



scottish place-name society  
comann anmean-àite na h-alba

## AGM minutes

*2pm Saturday 11th May 2019, at the V&A, Dundee*

Committee members present: Carole Hough (convener), Ellen Bramwell, Liz Curtis, Pete Drummond, Leslie Fraser, Alison Grant, Kelly Kilpatrick, Leonie Mhari, Bill Patterson, Simon Taylor.

About 35 ordinary members were present.

1. Welcome and apologies: John Baldwin, Thomas Clancy, Ian Fraser, John Mackay, Margaret MacKay.

The AGM began with a minute's silence in memory of Norman Allan, Colin Child, Alistair Livingston and David Sellar.

2. The minutes of the 2018 AGM were accepted as a correct record.

**Proposed by Kelly Kilpatrick, seconded by Simon Taylor.**

3. Matters arising:

Item 5: Carole Hough explained that the suggestion of using eBay to sell books was discussed at the committee meeting on 6 June 2018, alongside alternative possibilities such as AbeBooks. As our stock is quite old, and turnover would be small, it was felt that it wouldn't repay the work involved in terms of someone needing to be in charge of the account, with responsibility for shipping books promptly and dealing with potential problems. We therefore decided not to go ahead at present.

4. Convener's report:

Carole reported as follows. The main activities of the year had included the two day conferences in Perth (5 May 2018) and Edinburgh (17 November 2018). The latter was held jointly with the Scottish Records Association, and included the launch of the online Berwickshire Place-Name Resource, one of the main outputs of the Leverhulme-funded project *Recovering the Earliest English Language in Scotland* (REELS):

<https://berwickshire-placenames.glasgow.ac.uk/>.

Summaries of conference papers are published in the Society's two annual newsletters. Some newsletter articles are available on the Society's website, and we are moving towards a system of making newsletters available online after about two years. The website also attracts a number of queries from different parts of the world, increasing the Society's international reach.

The momentum of place-name survey continues to be maintained. A further output of the REELS project will be *The Place-Names of Berwickshire* Volume 1, while a further output of the AHRC-funded *Scottish Toponymy in Transition* project will be *The Place-Names of Clackmannanshire*. A new project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, *The Place-Names of the Galloway Glens*, is surveying the place-names of seven historical parishes in Kirkcudbrightshire and working towards *The Place-Names of Kirkcudbrightshire* Volume 1:

<https://kcb-placenames.glasgow.ac.uk/>.

Carole extended many thanks to all the committee for their work throughout the year, and to Simeon Krastev as webmaster.

5. Treasurer's report:

Pete Drummond presented the accounts and reported on them as follows:

- a. Membership fees are down, due mainly to previously paid life memberships - these members are no longer paying.
- b. We have 74 life members, as well as 62 members paying by standing order. This avoids the treasurer needing to chase people up, and cuts down on cheques being handled.

- c. Conference income and fees both appear to be down, because the November 2018 conference was handled by the Scottish Records Association.
- d. A £1,000 grant has been paid to Shaun Tyas in advance for the forthcoming book on place-names of Berwickshire.
- e. There was a small loss last year, but the balance is healthy.
- f. Assets: the value of unsold books has been reduced to realistic levels.

**Proposed: Alison Grant. Seconded: Peadar Morgan.**

6. Newsletter Editor's Report:

Bill Patterson thanked Simeon Krastev for his work on the website, including the re-publication of the Newsletter. He thanked all the contributors to the Newsletter, and requested that contributions of papers from this conference be submitted before the end of August. He asked if anyone would be happy to have a go at editing the Newsletter: if so, he would be happy to help them during the transitional period.

7. Future conferences:

Carole reported that:

- a. The next conference will be on Saturday 2 November at the Three Villages Community Hall, Arrochar.
- b. Various potential venues are being investigated for 2020, including ones that would reflect the theme of Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters.
- c. The committee would welcome proposals for future conference venues, and offers of help to organise conferences in different areas. Eilidh Scammell proposed Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and offered to help organise a conference there.

8. Elections for committee posts:

Carole reported that no nominations had been received, but the present committee members were happy to stay on. The re-election of the committee was proposed by Peadar Morgan and seconded by Roy Pedersen.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm. Minutes prepared by Liz Curtis.