

Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organization (SCIO) SC045955, www.fombl.org.uk



Annual General Meeting

Venue: German Church, 1 Chalmers Crescent, Marchmont.

Date: Friday 26 September 2025. Time: 6pm-8.30pm.

Minutes

Trustees Attending:

Attending: Iain Black, Joan Carter, Jim Orr (chair), Alison Service, Bridget Stevens, Neill Walker (minutes).

Non-Trustee Members Attending:

Margot Alexander, Alistair Cant, Graeme Cruickshank, Katherine Dickie, Keith Gifford, Martin Howorth, Gordon and June Macleod, Philip McDowell, Alastair Philp, JE Robertson.

Total Member attendance: 17

Hence the meeting was quorate.

Trustee Apologies:

Maureen Parnell, Neil Roger.

Non-Trustee Member Apologies:

Dr Tim Duffy, Tom and Alison Ross, Graham Russell.

1. Welcome and introduction from the Convener. Record apologies.

Recorded that Alec Mann and Heather Goodare had passed away.

Thanks were recorded for everyone's contribution throughout the year.

2. Review and approval of the minutes of the 2024 AGM.

Proposer Margot Alexander and Seconder Iain Black.

The 2024 FoMBL AGM minutes were approved.

3. Presentation of DRAFT 2025 Annual Report and Financial Accounts for discussion. Unfortunately, the final version is unlikely to be ready in time for the AGM.

The Convener and Treasurer and all the other post-holders are expected to be available to answer questions and may also wish to comment on their activities during the past year and their future plans.

Awards: The awards to Neil Roger and Alison Carr from Ian Murray MP were noted.

New Meadows Toilet Block: After much effort, it was noted that these had now been delivered.

Table Tennis Table: An application for a new table tennis table has been submitted after the previous submission was unsuccessful.

David Kyles - City of Edinburgh Council - Interim Parks and Greenspace Officer (Southeast): It was noted that there has been lots of help from David Kyles throughout the year.

FoMBL Talks: The recent talks by Prof David Purdie and by Eric Melvin were particularly appreciated.

Finances: The Convener noted the restricted funds would be updated from the draft accounts.

Meadows and Links. We were reminded that there are two parks which reflect different histories and topography.

Stripe Charges: A membership tool that has a small fee.

Thanks to Jimmy Robertson for the work he has done over the years on the Bruntsfield Links Golf Course.

Proposer Jim Orr and Seconder Bridget Stevens.

The 2025 FoMBL Annual Report and Financial Accounts were approved.

4. Consideration of paper on Proposed Constitutional Amendments. Constitution is here: <https://www.fombl.org.uk/FoMBLConstitution.pdf>

Alistair Cant spoke to this and also amended the motion verbally such that in Clause 13, the word 'sign' be replaced with the word 'make'.

Proposer Alistair Cant and Seconder Neill Walker

No objections and the motion was passed.

Action: The FoMBL Constitution is to be updated as per the amendment by FoMBL Trustees.

Action: For the next FoMBL Trustee meeting: Discuss amending the FoMBL Constitution to include online meetings.

5. Election of trustees.

FOMBL members who wish to become trustees are welcome to put themselves forward. This can be done on the night or by emailing convener@fombl.org.uk.

Alistair Cant chaired this part.

It was clarified that Community Council people are FoMBL Trustees as individuals.

All of the existing FoMBL Trustees were re-elected.

Proposer: Alistair Cant and Seconder: Martin Howarth.

This was approved.

6. AOB. Any other relevant business which members wish to bring to the attention of the fellow members at the AGM.

Thanks to Jim Orr for chairing.

No other business.

7. Illustrated talk.

We are delighted that the multi-talented historian and illustrator Andy Arthur has agreed to give the following illustrated talk "A brief history of two Meadows landmarks; the Jawbone Arch and Middle Meadow Walk". Members who are not familiar with Andy's work might like to dip into his website threadinburgh.scot/about/.

Andy Arthur gave an informative and insightful illustrated talk on the Jawbone Arch and Middle Meadow Walk.