



**Draft minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Ulster Wildlife Trust Limited
22 September 2018, Clondeboye Estate**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ken Brundle, Chair of Ulster Wildlife, welcomed guests, members, staff and volunteers, to the meeting in this our 40th Anniversary year. A warm welcome was extended to Pat Ramsay and Kathryn McClelland as well as to members of the Ballynahinch Branch of Ulster Wildlife. Guest speaker, Colin Stafford-Johnston, was also welcomed. Mr Brundle extended thanks to Lady Dufferin and all staff within the estate for the use of venue for the day.

Chairman's Business including apologies

Apologies had been received in advance from a number of members (listed below) including Trustees, Bob Brown, David Hendron, Jim McAdam, Ben Matson, Doris Noe, Howard Platt and Ed Wright.

Following his passing, Mr Brundle paid tribute to Roy Ramsay, a remarkable Chair with high integrity who would be sadly missed. Mr Brundle advised the work of Ulster Wildlife was continuing despite a lack of government and clarity regarding Brexit, with Ulster Wildlife being a strong advocate for the Environment. Membership has continued to grow with a Fund for the Future being established in the next year which will strengthen the work of the organisation. This fund will be supported through legacies and donations from members. Mr Brundle concluded by paying thanks to the Trustees, including Joe Furphy – Honorary President, staff, volunteers.

2. Minutes of the annual general meeting held on 22 November 2017

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the AGM held on 22 November 2017.

Proposal: To ratify the minutes of the annual general meeting held on 22 November 2017

Proposed: Joe Furphy

Seconded: Edith Finlay

Carried unanimously.

Minutes were signed.

3. Annual Accounts for the year ending March 2018

Rosalind McSparron (Corporate Services Manager) presented the accounts for 2017/18 and confirmed that they had been audited and certified as accurate by DNT Chartered Accountants. She reported that income and expenditure were split into unrestricted and restricted funds. With restricted funds being used for specific projects and the majority of these funds being received via conservation grants. The total income for the year was almost £2.3 million, an increase from the previous year. An increase from donations and legacies played a large role as well as landfill grants and other grants received. A modest surplus of £66k was present at the year end to help fund working capital. Of the unrestricted income, the largest component of this (58%) came from membership subscriptions and gift aid.

Mrs McSparron invited Mike Nangle, from DNT Chartered Accountants (independent auditors for Ulster Wildlife), to comment the findings of the external audit. Mr Nangle stated the role of the external auditor was to examine the financial figures, including liquidity, financial systems and governance procedures of the organisation, ensuring funds were well managed and that there were no areas of concern. He confirmed that he was happy to

sign off the accounts as a true record. Mr Nagle concluded by thanking staff members for their assistance during the audit.

Proposal: To ratify the audited accounts for the 2017/2018 financial year

Proposed: Lorraine McCourt

Seconded: John Lyons

Carried unanimously.

The accounts were duly signed.

5. Appointment of Auditor

Proposal: To appoint DNT as auditors for the Company for the period 2018/19

Proposed: Craig McGuicken

Seconded: Shirley Dunlop

Carried unanimously

6. Trustees' Report for 2017/18

Jennifer Fulton, Chief Executive of Ulster Wildlife, began by thanking members, partners, Ulster Wildlife staff and all the volunteers who assisted with many projects throughout the year. Mrs Fulton also paid tribute to Council members who act on a voluntarily basis bringing a wide skill set to the organisation.

A film presentation followed illustrating the annual highlights for 2017-2018 under the Charity's 5 strategic goals:-

Goal 1 - Inspire people to champion wildlife and value nature

Goal 2 – Protect and restore habitats and ecosystems through practical action and research

Goal 3 – Standing up for Nature – Influencing Government policy

Goal 4 – Promoting health and wellbeing through enjoyment of the natural world

Goal 5 – Grow our success and extend our reach

The film concluded by thanking all corporate sponsors and funders.

The annual highlight film can be viewed at https://youtu.be/e_tPCD4BZuM

Following the film presentation Jennifer Fulton highlighted a number of plans for the future for example, introduction of a second Environmental Farming Scheme Planner, and commencement of the Sea Deep Project

The full Trustee's report for 2017/18 can be found at

https://www.ulsterwildlife.org/sites/default/files/files/Ulster%20Wildlife%20-%20Annual%20Report%202017_18%20-%20Final.pdf

Proposal: To ratify the Trustees' Report on the Company's activities for 2017/18

Proposed: Ed Wright

Seconded: Michael Meharg

Carried unanimously.

7. Retirement of Trustees

Retiring having completed term of office: Bob Brown

Ken Brundle thanked Bob for his support within Council and wished him well in his retirement.

Proposal: To accept the retirement of members of the Board of Trustee: Bob Brown

Proposed: Lorraine McCourt

Seconded: Michael Meharg

Carried unanimously

Retiring and available for re-election: Howard Platt, Craig McGuicken and Edward Wright.

Proposal: To accept retirement of Trustees retiring by rotation and their re-election: Howard Platt, Craig McGuicken and Edward Wright.

