

**Minute of the 30th Annual General Meeting of Blochairn Housing Association Ltd held on Tuesday 21 September 2021 in the offices of Blochairn Housing Association, 1 Blochairn Road, Glasgow and by Zoom Conference**

**Present:** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] \*

(\*members who attended in person. Other members attended through Zoom).

**In Attendance:** Michael Carberry (Director); Patricia Davidson (Corporate Services Officer); Angela MacDonald (Housing Services Officer); Bronwyn Thomson (Housing Services Assistant); Carol Niven (Finance Assistant); Matthew McDermott (Finance Agent); Kevin Booth (Alexander Sloan, Auditors).

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. She advised that the Association was frustrated by the need to hold the meeting through Zoom. She advised that, under the Association's Rules, the AGM had to follow a specific agenda. There would be an opportunity, after the formal business, to ask any general questions. She advised that photographs would be taken and may be published on the Association's Facebook page and in newsletters. She asked anyone who did not want a photograph published to let him know.

The Director introduced the Auditor and Finance Agent and new staff members, Patricia Davidson and Bronwyn Thomson.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from [REDACTED]

and [REDACTED].

**2. Adoption of the Minute of the 29th Annual General Meeting held on 1 September 2020**

The minute of the previous annual general meeting was adopted by [REDACTED] and seconded by [REDACTED].

**3. Matters Arising from the 29th Annual General Meeting held on 1 September 2020**

There were no matters arising from the previous AGM.

**4. Chairperson's Report**

The Chairperson's report had been issued to Members, by post and by email, in advance of the meeting:

'We are now 18 months into the COVID 19 global pandemic. We have endured isolation, sickness and the loss of friends and family. It has been a traumatic time; one that, in our worst nightmares, we could not have predicted.

My condolences to anyone in our community who has lost a loved one. To others in our community, I hope that there is light at the end of this dark tunnel. We are nearly there. Stay strong and stick together.

Sticking together, as a community, stood us in good stead last year. People throughout Royston joined with established, community owned organisations to volunteer to deliver food parcels and hot meals and collect prescriptions for vulnerable households. They even delivered recipes for home cooking and activity packs for children.

Like most offices, ours has been closed to the public since March 2020. However, our staff volunteered to work from the office rather than work from home. They felt that they could not instruct contractors to carry out essential repairs whilst not being on the front line themselves. They wanted to be available to residents; as much as lockdown restrictions would allow.

This is another example of their commitment to the Blochairn community, even in the most stressful of circumstances. In October 2020, staff tested Positive for COVID 19 and had to isolate. Even when ill and suffering the effects of the virus, they kept our services going.

Since March 2020, our Management Committee meetings have been through 'Zoom'. The AGM in 2020 was held through 'ZOOM' (although a few hardy souls came into the office, with social distancing and PPE). Trust me, even folk, a lot more computer literate than me, don't like 'Zoom' meetings! So, it's a very special thanks to my fellow Committee members who persevered and saw us through.

Naturally, some things were affected by the COVID 19 lockdown but we performed well in the year to 31 March 2021. You can visit the Scottish Housing Regulator's web site to compare our performance with other associations.

Ever since 2001, our Tenant Bonus Scheme has been our way of thanking tenants who help to make Blochairn a place that people are happy to live in; and are proud to say they come from. In 2020, in a show of solidarity with our community, the £75 Christmas Bonus was offered to every one of our tenants. More than £250,000 has now been distributed to our community at Christmas and £20,000 won in the monthly prize draw.

Our Community Citizenship Award for Royston Primary and St Roch's Primary schools was cancelled again in 2021. St Roch's did some work and we selected [REDACTED] as a prize winner. We have been a 'Community Champion' for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library since 2016. We provide a free book, every month, for every child in our community, from birth until their 5th birthday. During lockdown this was especially welcome. We continued to support Royston Youth Action and our Director continued as Chair of the RYA Board.

We continued to develop our web site and our Facebook page, which has 904 'Followers'.

I am proud of how the Association has managed through this pandemic. I look forward to returning to normal working soon. Meantime, I hope to see you at the AGM in September'.

The Chair added that

- Additional support continued with the provision of a Financial Advisor, a Tenancy Support Officer and a Welfare Rights Officer. Services are well used and are a real benefit to the community

- The Planned Maintenance Programme had been disrupted but had restarted with painting of external railings. Bathroom replacement would begin in October 2021 at Sandmill Street
- The Community Hub on Roystonhill (formerly the Rainbow Hall) was busy with a whole range of activities
- Joint working with Copperworks and Rosemont Development Trust continued with a view to creating a plan for central Roystonhill, including the Millburn Centre. A stalemate has been reached between two Council departments, with Planners saying that the iconic Millburn Centre building should be retained, at least in part, and the funders saying that the proposals are too expensive
- Some issues have still not progressed, such as, regenerating Glenconner Park and dealing with the shops and houses on Royston Road
- The challenge to the Scottish Government and Glasgow City Council policy of providing accommodation for dangerous sex offenders in our communities has been on hold during the pandemic
- The Association continued to develop its web site. A mobile app is available and the Facebook page continues to be popular with more than 900 “Followers”.

The Chairperson advised that it has been another busy year. She thanked both Management Committee members and Staff for their hard work and dedication to the Blochairn community.

The Chairperson invited questions. There were none.

Several Members offered thanks to staff for their work and commitment during the pandemic.

**5. Financial Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021**

The Chairperson asked the Association’s Auditors to present the statutory accounts. Kevin Booth summarised the accounts and confirmed that they provide a “true and fair view” of financial affairs as at 31 March 2021. The Association’s performance was a good, consistent one and it had finished the year with a strong financial position. The Chairperson asked whether there any questions for the Auditor. There were none.

**6. Appointment of Auditors**

The Chairperson advised that the Management Committee wished Alexander Sloan Ltd to continue as auditors. There were no objections to this proposal.

**7. Election of the Management Committee**

The Chairperson advised that the Management Committee must have at least seven members and no more than fifteen. One third of the Committee must stand down and can seek re-election at the AGM. Four members seeking re-election were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. There were four new nominations: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. This gives the Association fourteen Committee members. As there were no more than fifteen there is no need for an election. The fourteen Committee members are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

8. **Any Other Competent Business**

The Director advised that the Tenant Bonus Scheme had been on hold during the pandemic because the draw for the two £50 prizes takes place at the Management Committee meeting. The winners from the previous month collect their prize and make the draw for the current month. It had been decided that the draw for January through to September would take place at the AGM using a computerised 'random, picker'. There would be seventeen, £50 prizes and the 18<sup>th</sup> draw would win a special prize of £100. The winners were:

January	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
February	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
March	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
April	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
May	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
June	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
July	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
August	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
September	[REDACTED]	£50
September	[REDACTED]	£100

Chairperson advised that she had no other business to report and she brought the formal business of the AGM to a close.

**END**