



PERTH  
CIVIC TRUST

*Promoting the built heritage of Perth since 1967*

[www.perthcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.perthcivictrust.org.uk)

Minute of AGM held on Saturday 12th October 2024 at The Soutar Theatre, A K Bell Library.

## **Welcome**

Chairman, Willie Wilson welcomed an exclusive group of attendees and provided a brief overview of activities since the last AGM in 2023. More later.

## **Apologies**

Apologies were received from K. Morrison.

## **Previous Minutes**

The minute of the 2023 AGM had been circulated with the Agenda for this meeting. The Minute was accepted as a true record of the meeting.

## **Chairman's Report**

Willie referred to the Forward Plan which had also been circulated previously. This is a work in progress and stresses the need for co-operation between the many interest group and Trusts who share similar heritage interests. Following an initial focus for the previous year to improve communication and set up regular contact with members and issuing a regular newsletter with local issues and information links to other partners using members email addresses for easy, cost free communication. This past year had looked to develop activities and talks to raise interest, understanding and participation.

The project assisting PSNS and the Historic Towns Trust (HTT) in developing a Heritage Map of Perth saw this being launched in May 2024 and it has proved very popular with healthy sales. The Project Group are now looking to develop an Atlas to build upon the information collected for the mapping exercise.

The project to develop a scheme of Blue Plaques to record the presence and location of important people and events in Perth has progressed slowly with little encouragement from the Planners. A listed building application was submitted for a plaque at first floor level at 62 Princes Street, where photographer Magnus Jackson had his Studio. However, the proposed plaque location, size and proposed fixing method did not find favour with the Planners. An alternative lower location was suggested which is still being discussed. As this location is at 60 Princes Street and in different ownership, the Listed Building Application was withdrawn. Owners permission has now been gained, in principle, and a new Listed Building Application will need to be submitted. The initial application raised considerable interest in Magnus Jackson and led to two double page articles in the Perthshire Advertiser.

A well attended Photographic Memories evening was held on 5th June at Willows, where Members and others were invited to bring along favourite photographs of Perth. Committee Members Roben Antoniewicz and Mike Bell had prepared a photographic presentation with many

“then and now” photographs taken from the same viewpoint. The evening was very informal and well received. Feedback suggested a few possible improvements which we will look to incorporate in a future Photographic Memories evening with a slightly different focus next year. The Perthshire Advertiser featured another double page spread after the event and Mike Bell organised an exhibition along with staff in the A K Bell Library displaying some of the “then and now” photographs.

The Perthshire Advertiser also helped promote a talk on “The Development of Public Transport in Perth” on 21st August by local expert Alan Condie, which was well attended.

Future talks in preparation include “The Development of Railways in Perthshire” and “The Development of Churches in Perth”

### **Financial Report**

Copies of the Accounts approved by Morris & Young were issued to attendees. After review, the Accounts were accepted.

### **Officer Appointments.**

The Chairman was appointed for three years in 2022. The current Constitution states that the Chairman is not eligible for re-appointment. This seems to be an anomaly when the Constitution allows Executive Committee members to be appointed for three years and they are then eligible for re-appointment for a further 3 years. The Chairman is surely a member of the Executive Committee?

David MacLehose noted that when the Constitution was last amended this term was included to ensure “regular new blood”.

While this may have been applicable at the time, both Margaret Grant and Iain MacPherson noted that most Charity organisations were now struggling to get officials and it surely made sense to at least have the ability to maintain the status quo for a longer period, if both the individual and members were so minded to re-appoint.

The Secretary proposed the amendment and it was seconded by Iain MacPherson.

The Constitution requires that both the Treasurer and Secretary are re-appointed annually, which also seems a bit of an anomaly. After 20 years staunch service our current Treasurer is standing down. Sue Hendry was thanked by the Chairman and Members for her outstanding contribution to the Trust. This leaves a vacancy which will be difficult to fill. The Secretary noted willingness to continue and was duly re-appointed.

### **Committee Appointments**

The Committee currently comprises nine members including the Officers. The Chairman invited nominations to appoint additional members. No nominations were received.

### **AOCB**

No items were raised.

### **Perth’s Listed Buildings, How many are you aware of?**

Committee members Roben Antoniewicz, Mike Bell and Ian Cameron had prepared a slide presentation on Perth’s many Listed Buildings which are largely un-celebrated and unknown to many, both locals and visitors.

In addition to the number of buildings, the presentation covered - Who decides on listing buildings? How many categories are there? What do they look like? Where are they? How do you find out about them? Examples of different Listed Buildings categories. Does Listing

safeguard buildings? Buildings at risk, most of which are Listed. Have Listed Buildings been lost? Can Listed Buildings be re-purposed?

### **Questions?**

Iain MacPherson asked if other Countries had similar “Listed Building” schemes and did they have more explicit identifiers? Research required for later response.

### **Close**

Willie thanked the speaker and collaborators for their informative presentation and wished those attending a safe onward journey.

Ian Cameron, Secretary.

16 October 2024