Proposed: Edith Finlay

Seconded: Jean Curran

Carried unanimously

8. Election of Trustees

Co-opted to Council during the 2017-2018 – Stephen Aston, John Witchell and David Hendron.

Nomination received, in accordance with Articles of Association, from – Charlie Warmington

Proposal: To elect persons as Charity Trustees to fill the vacancies arising: Stephen Aston, John Witchell, David Hendron and Charlie Warmington

Proposed: Fiona McVicker

Seconded: Lorraine McCourt

Carried unanimously

Mr Brundle welcomed the new Trustees to Ulster Wildlife Council.

9. Members' Business

None raised.

10. Closing Remarks

Ken Brundle thanked those present for attending the AGM and handed over to Joe Furphy, President, to introduce Colin Stafford-Johnson, award winning cameraman and presenter.

AGM concluded at 12.00pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

IN ATTENDANCE			APOLOGIES	
<u>Council members</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Guests/Staff</u>	<u>Council</u>	<u>Members</u>
Ken Brundle - Chair	Christopher Allen	Vickie Chambers	Bob Brown	Christine Baker
Gillian Allen	Philip Allen	Nuala Connolley	Howard Platt	M. Bingham
Steve Aston	James Allister	Susan Craig	David Hendron	Stephen Dunbar
Edith Finlay	Duggie Anderson	Conor Bush	Doris Noe	David Elliott
Craig McGuicken	Lavinia Armstrong	Jennifer Fulton	Jim McAdam	Trish Fox
Fiona McVicker	Jo Aston	Niamh Hart	Ben Matson	Wilson Johnston
Lorraine McCourt	Lesley Barker	Rebecca Hunter		Susan Jones
Ed Wright	Margery Barrett	Helen Irvine		David Lewis
John Witchell	Kenneth Barrett	Alexey Janes		Jim Lowry
	Carol Bennett	Pat Lundy		Sinead Mulvaney
	Harold Bennett	Cecillia McCormick		Barbara Montgomery
	Ray Bennett	Noel McKernan		Geraldine McAdam
	Andrew Bingham	Rosalind McSparron		Gillian McKillop
	Maeve Bogie	Dawn Miskelly		Peter O'Halloran
	Margaret Brundle	Kelly Muldoon		David Smyth
	Chris Buckland	Mike Nagel		Hazel Smyth
	Veronica Buckland	Julie Parkinson		Caroline Somerville
	Maureen Carvill	Sylvia Rea		
	Patricia Chambers	Sir Bob Salisbury	<u>Corporate Members</u>	
	Susan Clements	Colin Stafford - Johnson	Alastair Usher, NIE Networks	
	Joan Crosgrove	Kate Thompson	David Jamison, All State NI	
	Peter Crossett	Ciaran Walsh	Connaire McGreevy, CTS Projects	
	Jean Curran	Jess Webb		
	Angela Davison			
	Brian Davison			
	Alan Dawson			
	Rosemary Dawson			
	Georgina Devine			
	Shirley Dunlop			
	Vanessa Ehrhardt			
	David Elliott			
	Joe Furphy (President)			
	Paul Gick			
	Margaret Gick			
	Carol Gillespie			
	Stuart Gray			
	Julia Grier			
	Mervyn Guthrie			
	Suzanne Guthrie			
	Paul Haffenden			
	Patricia Haffenden			
	Laine Hamill			
	Dr Anne Hardcastle			
	Jean Henderson			
	Ernest Hunter			
	Ruth Hunter			
	Barbara Irvine			
	Robert Irvine			
	Elizabeth Jess			
	Justin Judge			
	Vincent Kane			

IN ATTENDANCE

Cont'd

Members

Jennifer Knox
Ronald Knox
Paul Larmor
Jill Lindsay
Nicky Lowry
Rosemary Lyons
John Lyons
Eileen Mahoney
Evin Mahoney
Bernadette Martin
Oliver Martin
Helen McAlister
Rosie McAuley
Hugh McBride
Lorraine McBride
Kathryn McClelland
Gerard McGeehan
Desmond McGuicken
Breda McKenna
John McKinley
Wendy McKinley
Stephen McMullan
Yvonne McMullan
Ronald McMurray
Andrew McNeill
Cordeila McNeill
Ruth McVicker
Michael Meharg
Nick Millar
Trevor Mills
Sharon Morrow
Yvonne Murray
Maria Noble
Regina O'Callaghan
Shirley O'Hara
Euan O'Neill
Pamela O'Neill
Kyla O'Neill
Kenneth Orr
Maureen Pimley
Gala Podgornik
Patricia Ramsay
Jackie Ritchie
Frankie Ritchie
Denise Russell
George Russell
Alison Sandford
David Sandford
Vivek Sarawgi
Geraldine Seymour
Brian Shortt
Jean Shortt
Majella Smart

IN ATTENDANCE Cont'd	Members Linda Thompson Pamela Todd Peter Trimble Sharon Trimble Steven Warnock Winifred Wilson	
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