

# SIGMA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Friday 5<sup>TH</sup> June 2015

Venue: Birnie Village Hall

Time: 19:55pm Start.

Item	Subject	
1	Welcome	The Chairman welcomed members and advised that we had a quorum (20% of fully paid members, 61 voting = 12.2 members). While only 3 proxy votes had been received, the high turnout of members to the AGM more than compensated though the enticement of Donna, Dave and John's BBQ fare was possibly a factor in this.
	Present	<p><b>Present were:</b> 38 Voting members, 3 Proxy Voting members, 3 children.</p> <p>Adele Addicoat, Justin Addicoat, Stan Barber, Richard Mitchell, Susan Bedford, Malcolm Bradley, Stuart Brooks , Joyce Park, Andrew Reddy, Frances Reddy, Michael Reid , Anna Roberts, Pamela Dale, Tim Schroder, Pete Sherman, Hazel Sherman , Douglas Shewry, Mark Shewry, Duncan Gray, Robin Frankton, Jean Stocks, John Straiton, Penny Straiton, Celia Hawco, Kay Stuart, Carrie Hellyer, Richie Summers, Alan Tough, Bill Leslie, John Valentine, Angela Walker, Nicholas Walker , Derek Watson, George Miller, Helen Williamson, Donna Williamson, John Williamson, Ann Holmes, Ken Holmes, Anne Mitchell.</p>
2	Apologies	<b>Apologies:</b> Stewart Argo, Chris Stradling, James Bow (all of whom had provided proxy voting forms), George Morris, and Stephen Nasrat.
3	Minutes of Previous	<p>Minutes of Previous AGM 6<sup>th</sup> June 2014.</p> <p><b>Background;</b> Minutes were posted to the website immediately following last year's AGM and have therefore been available to view for a year.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> There was no discussion – everyone seemed happy with the minutes as presented, thus they were deemed to be an accurate record of the meeting.</p>
4	Matters Arising	There were no matters arising from the previous AGM
5	Chairman's Report	<b>Report:</b> This has been another busy year and my fifth year as Chairman. They say time flies when you're enjoying yourself..... Our financial year runs from 1st January to 31st December but my report covers from last AGM in June 2014 to this AGM and I'll explain further as to what we've been up to.

		<p>Activities Events:</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> July – SOAKE at Birnie.  9<sup>th</sup> January SIGMA SG Live 2015 at Lhanbryde – now considered an annual event to look forward to by some attendees.  14<sup>th</sup> March – Moray Science Festival – helping to do our part to promote the sciences in Moray and beyond where needed.</p> <p>Outreach with schools has been quiet this year, compared to previous, with fewer enquiries and no formal events. Given the few members who can conduct these activities the respite is perhaps welcome. If anyone wishes to join in then they should just let me know as no particular skills are required and they are very rewarding.</p> <p><u>FACEBOOK &amp; TWITTER</u></p> <p>Social media is not everyone’s cup of tea, and it has its drawbacks such as unwelcome and undesirable posts or comments. However, it has allowed us to reach out to a wider audience as evidenced by a number of our posts. Thanks again to Bill Leslie and Pete Sherman who have been the main contributors.</p>
	Chairman’s Report Cont’d	<p><b>Membership &amp; Financial</b>  Both will be covered in detail later but membership is healthy though we could always do with more, members and subscriptions! Members can help by bringing along any interested friends as we operate a ‘try before you buy’ policy with the first meeting free. Financially, as at 31st December 2014 the Club was healthy and sustainable.</p> <p><b>Record of Thanks</b>  I should like to place on record again my thanks to a number of people for their hard work and unwavering support over another year. It’s dangerous to mention names as the chance of missing someone out is always pretty much guaranteed. If I have missed anyone then you have my humble apologies.</p> <p>First of course are you the members who faithfully turn up at meetings. Meetings have been well attended throughout the year, and a number of speakers commented that the Club was active and vibrant. The Committee comprising up to this AGM Stewart Argo, Stuart Brooks, George Miller, and Chris Stradling have continued to do sterling work. I again call for new blood if only to rest some members. It may seem obvious but the Committee does a huge amount of running around and organising from Committee meetings, to Bothy openings, to public events and SIGMA would cease without this tireless effort. I’d also like to thank our Presidents Bill Leslie and Tim Schroder who have continued to represent the Club and provide advice and support, including many committee meetings, since they were elected. I’d also like to thank the members who have helped at events. A special thanks goes to Donna, Dave and John Williamson who provided refreshments at meetings and events, particularly at last year’s very successful SOAKE. Thanks too to those</p>

		<p>who continue to provide help advice and images, Bill, Time, Pete &amp; Alan in particular. I have one huge apology to make to Pete Sherman. Pete's been involved in SIGMA committee duties for many years and he has taken a well deserved and needed rest/sabbatical. We have previously given a small gift to departing SIGMA committee members and I have been remiss in not sorting something for Pete. Pete I haven't forgotten and I do apologise. I know you don't want any recognition but you deserve it and I will sort it out.</p> <p>Finally SIGMA provides an exceptional vehicle to promote astronomy and science to a wide audience and none of this would be possible without the presidents', committee's and members' support.</p>
6	Membership Secretary's Report	<p><b>Report:</b> Membership has increased a little from 2014 though this is against a backdrop of a greater number than normal not renewing in 2015. The Chairman did write to all those who hadn't renewed, with a number explaining changes of circumstances or location. Membership stood at 35 Ordinary, 3 Life, 23 Concessionary and 5 Children. We had many followers on Facebook and needed to press a few more to join.</p>
7	Treasurer's Report and Membership Fees for 2015	<p><b>Report:</b> As per attached 'Inspected and Checked Accounts 2014 Summary Sheet'.</p>
8	Resolution A15.1	<p><b>To accept the Minutes of AGM2014</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> John Straiton <b>Secunder:</b> Stuart Brooks</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 Against: 0 Abstain: 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
8	Resolution A15.2 To accept the Accounts for 2014.	<p><b>To accept the accounts for 2014</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Jean Stocks <b>Secunder:</b> Richard Mitchell</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 Against: 0 Abstain: 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>

8	A15.3	<p><b>To maintain membership rates for 2016 at 2014 rates</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Duncan Gray <b>Secunder:</b> Mike Reid</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
8	Resolution A15.4	<p><b>To appoint Stanford Barber as Chairman</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Helen Williamson <b>Secunder:</b> Tim Schroder</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
8	Resolution A15.5	<p><b>To appoint Anne Mitchell as Secretary</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Penny Straiton <b>Secunder:</b> Pamela Dale</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>
8	Resolution A15.6	<p><b>To appoint Stuart Brooks as Treasurer</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Bill Leslie <b>Secunder:</b> John Valentine</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0      <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>

8	Resolution A15.7	<p><b>To appoint Stewart Argo, Chris Stradling and George Miller as Committee Members</b></p> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Pete Sherman  <b>Seconder:</b> Alan Tough</p> <p><b>For:</b> 38 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0 <b>Postal/ Proxy Votes:</b> For: 3 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Totals:</b> For: 41 <b>Against:</b> 0 <b>Abstain:</b> 0</p>
9	AOB	Tim Schroder on behalf of the members thanked Stan and the Committee for their hard work.
	Close	20:23pm

A Mitchell.

Secretary

6<sup>th</sup> June 2015