lothian, proposed by P Malcolm, seconded by E Burchell

**Secretary** No one

**Treasurer** Robert Hatcher, unanimous in his absence

**Press Secretary**  Margaret Gibb, proposed A McDowall, seconded Alison Lothian

**Social Secretary** Andrea McDowall, proposed Andrew Lothian, seconded M Matheson

**Tea Convenor**  Anne Carswell, proposed Andrew Lothian, seconded June McCann

**Web/media Secretary** Isabel Hatcher, proposed E Burchell, seconded Alison Lothian

**Speaker Secretary** Adam Bryson, proposed M Matheson, seconded Anne Carswell

**Committee Member** Wendy Bryson, proposed A McDowall, seconded Anne Cairney

**Independent Examiner** Neil Anderson, proposed Alison Lothian, seconded Norman McCann

It was agreed unanimously that Errol Burchell continue as representative on EDC LA Grants Committee.

**Any Other Competent Business**

Errol Burchell indicated that there are seed trays for sale on side table, see him to pay.

Errol then advised that since Anne Cross passed away, he has taken her place on the **EDC LA Grants** **Committee.** There is currently grant funding available for small organisations, especially those who are struggling. Information is to be found on the EDC website under grants and a good case must be made when applying for funds. A monitoring report on how the funds are disbursed would be required as a follow up.

Discussion about **annual subscription level**, most viewed current £5 as very low and would be happy to increase to £10.

Anne Carswell advised that **St Cyprians Church** celebrate their 150th Anniversary this year and are holding a Flower Festival over 7, 8 and 9 September 2023. Tea and coffee will be served at a cost of £2 per person.

**East Dunbartonshire Garden Club** was mentioned, and no-one has found details of a physical club, however suggested that we might tout for members on their Facebook page.

The formal part of the meeting ended and the members then moved over to enjoy the cheeses and wine on offer.