

# Minutes of AGM

## 30 September 2021

11:00 - 12:05 (24hr clock)

### 1. Welcome

John MacLennan (Chair) welcomed the attendees to the AGM 2021.

Those in attendance were:

BOARD MEMBERS	OTHER ATTENDEES
John MacLennan	Andrew Cubie
Iain Mackintosh	Nichole Dow
Carol Anderson	Pauline Kean
Charles Carnegie	Pam Lauter (Friend of Trellis)
Colin Stirling	Elisabeth Pilgrem
MEMBERS	Julian Reeves
Anne McAlister	Jenny Simpson (Minuter)
Alison Goodfellow	Richard Simpson (Trellis Patron)
	Morag Taylor
	Joan Wilson
	Fiona Thackeray

### 2. Apologies

Apologies Received from:

Susan Hill Leila Alcalde Banet Mike Buckley-Jones Evelyn Gilliland Gillian Clements Patricia Morris	Linda Treliving Ken Cox Stan Green
--	--

### 3. Minutes of Previous Year's AGM

The Minutes of the 2020 AGM were accepted by the attendees as a true record of the AGM 2020:

Proposer	Seconder
Iain Mackintosh	Carol Anderson

#### 4. Matters Arising from Previous AGM Minutes

There were no Matters Arising from the AGM Minutes 2020.

#### 5. Chairman's report

John MacLennan delivered the Chairman's Report:

##### Review of Year

The year was one where, like everyone, we learned to expect the unexpected. We continued adapting our services to function as well as possible within the restrictions of the virus crisis. Our aim was to find ways to reach everyone and mitigate the awful isolating effects of successive lock downs. We launched some of our training online and managed to sneak in a few site visits with our trusty gazebo where appropriate to help people keep gardening in the bleak months of worry and quarantine. We tried to keep everything ready to go for providing some of our services in person as soon as allowed.

We're delighted you're able to join us for another AGM, even if it's still not quite as we hoped this time around, despite originally planning for an in-person event.

Over the year we're run a mix of face to face and online services including:

- **Training sessions** in *Seasonal Gardening Activities* – with over 150 people participating.
- The first **Trellis Seminar Series** in March with speakers sharing expertise and ideas from around the world and over 950 registrations from 5 continents.
- **Live Zoom Gardening Demo Sessions** presenting gardening ideas, adaptive techniques, skills and tips to health and care workers and their patients/residents, gardeners, and community workers.
- **Online networking & good practice exchange meetings** – keeping people connected and offering a forum for sharing information. Zoom events have some advantages in that they can be held more frequently and allow people from further afield to join in.
- The **network continued to grow** although some projects closed so we're in touch with 480 projects, with a steady demand for information, guidance and site. Our Twitter feed now has 9600 followers.
- **Website redevelopment** – Lots of new resources to help cope with Lock Down and the ever-changing rules under our Stay Well and Garden tab.
- New **videos, factsheets** and **information resources**.
- A new **Forum** of practitioners working for professional recognition of therapeutic gardening.
- A **Fundraising Campaign, #StepoutforTrellis** in May to mark Mental Health Week.
- With our partners at Scotland's Garden Trust **Calyx Project** we shaped a new project to help care homes realise their gardening dreams. More to come on this.

##### Looking ahead:

- We're planning for a mix of **virtual** and **in person** support services to therapeutic gardening projects. Some services have translated well to online meetings. But with fieldwork services, training events and demo sessions, while we can provide some level of online service, they're not 100% suited to virtual, remote methods and we've been developing new, virus-safe ways of running these services in person.
- **Care Homes** with our new partner and great supporter the **Calyx Project**, we're aiming to provide more in depth, consistent and wide-reaching support to care homes, especially since so many have suffered disproportionately in the pandemic. Our joint ambition is to see gardening in every care home and we're taking the first steps now.
- We would love to hear about the things you need help with, including information resources and **training** topics.

- **Fundraising events** – get your wellies, your oven gloves or your trainers on and see if you can raise funds to support therapeutic gardening and raise awareness of the work of the network as you go.
- **Seminar/Conference** – March 2022, an online event, possibly with a live meeting to complement it – open to ideas. Hope to see you there.

## 6. Treasurer's report

Iain Mackintosh, retiring Treasurer, reported on the Trellis financial accounts – see Summary Sheet. A positive report showing increased income for the year, with these additional funds now being used in the current budget to cover core staffing costs, freeing some staff time for development work. Iain particularly wanted to thank Fiona Thackeray and Jo Cook, Development Manager, for their excellent fundraising effort and Jane Campbell, Trellis Office Manager, for her excellent work in reducing office costs, running Trellis accounts very smoothly, being good humoured and a pleasure to work with and making a Treasurer's job easier.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the meeting:

proposer	seconders
Carol Anderson	Colin Stirling

## 7. Election of directors.

New directors are proposed/seconded individually.

Returning directors can be voted in en bloc.

	proposer	seconders
John MacLennan (Chair) (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Colin Stirling (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Mike Buckley-Jones (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Carol M Anderson (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Peter Sinclair (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Linda Treliving (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Ken Cox (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Stan Green (Returning)	Joan Wilson	Iain Mackintosh
Iain Mackintosh – RETIRING	N/A	N/A
Charles Carnegie (NEW)	Iain Mackintosh	Colin Stirling

## 8. Appointment of Independent Examiner.

Name of Independent Examiner: **Chris Smith**

(Independent Examiner, Trainer, and Charity Advisor, Fife.

proposer

seconders

Carol Anderson

Charles Carnegie

## 9. Membership Fees

No change from last year's rates

- Individual: £25 per year
- Student: £25 for 2 years
- Project: £40 per year for organisations with an annual income of <£100,000;
- Project: £90 with annual income >£100,000
- Associate: £90 per year

proposer

seconders

Colin Stirling

Charles Carnegie

## 10. Development report.

Fiona Thackeray, Trellis Head of Operations & Development reported on the work of Trellis over the year 2020-21, and how it met the challenges of delivering services through COVID-19 lockdown. Also, thanking all Trellis Directors, Volunteers, Partners, Patrons, Friends and Donors for their invaluable support.

See separate PowerPoint presentation file – available on the website as MP4 file soon.

The Trellis Impact Report 2020-21 video was also played at the meeting. This video can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChvvCIF8sT0&feature=youtu.be>

## 11. AOCB. Any items raised by those present.

John MacLennan (Chair) on behalf of the Board of Directors wished to express thanks to all Trellis staff for their work, Carol Anderson also echoed this.

Fiona Thackeray, on the announcement of Jane Campbell, Trellis Office Managers' retiral, especially wanted to express how much we appreciate Jane's talents and hard work, and where it has taken us.

Richard Simpson (Patron) mentioned the growth of social prescribing – much farther ahead in England than here, but link worker efforts growing and potential for working with them (including via NES). FT had noticed link workers were calling for a network to be set up and for some moves to standardise their work and job requirements, and we hope to have some involvement with that so they are aware of the health benefits of involvement in gardening and the huge number of garden projects they could be referring people to.

He also mentioned the drugs deaths lead contact Catriona Mathieson and wondered if we'd been in touch. FT welcomed the chance to have contact with this area of work via Ms Mathieson and outlined some of the work Joan had done with an addiction community in Kilmarnock, which was a huge success.

Other spontaneous comments from attendees raised earlier in the meeting:

Anne McAlister (ADA, Aberdeen) – Wished to thank Trellis for their support, especially during lockdown.

Julian Reeves, Herefordshire – Thanked Trellis for their support and suggested that there were lots of projects in England who would appreciate this kind of support.

Meeting End 12:05 (24hr clock)