

**THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR JERSEY**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD AT THE FORMER SEASIDE CAFÉ, GREVE DE LECQ**  
**on FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY at 6.00 pm**

The President, Mr Charles Malet de Carteret, took the chair. Fifty-six members of the Trust were present. No resolutions under Rule 6 (5) had been received.

The President warmly welcomed the members present to a new venue, Greve de Lecq. He expressed his excitement about the potential of the site for the Trust, and the work done so far. He also thanked everyone who had helped organise the evening's meeting.

The President concluded his opening remarks by paying tribute to the drive, energy and work of the Trust's new CEO, Alan Le Maistre, who had completed his first year in the post.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 had been circulated. A resolution for their adoption was proposed by Mr Stewart Newton, seconded by Ms Susana Rowles and carried.

#### **ADOPTION OF ANNUAL REPORT**

The Annual Report of the Council for the calendar year 2024 had been circulated.

The President referred members to his remarks within the Annual Report. He advised members that it was increasingly important for the Trust to have an informed view on the various environmental issues affecting the Island. These included the crucial importance of implementing the action points in the Marine Spatial Plan and the environmental impacts of renewable energy, both JE's ambitious plans for onshore solar energy and Jersey's wider ambitions for offshore wind. The Trust was actively considering its position in these areas. He continued that topical for Government were the issues arising from PFAS pollution in the Island, particularly in St Ouen's bay area, and that the Trust is keen to engage with Government to ensure that protection for such a sensitive environment is given proper consideration.

The President also acknowledged the controversy surrounding the Trust's recent Seabird Reserve fence application, with strong feelings on both sides of the debate between the preservation of the natural beauty of the North Coast and the need to try to protect bird species and take active steps to increase biodiversity in the area. He commented that the Trust welcomed the result of the Planning Committee's decision and would be happy to agree to the obligations which will be put on the Trust to remove the fence if it does not work after an initial 15-year period, and to ring-fence funding for this to take place.

The President concluded by thanking the Trust's staff and volunteers without which none of its work could be carried out. He expressed his amazement and admiration by the team's dedication and commitment, and offered sincere thanks to each and every one of them.

Following these comments by the President, the adoption of the Annual Report for the year 2024 was proposed by Ms Robin Kelly, seconded by Mr Stewart Newton and carried.

The President then asked the CEO to deliver a presentation of the work done during 2024

#### **CEO's PRESENTATION**

The CEO began by thanking all those who were attending the AGM. He reflected on his feelings at the last AGM, being pride at have been appointed as CEO, excitement at the year ahead and a degree of fear at the prospect of presenting to the members on a year of activity when he had only been in the role for less than a month. He noted that a year had now passed, he had survived and that he was very proud to see the trust continue to go from strength to strength. He thanked the fantastic team at the Trust and also Council for their strength and positivity through this transitional year, for embracing change and for welcoming him so warmly.

Mr Le Maistre noted that during this part of the AGM the CEO would normally reflect on the work the Trust has done over the prior year. He advised however that he was going to keep it brief this time, focusing more on sharing the details of the Trust's new long-term strategy and talking a little bit more about the site at Greve de Lecq and the Trust's plans for it.

Mr Le Maistre continued by giving some highlights from last year. The visitor sites attracted almost 20,000 visitors. 4,200 people attended national Trust Events like black butter, another 1,000 people joined the Trust for a guided walk and the Trust's education programs reached almost 3,000 local children. Lindsey Noble took over the role of managing the Georgian town house and alongside her army of volunteers had done a fantastic job of hosting an exciting new events program and getting as many people to enjoy that property as possible. The Trust's Lands team worked tirelessly to clear the remaining damage from storm Ciaran which was unprecedented. They managed to clear Fern Valley, Valley des Vaux, St Peter's Valley, Mount Ube and Grantex, all the sites now being opened to the public. The Trust formed a new partnership with Jersey Finance and Trees for Life known as the Greening Jersey Trust. The aim is for finance companies to pool together funds to help restore and enhance environmental sites across the island. Mr Le Maistre said it was encouraging to see so many finance companies already signing up to this initiative and willing to support the work of the Trust and our local conservation projects. The Trust's hedge fund planted another 1,200 new whips which was much lower than prior years as focus was on maintaining the hedges that had been planted in previous years. Since the hedge fund started the Trust has now planted over 50km of hedgerow across the island. Finally the Properties team's talented craftsman delivered a complete overhaul of Courteenhall, brought the former Seaside Café at Greve de Lecq back from a state of total disrepair and started a major renovation works at both La Vallette and La Ronde Porte.

