

**WPH Trust and WPH SCIO
AGM 26 September 2024
Minutes**

Item 1 – Welcome and Introduction

Duncan welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking the time to attend this evening. This is the Annual General Meeting for Walkerburn Public Hall, my name is Duncan Machell and I am the chair of the hall.

Because the hall is in the process of transferring from a Trust to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) this AGM has been convened for both the original Walkerburn Public Hall Trust (the Trust) and the new Walkerburn Public Hall SCIO (the SCIO).

As you can see from the Agenda the main items of business are;

- the approval of the minutes of the 2023 AGM
- the presentation of the accounts for the Trust and for the SCIO
- the chairs report,
- the election of the WPH Trust management committee
- the election of the WPH SCIO trustees.

Item 2 – Apologies

Cathy Ireland, Kath Keddie

Item 3 – Approval of Minutes of AGM September 2023

To approve the minutes of the WPH Trust AGM held on 27 September 2023 (published on Walkerburn.com website)

Proposed by Ian Ireland

Seconded by John Purves

Item 4 – Presentation of Financial Accounts (WPH Trust and WPH SCIO) for FY 2023-24

Mike Wilcox, the Treasurer presented the accounts for the Trust and for the SCIO – they are attached to the end of the Minutes.

Mike made mention of the closed Dunfermline Building Society Account which, following investigation, was found to have a balance of £62. This amount has now been transferred to the hall Bank of Scotland current account. Historical transactions were examined and it was found that they had been no deposits or withdrawals from the Dumfermline account in the period since 1 January 2018, the earliest for which records were available. The investigation into this account is now complete.

Item 5 - Annual Report

The chair sincerely thanked the WPH Trust management committee and the WPH SCIO trustees who have worked hard to keep the hall open as a venue for the benefit of the residents of Walkerburn and District. The hall has continued to provide a venue for its regular users including:

- Children's Birthday Parties, Table Tennis, Youth Club, & Yoga
- Coffee Mornings
- Walkerburn and District Community Council and Walkerburn Summer Festival
- Stage performances
- Annual Vegetable Show
- Borders Community Action
- Cyrenians Cook Club & Pantry and Citizens Advice Bureau
- Scottish Slimmers
- Church services
- Remembrance Sunday event

The hall also remains as a Warm Hub for the village in case of emergencies.

New LED lighting was installed in the main hall in April this year.

A new online hall booking system is now in use (<https://www.walkerburnvillagehall.co.uk/>) which has replaced the old system.

Borders Community Action have this month established a village hall retrofit fund which we hope to be able to use to improve energy efficiency and we are working towards that now.

Since the decision by Walkerburn Public Hall Trust to move to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) structure was taken in September 2021 the following has been achieved:

- A new constitution has been produced and accepted by Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

- We submitted an application to create a new SCIO charity and OSCR granted Walkerburn Public Hall SCIO charitable status (SC052588) in June 2023.

- We sought approval to reorganise the original Trust to allow us to transfer assets to the new SCIO and obtained a grant from the Village Hall Federation to fund conveyancing costs to change the legal title of the hall from the Trust to the SCIO.

- Solicitors were instructed in March 2024 and have this week finalised the disposition so we expect the conveyancing to be completed very soon.

- Once the change of title is complete and a new bank account has been set up the Trust will be dissolved. Until this happens all Trust trustees will remain in place.

Item 6 – Election of the WPH Trust Management Committee (Chair)

Even though WPH Trust will be dissolved in the near future it is still officially operational and therefore their management committee must be elected at this AGM. This is a matter of due process only as the SCIO Trustees are now operating the hall.

I understand the following people are standing down and are willing to stand as WPH Trust Management Committee members

Cathie Hart
Dawn Rodger
Sheilagh Sommerville
Jade Turner
Mike Wilcox
Cat Worsley

If there is no objection I suggest we vote to elect them en bloc:

For 17 plus one proxy vote

Against. 0

Duncan asked if anyone else wished to stand for election to the WPH Trust Management Committee? There was no-one interested.

The WPH Trust Management Committee is duly elected.

Item 7 – Election of the WPH SCIO Trustees (Chair (quorum is 25% of members and requires a majority vote)

The WPH SCIO Trustees must stand down at each AGM but may put themselves forward for re-election. I understand the following people are standing down and are willing to stand as WPH SCIO Trustees:

Cathie Hart
Dawn Rodger
Sheilagh Sommerville
Mike Wilcox
Cat Worsley

If there is no objection I suggest we vote to elect them en bloc: **(Only WPH SCIO members are entitled to vote)**

For. 17 plus one proxy vote

Against. 0

Duncan asked if anyone else wished to stand for election as a WPH SCIO Trustee? Currently the SCIO provided for a maximum of 8 Trustees

Liz Fraser, Christine Tucker, Andrew Edmunds all expressed an interest in standing and a vote was taken for each of them. They were all elected unanimously

The WPH SCIO Board of Trustees is duly elected and they will decide amongst themselves who the office bearers will be.

Mike Wilcox proposed that the number of Trustees be increased from 8 to 10 allowing extra people to be co-opted if required for a particular purpose.

Cathy Hart seconded the proposal and the vote was carried unanimously.

Item 8 - Any Other Business

Duncan asked if anyone had any other relevant business?

Patricia Purves suggested that more needed to be done to advertise amongst the village residents the fact that the Public Hall Trust was now a SCIO and that to be a voting member you had to sign up and complete a form.

Patricia also thanked Duncan and others for all the work they had done towards the SCIO. Lesley Thornton particularly thanked Ian Ireland for all his help. Patricia mentioned that there may be some money available for use towards renewable things for the hall.

Mike thanked Cathy Hart for all her work in obtaining funds for the village hall, which had paid for the new lights.

Sheilagh thanked Mike for his work on the accounts.

Patricia raised the electricity upgrading work which was being done along the A72. She suggested that the hall could offer the use of the hall facilities to Scottish Power for a fee.

The electricity sub-station behind the hall was going to be moved closer to the pathway but no further information was available at present.

Ian Ireland told the meeting that proceeds from the Calendar for 2025 would be donated to the hall.

John Purves said that he was sorry to hear that the Chair, Duncan Machell, was standing down but proposed a formal vote of thanks and a round of applause was given.

Item 9 - Chairman's Closing Remarks

Duncan thanked everyone for supporting the hall and attending the AGM. The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

The next AGM will probably be held in September 2025.