**ANGUS TALKING NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION**

**Scottish Charity SCO37562**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Voluntary Action Angus, 1 -3 St James Road, Forfar DD8 2AQ on Wednesday 18th May, 2016 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Ian Scott, Lorna Milne, Liz Mountford, Alec Edwards, Win Morrison, Susan Lindsay, Kay Blackburn.

**Apologies:**

 Susan Gresham

**Minutes of**

**2015**

**Meeting:** Points raised:-

Unfortunately no progress with website. Bill Henderson is unable to continue with updating our website. We will look for someone who would be able to take over as we feel it is important to have our own website as it can be linked in with the Scottish Association of Talking Newspapers.

**Correspondence:**

No correspondence received.

**Treasurer’s**

**Report:-** Lorna presented an Extract of the audited Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 2015. Our thanks go to the Auditor, Graeme Loudon of MMG Archbold. Noted from the accounts that we received a small amount of donations for the year being £80, compared to £1065 in 2014. We had expenses due to Ian and Liz attending the annual TN Conference. Bank Interest rate is poor, Lorna looked to moving account to Skipton who offer 1%, as no huge financial gain it was decided to leave the account where it is. We are grateful to Brian for his help with sorting out the problems with the Laptops. Lorna highlighted the need for fundraising for new laptops and software as and when they are required. Possibility of obtaining a grant/donation.

**Production**

**Team and Record Keeper’s**

**Report:-**

 Susan Lindsay reported that they still encounter problems at the new premises, Brechin Community Campus, as they were refused entry last Friday as there was no one present from the Community Section to allow them in. Storage is in a cabinet which is only used by us and there is only one key, it was decided to have duplicates cut for all our volunteers, Gordon, Susan, Derek and Win, receipt to be sent to Lorna. Production and Record Keeping takes place in the Training Kitchen at the Campus, which is adequate for our needs. Liz to send Brian email to order more CDs and sleeves and send receipt to Lorna.

 Win reported that we now only have 85 listeners. Jenny and Lesley have had training with record keeping and the envelopes in order for them to be stand-ins for Win.

**Local**

**Team**

**Reports:** **Arbroath:-**  No report received.

**Brechin:-** Susan Gresham sent in her report as follows:- Team 1 had difficulties in March when no suitable accommodation was available in the new Campus. Susan managed to have a recording session in her home to ensure that the disc was ready for production day. Since that time the recordings have taken place at the Campus, though lack of parking nearby is problematical, but hopefully will be resolved later in the year. They have no problems at present with the laptop. One of the readers, Kay Blackburn is going to read on alternative months for Team 1, but has agreed to familiarise herself with Adobe Acrobat with guidance from Susan, and thereafter Kay will be back up on future recordings.

**Carnoustie/Monifieth:-** as with other Teams, the number of listeners has fallen. Alec will make contact with Carnoustie Social Group for the Blind and Visually Impaired to discuss matters.

**Forfar/Kirriemuir:-** Recordings take place at Voluntary Action Angus, Forfar. Two stand-in readers are Alec and Julie.

**Montrose:-** No report received.

**Chairman’s**

**Report:-**

 The only significant changes in the past year have been in Production, with Gordon, Susan and Derek in place, and efficiently supported by Win’s organisation of the records. They have had to cope with the move from Damacre Centre to the new Community Hub, the latter having teething problems with accommodating us. We are grateful to all our volunteers in Brechin who have coped with the upheaval and transition. There have been technical issues with some laptops and the copier and mention should be made here of the sterling efforts made by Brian, Lorna and her son Adam. The annual Scottish Talking Newspaper Association Conference again took place at Polmont in October to which I and Liz attended. A most informative and interesting Conference, highlighting the fact that we are not alone in the challenges we face, there are sources of advice and support that we can obtain. Liz prepared a report on the Conference which was read at our November meeting. It is unclear if there will be future Conferences as Janelle Scotland was standing down as Convener, with no one offering to run the Conference in the future. Our November meeting had two Committee members present, Lorna and Brian, Liz was away on holiday and Ian was taken ill on the day, it was a rather embarrassing situation as we had asked the Rev. Brian Ramsay, Chairman of Forfarshire Society for the Blind. Ian sent a letter of apology. Committee members must forward their apologies to our Secretary, then a decision can be made as to whether or not to cancel a meeting at short notice. Liz had informed the February meeting that she might be moving away and would no longer be our Secretary, however her plans have changed and she is to remain in the area and will continue in her post. Ian takes this opportunity to highlight all Liz does in her post as Secretary, taking Minutes and distributing them, correspondence and emails, she does a great job, and we hope she will be with us for a number of years to come. As a result of the inquorate November meeting meant that we did not discuss the changes in the Scottish Charity regulations whereby a charity can become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation, this is for future discussion and we may be reliant upon the knowledge and advice of our Treasurer. The number of our listeners has drastically dropped to 85, unbelievably at the turn of the millennium 16 years ago we had 219, 2013 = 110, 2015 = 97, though this fall in numbers makes no real difference to our organisation as we still have to record and produce the CDs, meetings arranges, accounts have to be kept up to date, minutes typed and letters sent, laptops and copiers maintained with problems being fixed and all of this takes a lot of generous effort by all our volunteers and a big thank you to everyone who do so much to deliver a valuable service to the visually impaired throughout Angus.

**Office**

**Bearers:** Office Bearers remain the same and as follows:-

 Chairman: Ian Scott

 Treasurer: Lorna Milne

 Secretary: Liz Mountford

Production Team:

Gordon Strachan, Susan Lindsay, Derek Strachan.

Record Keeper: Win Morrison.

**AOCB:** Website:- Bill Henderson unable to complete our website, our grateful thanks to be passed to him. Look for a volunteer to take on the task of completing and keeping it up to date. Alec will ask Carnoustie Social-Eyes who they use for their website.

 Fundraising Regulation in Scotland, Lorna had received an email from OSCR, Lorna enquired from MMG Archbold if it affected Angus TN, they advised No.

 Future discussions needed with regard to Insurance, as the Committee are all Trustees we would be held responsible if we were taken to Court.

Next quarterly meeting on Wednesday 17th August, 2016 in Carnoustie, venue to be advised.