

**Minutes of SIGMA Annual General Meeting
Held at Birnie Village Hall, 4 June 2010**

Present:

Stewart Argo (Chairman)
Ian Brantingham (Secretary)
Stan Barber (Treasurer)
Peter Sherman (Membership Secretary)
Chris Stradling (Committee Member)
Andrew Reddy (Committee Member)
Bill Ford (Committee Member)

James Bow	Kay Stuart	Christine Macfarlane	Tim Schroder
Anne Paton	Celia Hawco	Kevin Stocks	
Rob Cox	Moira Barber	Sam Hampton-Smith	
Robin Frankton	Natalie Cox	Jenny Macfarlane	
Helen Williamson	Karen Cox		

1. Welcome/ Quorum

The Chairman opened the AGM by welcoming members. He advised that the Constitution required 20% of the membership to be present to provide a quorum, 12 on the basis of 60 members, and the members present satisfied this requirement.

2. Apologies

Duncan Macfarlane, Iain Macfarlane, Eric Hughes, Wendy Hughes, Jean Stocks, Lewis Sherman, Heather Sherman, Christopher Jennings.

3. Minutes of Last AGM

Minutes of the AGM held on the 5th June 2009 had been distributed to members prior to the 2010 AGM. With 3 minor errors it was proposed by Peter Sherman and seconded by Stewart Argo that the minutes be passed as a true representation of this event. All agreed.

4. Matters arising

a. 10th Anniversary. It was proposed to hold a dinner on 18th September with the 4 founder members and partners invited to attend.

5. Constitution Changes

(a) Proposed change to the constitution 3.1

Change "a Chairman, a Treasurer, a Secretary and a Publicity Officer" to "a Chairman, a Treasurer and a Secretary".

Reason: the Publicity Officer post had not been filled for some time and was not considered an 'executive' post that needed a separate resolution and vote.

Proposed by Andrew Reddy and seconded by Stan Barber. Passed by majority.

(b) Proposed change to the constitution 8.2

Change "4 weeks" to "1 week"

Reason: Rationalisation as the Committee had only to give 2 weeks notice of an AGM to members but members had to give 4 weeks notice back to committee of items for the agenda.

Proposed by Ian Brantingham and seconded by Andrew Reddy. Passed unanimously.

(c) Proposed change to the constitution 4.2.3

Change sentence “Family membership is for any children as defined in 4.10 and their parent(s)/ guardian(s)” to “Family membership A is for any children as defined in 4.10 and their parent/guardian. Family membership B is for any children as defined in 4.10 and their parents/ guardians”.

Reason: Family membership was introduced for one parent/guardian and child but had been applied to 2 parent/ guardian 2 children families.

A counter-proposal had been discussed and was made for 4.2.3.

4.2.3 – All children as defined in 4.10 will be admitted for free. Proposed by Karen Cox and seconded by Helen Williamson. Carried by majority.

4.2.4 – All members over 18 and in full time education to pay the student rate. Proposed by Stan Barber and seconded by Stewart Argo. Carried by majority.

4.2.5 – All members over 60 to be entitled to pay at student rate. Proposed by Andrew Reddy and seconded by Tim Schroder. Carried by majority.

6. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented his report on the Club’s activities during the year. He outlined the year’s accomplishments, paid tribute to the guest speakers, thanked the Committee members for their help and hard work, and all those people who supported SIGMA. He thanked all the members for their continuing support and help throughout the year. He also proposed a vote of thanks to the SAFD committee for their hard work. Proposed by Stewart Argo and seconded by Kevin Stocks. Carried unanimously.

Finally, he stated that he would be standing down as Chairman, but would like to continue as a committee member.

7. Membership Secretary's Report

Membership had decreased slightly even though the Club had conducted 5 events as part of IYA2009.

However, it was considered that membership numbers would always fluctuate despite the best efforts of the Club to increase numbers.

8. Treasurer's Report

The accounts for 2009 were presented, and major income and expenditure items explained. Income had exceeded expenditure but mainly as a result of activities and donations as part of IYA2009. The budget for 2010 showed that income would be less than expenditure and while there was a reserve, an increase in fees for 2011 would help to redress the balance. It was pointed out by a member that the introduction of a concessionary membership category at the student rate might undermine the proposed increase, and it was agreed to review the effect post-meeting.

Proposed by Andrew Reddy and seconded by Chris Stradling. Carried by majority.

9. Election of Office Bearers

a) Chairman

Ian Brantingham (proposed by Pete Sherman and seconded by Kevin Stocks) and Stan Barber (proposed by Andrew Reddy and seconded by Chris Stradling) stood for election as Chairman. After a vote, Stan Barber got 9 votes and Ian Brantingham got 6 votes. Stan Barber was therefore elected as Chairman.

b) Secretary

Proposed by Ian Brantingham, and seconded by Helen Williamson, that Andrew Reddy be elected as Secretary. Agreed unanimously.

c) Treasurer

Proposed by Kevin Stocks and seconded by Stan Barber, that Pete Sherman be elected as Treasurer. Agreed unanimously.

d) Committee Members

Proposed by Kevin Stocks and seconded by Peter Sherman, that Bill Ford, Stewart Argo and Chris Stradling be elected as Committee members. Agreed unanimously. This brings the number of committee members to 6.

10. Programme for 2010

Pete Sherman gave an outline of the coming events into 2011, advising that most talks had been filled through a mix of local and central belt speakers.

11. Any Other Club Business

a. Web Site

Management of the website was raised by a member and discussed at length. The incoming Chairman promised to review and asked for any relevant facts to be passed to him for consideration in committee.

b. Proxy Voting

Proxy voting had been discussed. The incoming Chairman advised that it was an issue he had had to introduce into another club, and it was something SIGMA should consider as 'best practice'. He undertook to investigate further with a view to introducing proxy/postal voting, and would call an EGM to vote on the matter if appropriate.

c. Alternative Funding

The question of alternate funding was raised and a number of ideas put forward for further consideration.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Ian Brantingham
Secretary