

At the inaugural AGM of **LEISURE AND CULTURE DUNDEE** held at Dundee on 3rd October, 2012.

Present:-

MEMBERS

Dundee City Council (David Dorward - authorised representative)

Dundee City Council Nominees Ltd (Stewart Murdoch } Directors)
(Marjory Stewart }

BOARD

Alice BOVILL
Sandy CAMERON
Bob DUNCAN
Brian GORDON
Stewart HUNTER
Iain LUKE
Richard McCREADY
Stewart MURDOCH
Gary ROBERTSON
Marjory STEWART

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Judy DOBBIE, Head of Library and Information Services
Billy GARTLEY, Head of Cultural Services
Graham WARK, Head of Leisure and Sport

In addition, members of the extended management team, finance section and representatives from Dundee City Council were in attendance.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Sinclair AITKEN, Val DINSMORE, Alan RAE and Caroline FINDLAY.

Bob DUNCAN, Chairperson, Leisure and Culture Dundee, in the Chair.

I CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chair welcomed the Members, Trustees and all others present to the inaugural AGM of Leisure and Culture Dundee.

He paid tribute to all those involved in the organisation for their commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism, all of which had contributed to the successful establishment, and ongoing operation, of one of the first major Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO).

Thereafter the Managing Director highlighted achievements in the core performance areas of Library and Information Services, Cultural Services and Leisure and Sport Services and acknowledged the valued support provided by partner agencies and the community towards delivery of high quality leisure and cultural services in the city. Particular reference was made to the partnership with Dundee City Council which was funding improvements to existing facilities and investing in the flagship developments of the replacement Olympia Swim and Leisure Centre and the Dick McTaggart Regional Gymnastic Centre, both of which would be exciting additions to the Trust's portfolio of facilities in the forthcoming year.

In conclusion, he reaffirmed the Board's commitment to provision of affordable, accessible services and looked forward to a successful second year of operations.

II APPROVAL OF THE AUDITED 2011/2012 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TOGETHER WITH THE REPORTS OF THE TRUSTEES AND OF THE AUDITOR'S THEREON

The accounts of the Trust for the period 29th June, 2011 to 31st March, 2012 and the reports of the Trustees and Auditors had been circulated.

Having heard that the Board of Trustees, at its meeting of 3rd October, 2012 held prior to the AGM, had approved the accounts and reports the Members agreed to adopt the Audited 2011/2012 Statement of Accounts together with the Reports of the Trustees and the Auditors thereon.

III LETTER OF REPRESENTATION TO THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS

The Members noted that the Board of Trustees, at its meeting of 3rd October, 2012 held prior to the AGM had approved the Letter of Representation to the External Auditors and remitted the signing thereof to the Chairperson.

IV REAPPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

It was proposed, and agreed, that Henderson Loggie, Chartered Accountants, be reappointed as auditors to the SCIO.

V RETIRAL/REAPPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

It was reported that, in terms of Clause 65 of the constitution, two out of the seven independent charity trustees appointed by Dundee City Council should retire from office at the conclusion of each AGM but might then be reappointed under Clause 59.

It was therefore reported that, in terms of Clause 66 of the constitution, it had been determined that Sandy Cameron and Sinclair Aitken should retire from office at the conclusion of the AGM.

It was further reported that Dundee City Council, at its meeting held on 20th August, 2012 agreed to reappoint Sandy Cameron and Sinclair Aitken as independent charity trustees, both of whom were therefore deemed to have held continuous office as charity trustees.

VI MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORTS

(a) LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Judy Dobbie reported the libraries were doing well with 658,000 borrowings, 10,000 new members, 18,000 computer users and 4,000 activities during 2011/2012. Highlights included the Live Archive project funded by the Scottish Government Public Library Improvement Fund and a £10,000 grant towards the Hard to Reach project. On the downside some funding bids had been rejected due to funders unfamiliarity with the status of SCIO's; it was hoped education relative to the independent nature of the organisation would address this issue and funding bids for future projects were in development.

The main challenge identified for the year ahead related to the introduction of Universal Credit and the demands this would place on resources and frontline staff to deal with the expected upsurge in demand for computer access and assistance.

(b) LEISURE AND SPORTS SERVICE

Graham Wark reported that the first year of operations had been extremely positive. Olympia, in its final trading year, had exceeded expectations and there had been strong performances from sports development. The golf courses had been well utilised and Camperdown Wildlife Centre had experienced phenomenal visitor numbers in the 12 months following completion of the new Visitor Centre.

Highlights for the coming year included the new Olympia and the Dick McTaggart Regional Gymnastic Centre whereas ongoing challenges centred around maximisation of community involvement in healthy sporting activities.

(c) **CULTURAL SERVICES**

Billy Gartley reported that, as in the other service areas, the new organisation had represented a significant cultural change for staff who had successfully adapted to the challenges presented. Visitor numbers at the McManus had been 40% above target, the Caird Hall had experienced a 9% uplift in custom and numbers visiting other facilities remained steady. Partnership working had attracted major exhibitions to The McManus with the Cadell, da Vinci and V & A fashion photography events, all of which had been well received. Improvements to the Caird Hall were under discussion and plans for the development of the venue as a major conference centre were also being investigated.

Challenges for the future included continued free access to The McManus, guardianship of the historic buildings occupied by the SCIO, development of sponsorship opportunities, a future use strategy for Camperdown House and review of the support arrangements with the Whitehall Theatre Trust.

VII CLOSE

David Dorward, Chief Executive, Dundee City Council congratulated Trustees on the first year's results. He acknowledge their voluntary contribution and the robust partnership between the City Council and leisure & Culture Dundee.

The Chair then thanked the Management Team for their input and brought proceedings to a close.

Bob DUNCAN, Chairperson.