

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
UPPER ESKDALE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
Sunday 6TH December 2015 at 3pm**

Present: Jock Miller, Brian Patterson, James and Sandra Cook, Julie McCloud, Adrian Solomon, May Reid, David Moffat, Lauren King, Angelo van Hoppe, Ros King, Steve Kent, Andrew Gordon, Nancy Chinnery, Ernie Buck, Sue Company, Steve Scofield, Sally Barrett, Peter McCreadie, Bernard Provost Sharon Tolson, Lyn Gibson. John Gardner, Cameron Skillen. Nick Jenkins, Nyk Zitara, Victoria Long

Apologies: Jennie Mills, Nick Jennings, Becky Palosi.

Absent: Scott McCarthy and Lodro Dorje.

The Chair.

Jock thanked everyone for coming. He mentioned all the names of the members of the board and the staff. He mentioned some of the volunteers and thanked them for their input.

We have 5 ordinary directors and two co-opted directors with Lodro Dorje as an advisor.

It has been quite a challenging year moving from construction to management. We now have a 7 day a week open Hub and have tried starting a shop, but this has not happened yet, though it probably will in the future. We are looking into taking on the Heritage /Prehistoric Trail.

There will shortly be a change: Nick is retiring from the management of the Hub at the end of January. He will continue working for the UEDG to progress the Windfarm project and the Affordable Housing.

Annual Accounts to end of 2014. These have been signed off by the Chair and are available to all.

Resignation and Re-election of Directors: Both Jock Miller and Victoria Long stood down and were re-elected by a majority vote (18). Jock was nominated by Nancy Chinnery and seconded by Ernie Buck. Victoria was nominated by Ernie and seconded by Nick Jenkins.

Fixing of the annual subscription:

It had been proposed that the subscription be made £1 only, since it was extremely difficult to administer. However, the members present decided that it be raised to £5 annually. A vote was taken on the matter and the majority (18) agreed.

Appointment of Auditor: It had been decided that we will be continuing with Dodd & Co. for the time being.

All Other Business

Increasing Membership: Steve Scofield asked how we could encourage membership. ? have a Loyalty card, or discounts. **This matter will be looked into by the board.**

Lynn Gibson suggested that there be different prices for locals and visitors.

Flood Plan: The Chair suggested that we put together a flood plan for people in the area in danger of flooding. Storing sandbags was suggested. Langholm's plans are an example. ?

Sharon described her job as Administrator: that it is challenging but that she is working hard to make the Hub a success.

The Shop: James Cooke suggested stocking non-perishables such as light bulbs and other everyday bits and pieces.

May Reid said she had put her name forward as a volunteer to help set it up and do some work with it. Apparently many people have wanted to sell their vegetables and eggs.

Nick Jenkins: the shop could be a job: hire the space out and they get the profits.

Sally Bartlett: could we use the balance from the salary's for setting up the shop and then let it run with volunteers.

Fan: The adaptation will happen within the next couple of weeks. **Brian will send a link about alternative ways of sorting out the situation.**

Communication: poor communication arose as an issue. Bernard: we are aware that we need to communicate better. **The board are working to improve on this.**

Project Development Manager, Nick Jennings: Jock pointed out that we should be aware of all the work done by Nick Jennings over the last 10 yrs (since 2006). He has only been paid since 2011. Jock explained the salaries.

Financial Information: Sue suggested having up to date financial information for the AGM. It was generally felt that this would be useful. This would help keep members informed of the situation and could motivate them to help. A simple profit and loss for each month of the year might be all that is needed.

The Meeting was closed.