

Minutes of the EGM of Orkney Local Access Forum and Countryside Committee

Wednesday 23 September 2015 at 7pm
St Magnus Centre

Present:

Anne Gascoigne	Orkney Field Club/Vice Chair
Victor Muir	National Farmers Union
Roddy Mackay	Orkney Islands Council
James Green	Orkney Islands Council
Brenda Blunn	Orkney Ramblers Association
Cllr Leslie Manson	Elected Member of Orkney Islands Council
Simon Treasure	Orkney Tourism Group
Ken Lawson	Scottish Government's Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate
Barbara Scollay	Secretary

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Kate Townsend, Hugh Halcro-Johnston, Rod Thorne, Stephen Jenkinson, Rob Crichton and Ian Wilkins.

2. Appointment of a Chair

The Secretary announced that there had been only one nomination for the vacant post of Chair and that was Leslie Manson, the new Elected Member representative from Orkney Island Council.

Leslie explained his interest and enthusiasm for the landscape of Orkney and access to enjoy it. He noted he would be happy to declare any interests and remove himself from discussions as and when they arose.

There was some discussion over concerns about representation and conflict of interests, and of potential criticism of OIC by OLAF members and how that could be handled, however it was noted that not many organisations are attending the OLAF meetings and that no-one else was willing to undertake the role.

After conclusion of discussions and a general satisfaction that the appointment would not be detrimental to the group, Leslie Manson was dutifully proposed by Victor Muir and seconded by Simon Treasure. The Secretary closed the EGM and Leslie undertook the role of Chair with immediate effect in order to Chair the committee meeting following.