



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF AYRSHIRE HOUSING, HELD  
AT THE SAVOY PARK HOTEL, AYR ON 5 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 7:00PM

Present:                   **Community Members**  
Rhonda Leith (Chairperson)  
Margaret Scott  
Ian Cavana  
Margaret Imrie  
Andrew Whitehead  
Simon Leslie  
Gemma Collins  
Mike Tomlinson  
David Porte  
Pearl Boyd (Honorary President)

**Tenant Members**  
Kenny George  
Frances Maguire  
Catherine Rolwich  
Margaret Campbell  
Christina Allan  
Patrick Gallagher  
Myra Nicol  
John Hepburn  
Neil Hutchison

In Attendance:       Jim Whiston  
Kirsty Broadfoot (Minutes)  
Debbie Thompson  
Alan Park  
Ainslie Wyllie  
Scott Hutchison  
Margaret Woods  
Jim Sinclair (Armstrongs – external auditor)  
Jacqueline Dunlop  
Wendy Smith  
Carol Young  
Michelle Reid  
Joanne MacLellan  
Emma McRae

Apologies:             Suzi Williamson  
Bobby Pyper  
Roy Martin  
Ann Cameron  
Ann Bontke  
Ann Tosh

Joan Calderwood  
David McGivern  
John Stewart  
Paula Hunter  
Dawn Bigham  
Robin and Shirley Sealy

## **1. Introduction**

Chairperson Rhonda Leith welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the meeting was quorate. She explained the reason for the change in format from last year's AGM. She hoped that everyone had enjoyed the informal reception beforehand. As Ayrshire Housing is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, it had been an opportunity welcome the Board's first chair Margaret Scott, to join Rhonda in cutting the birthday cake. The announcement of the garden and pet competition winners had also been much appreciated.

## **2. Minutes of the AGM held on 6 September 2017 and of the EGM held on 25 April 2018.**

The attendees were provided with a pack containing the Minute of the AGM held on 6 September 2017 and the EGM which was held on 25 April 2018. The EGM was held to discuss a change to the constitution in relation to the removal of South Ayrshire Council membership from our Board. Rhonda asked the attendees to give a show of hands confirming if they were in agreement with both sets of Minutes. The Minutes were duly approved.

## **3. Appointment of Board Members**

Rhonda advised that in accordance of the articles and taking account of Pauline Elliot stepping down from the Board, there were three vacancies – two in the Tenant category and one in the Community category. She confirmed that Margaret Campbell and Myra Nicol have joined in the Tenant category and David Porte has come on board on the Community category. Rhonda gave thanks to Pauline for her time on the Board.

Rhonda then invited Councillor Ian Cavana to accept a gift on behalf of the association. She thanked him for all his hard work during his time on the Board. Councillor Cavana added "Ayrshire Housing is one of the best run organisations that I have had the pleasure to be involved in, and there have been many! I know that it continues to be a key partner for the Council in meeting local housing needs".

Rhonda spoke of former Board member, Paul Torrance, who very sadly passed away earlier this year. She conveyed how committed Paul had been during his time on the Board and how grateful the association is to the work that he undertook. Paul was strongly connected to Dailly and our latest development in the village is a poignant reminder of all that he did for the people and the association.

#### **4. Audit Report**

Rhonda welcomed Jim Sinclair of Armstrongs. Jim presented the Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2018 and explained that it is the duty of the auditor to report to the Trustees on the truth and fairness of the Accounts and of their compliance with the various Acts which govern the disclosure requirements. Jim explained that he performed a variety of tests throughout the audit to check our systems and was pleased to report that, on completion of the audit, he had found no significant issues. This was reflected in the Management Letter presented to the Trustees.

Jim confirmed that the financial statements give a true and fair view and have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant acts.

Jim thanked Ayrshire Housing's staff for their assistance during the audit visit.

The Annual Accounts, the Audit Report and Trustees' Report were accepted by the Members present.

The Annual Accounts were signed by Rhonda Leith, Kenny George and, as Company Secretary, Alan Park.

#### **5. Appointment of Auditor**

The motion to re-appoint Armstrongs as auditor was unanimously agreed.

#### **6. Report of Work**

Rhonda introduced Jim Whiston, Director of Ayrshire Housing, to report on the association's work over the past year and some of the challenges that we are facing. Jim talked about our Vision and Mission Statement.

Jim highlighted our latest developments – the launch of four new flats in Dailly, opened in January this year and advised that building work is now well underway at Peebles Street. When complete, this project will offer 39 brand new flats in Ayr town centre.

Jim went on to speak about the air-source heating systems which are being installed at over seventy of our off-gas rural properties.

Another important highlight over the past year has been our collaboration with Hansel – an agreement whereby we took ownership of six properties in a unique joint project. Hansel continue to provide support to the tenants.

Jim spoke about our community involvement, which this year has included; supporting South Ayrshire Befriending Project with their annual trip to the Gaiety theatre at Christmas, support for Whitletts Victoria Junior Football Club through the purchase of club tabards, attending a careers fair at Dalmilling Primary, supporting Newton Primary School's prize giving ceremony by presenting the winners with book tokens and also attending Newton Primary's community day.

Jim thanked our Money Advice team for all their hard work. He then went on to speak about our commitment to assisting tenants with digital inclusion. Jim mentioned some of the classes that we have held in alliance with Aspire2Access, with more planned in the coming months. Jim spoke of the development of a community hub which is being planned within the extension of Ayrshire Housing's offices early next year.

Jim gave thanks to Caroline Donald and her work in setting up Ayrshire Housing's Scrutiny Group. He advised that the group, made up of tenant members, has looked into 'The Life of a Repair' as their first project.

Jim then thanked the staff at Ayrshire Housing for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication over the past year. He mentioned how staff members go the extra mile and often take part in activities outwith working hours. Examples of these include; attending the annual SAC Communities Fun Day, taking part and raising over £100 for a sponsored walk for Ayr Housing Aid and taking part in CRUK's 10,000 steps a day campaign.

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.45pm.

Chairperson .....

Date .....