Mr Le Maistre concluded that a thorough review of the year could be found in the printed annual reports, which had been distributed to all those present.

#### **ADOPTION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS**

The President introduced Claire du Heaume, the Trust's Honorary Treasurer. He welcomed Claire, who joined the Trust as Treasurer last year and had been kept busy working with Angela Sheehan, the Trust's Finance Officer, to get up to speed with its activities and to prepare the Annual Report. The President advised that Angela has recently decided to move on and On behalf of Council I should like to express my sincere gratitude for all of her hard work over the years. The President then handed over to the Treasurer to present her report.

Ms Du Heume explained that when preparing and considering the accounts she had concentrated on three key questions –

- whether strong controls were in place? Yes, she was comfortable that the controls in place were adequate to safeguard the Trust’s assets, and the auditors had reported separately to Council that the controls were appropriate for the size of the organisation.
- whether the accounts were accurate? The audit report indicated that the accounts showed a true & fair view with the exception of the valuation of the Trust’s investment Properties, however it was noted that the cost and resources required to calculate this outweighed any benefit.
- whether they communicate the story of the organisation? Yes. The Treasurer noted in this regard the role of the new website as shopwindow for the Trust, the costs of which had been capitalised.

The Treasurer concluded that the Trust had adequate cash and was financially sustainable. She thanked the Finance Officer for their support, and also the audit team for completing a thorough audit swiftly and professionally, meeting key deadlines at what was for them a busy time of the year.

The audited accounts for 2024 had been circulated and the Treasurer recommended that these be adopted. This was proposed by Stewart Newton, seconded by Celia Jeune and carried.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

The President added his thanks to the Trust’s auditors, RSM Channel Islands (Audit) Ltd for their timely and efficient audit. He advised the meeting that the Trust’s auditors were prepared to continue in office. Mr Stewart Newton proposed and Mr John Pinel seconded that RSM be re-appointed as the Trust’s auditors and this resolution was carried.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The President informed the meeting that two members of Council had stepped down as Council Members during the year – Fiona Cassels-Brown, who had served on Council since 2020, and Ms Maggie Morgan-Clist, who was appointed in 2023. He thanked them for their input and valuable contribution, which would be missed.

The President continued that three nominations for Council membership had been submitted to the Secretary, these being –

- James Le Feuvre: proposer Antony Gibb, seconder Susana Rowles;
- Karen Peers-Smith: proposer James Linder, seconder Alec Le Sueur; and
- Colin Pill: proposer Judith Queree, seconder Maurice Dubras.

The President drew members attention to the information on the nominees which had been circulated to those present.

In addition, confirmation was being sought of the appointment of Claire de Heume, who had joined Council in the role of Treasurer in October 2024. This was proposed by Sue Le Gallais and seconded by Christopher Harris.

By show of hands, each of the four nominees was elected unanimously, with no votes against. The President welcomed the four members to Council,

#### **PLANS FOR 2025**

The CEO’s presentation began with a showing of a short film about the new Strategy which was being launched by the Trust that evening

The CEO and Mr Linder briefed those present with an overview of the Strategy, copies of which had been provided on arrival. He concluded that the new strategy was a beacon of collective resolve to make a positive impact on the future of Jersey, and invited all members, supporters and the wider community to join and support the Trust, working together to achieve common goals

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Secretary confirmed that no matters of any other business had been received in accordance with Rule 6(5).

The President concluded there was no other business to discuss

#### **CONCLUSION**

There being no other business, the President thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting formally closed.

Signed.....

Date