



Sukkat Shalom – Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 23rd February 2025

Present

Jen Andreacchi, Sue Bard, Jonathan Broadie, Marjory Broadie, Helen Ford, Stewart Green, Annie Gutteridge, Samara Leibner, Daniel Naftalin (treasurer), Maurice Naftalin, Charles Raab, Gillian Raab, Nick Silk (chair), Han Smith, Andrea Torres-Trapero

Minuted by Rob Westwood

1. Apologies for Absence

Rebekah Gronowski, Isobel King, Barrie Levine, Tomer de Maria Nachman-Ribar, Rolando Trapero, Miriam Vickers, Phil Wiltshire

2. Approval of the minutes of the last AGM of 3 rd March 2024

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were accepted as a true record. Proposed by GR, seconded by JB, voted on unanimously.

3. Co-chairs' report (Sue Bard, Maurice Naftalin, Nick Silk)

SB presented the co-Chairs report and highlighted the satisfactory completion of the most recent phase of succession planning. Nobody is standing down from Council and there is a full complement of members for the year ahead.

There were no questions on the report. NS thanked the three co-Chairs for their ongoing work.

The co-Chairs report was accepted by a unanimous vote. Proposed by SG, seconded by AT-T.

4. Treasurer's report and approval of accounts (Daniel Naftalin)

DN presented and summarised the Treasurer's Report, highlighting that Gift Aid does not yet appear in the accounts and that the big expenditure of the year is the Administrator Role. DN said he intends to go back to a spreadsheets-based system of managing finances rather than using Infoodle and Xero because of uncertainties and complexities with those software packages.

GR thanked DN for his efforts over his first year as Treasurer.

AT-T asked that the accounts, once audited, go online. NS confirmed this is a legal requirement.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously. Proposed by CR, seconded by AT-T.

5. Reports on other Activities

a. Religious Affairs (NS, MN)

NS summarised the report.

MN observed that we don't get much feedback about the style of the services: should be more open to feedback. CR agreed but asked how.

JA proposed we circulate a survey link in the weekly *What's On* email.

CR suggested that the Comms Group come forward with a proposal.

HS and JA are taking on the responsibilities for social media and offered to consider the issue to report back at the next Council meeting.

AT-T asked that we mention the number of active lay leaders in the report. NS said there are 6 very active leaders serving on a regular basis and another 10 or 12 who serve 2-4 times a year. NS said we can include numbers in next year's report if it feels appropriate.

b. Cheder (Gila Holliman & Mor Kandlik Eltanani)

GH and MK were not present.

c. Membership (GR)

GR reported that we have more new members, perhaps even one more since she filed the report. The figures suggest an increase of 20 new members a year, plus a spread of ages.

d. Interfaith (NS)

NS summarised the report. There were no questions or comments on the report.

e. EcoSynagogue (JS)

RW mentioned the Eco Suggestions, run monthly in *What's On* throughout 2024. GR commended the Eco suggestions.

JS was not present. There were no questions or comments on the report.

f. Adult Learning (SB)

RW reports that EJ enjoyed a roundly positive year, has seen 9 graduates, and has 26 students at the end of the year.

SB commended the Hebrew classes and the good standard of Hebrew they promote.

g. Communications (AT-T, SB, RW)

RW presented briefly on the new website, noting that it has been live for a couple of months.

AT-T has new social media data, which will be added to the official annual report at the website. Our Instagram shows a steady increase in terms of followers and engagement. HS and JA will be tending to our social media in 2025.

CR asked about no longer posting on Twitter. AT-T confirmed that the decision was taken to no longer post on Twitter; we have not done so for at least a year.

h. Social Action (SB)

SB says we sometimes feel we don't do enough, but actually we do what we can and the work we do is positive.

i. Care and Support (HS, AT-T)

HS thanked SB for help with care and support. HS hopes to integrate mental health into our services and community.

GB said that the main activity in this category is to make phone calls when people are ill. There is a challenge in finding out when someone is ill and perhaps we should expand our systems for finding when someone is ill.

All Reports on Other Activities were accepted unanimously. Proposed by HF and seconded by JA.

6. Proposed subscription levels for 2025

NS reported that Council proposes that the annual subscription remain unchanged, at £260 per adult member. There was no discussion on the proposal, and so NS formally proposed the retention of the membership fee at £260, which was seconded by HS and approved unanimously.

7. Election of Office Bearers and Council Members

Chair

Andrea Torres-Trapero was nominated for Chair.

There were no other nominations.

Proposed by SB, seconded by MN.

The meeting unanimously approved AT-T for Chair.

Treasurer

Daniel Naftalin was nominated for re-election.

There were no other nominations.

Proposed by GR, seconded by AT-T.

The meeting unanimously approved DN for Treasurer.

Secretary

Gillian Raab stated that she would be prepared to continue as Secretary. She is also looking for someone to help, which NS agreed was a good plan.

There were no other nominations.

Proposed by DN, seconded by HS.

The meeting unanimously approved GR for Secretary.

Council

The following members indicated they wished to be considered for Council. Each nomination was considered individually, and in all cases the nomination was approved unanimously. For the sake of completeness, all office bearers who are de facto on Council are included in this list:

Jen Andreacchi
Sue Bard
Jonathan Broadie
Marjory Broadie
Oliver Davidson-Richards
Helen Ford
Barrie Levine
Samara Leibner
Daniel Naftalin (treasurer)
Maurice Naftalin
Gillian Raab (secretary)
Nick Silk
Han Smith
Andrea Torres-Trapero (chair)
Phil Wiltshire

8. Any Other Business

8a. Andrea Torres-Trapero

AT-T thanked the outgoing co-Chairs and presented them with framed certificates.

Burials Report

GR said that we normally include a Burials Report in the Annual Report and that there was one burial this year: Len Alden.

SL put herself forward to run the Burials group in 2025 and SL declared an interest in helping. This will be added to the agenda for the next Council meeting.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and to all the leaders of the community.