



# The Grange Association

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Edinburgh

Scottish Charity No. SC025491

THIRTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 7.00 pm  
at Marchmont St Giles' Church Hall, Kilgraston Road,  
Edinburgh

## AGENDA

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Adoption of Thirty-second AGM minutes
- 4 Matters arising
- 5 Chair's report
- 6 Honorary Secretary's report.
- 7 Honorary Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts
- 8 Adoption of membership fees for 2013
- 9 Election of office bearers, committee members and Auditor's appointment
- 10 Question time
- 11 Conclusion

Following the AGM there will be a talk by  
Richard Groom entitled:  
'Stonework of the Grange'

# The Grange Association

(Registered as a charity in Scotland number SC 025491)

## Minutes of 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting

Held in Marchmont St Giles Church, Edinburgh at 6.30pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2011

### 1 Opening remarks and Welcome

The Chair, Sofia Leonard, welcomed every one to the meeting including Mike Pringle MSP, Ian Murray MP and Tony Harris from the Craigmillar Park Association. Over 40 members were present.

### 2. Apologies for absences

Councillors Steve Burgess, Alison Johnstone and Marilynne Maclaren. Grange Association committee members Jon Oberlander, Grigor Mitchell, Kirstine Baxter, John Duffus, Richard Mowe: also Moyra Forrest, Graham Bell and Richard Brown.

### 3. Adoption of Minutes of Thirty-first AGM

There were no amendments proposed or matters arising. The minutes were adopted by the meeting.

**Proposed:** Dan Cronin      **Seconded:** Andrew Bell

### 4. Matters arising: none

### 5. Chair's report

A report had been circulated and the following points were highlighted.

- The chair stressed the committee working together as a team and thanked everyone for their hard work. Andrew Bell in particular was greatly thanked as he carried on as Secretary until the autumn and as Planning Convenor for the whole year. Jon Oberlander and Marion Cantley had been co-opted for the past year to provide continuity but were now leaving; both were thanked for all their work for the Association.
- The newsletter and website have both been revamped by Richard Mowe and these have been well received by the community. We intend to continue to deliver the newsletter to all households and thanks are due to Dan Cronin for so efficiently organising this. In order to thank all the distributors a thankyou party was arranged in the summer.
- Many successful events, organised by Tony Reeves, were held during the year culminating with the "Winter Warmer" in January replacing the Christmas Party which was cancelled because of the snow.
- A new "Garden Group", led by Alison Bramley, will have its first meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>. This new group has generated a lot of interest in the area and we wish it success.
- Sadly, in November, the Association lost one of its most dedicated and longstanding members when Graham Dickson died. We plan to hold a Memorial lecture for Graham in the autumn on an architectural theme.
- The Chair said that she will be standing down from this position but is willing to be co-opted onto the committee. She was delighted to announce that John Graham, former Chief Executive of Historic Scotland, had agreed to put his name forward as Chair.

### 6. Honorary Secretary's report

A written report had been circulated and the following points were highlighted:

- Andrew Bell was thanked for all his work and help.
- Parking problems in the area south of Zone S1 may soon be resolved when "priority permits" for residents are introduced. The proposals to create a 20mph limit for most streets have been welcomed by the majority of residents who responded to the consultation.
- A second application for GEARS funding made in January 2010 was unsuccessful. The Association has supported a new application from Transition Edinburgh South which has similar aims and includes our area.
- The Planning report (written by Andrew Bell) shows that there were 79 planning applications in the Grange area of which the Association commented on 19. We were disappointed that in only two cases the Planning Department agreed with our concerns. We remain concerned about the number of developments which are approved and which, in our opinion, are detrimental to the area. In 7 cases we objected to the proposals for off street parking in front gardens but in only one did the planners agree. Graham Bell (no relation) will succeed Andrew as Planning Convenor.

## **7. Honorary Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts**

The treasurer spoke to the circulated accounts which showed a deficit for the year of £2147 which resulted in a total in the bank at the end of 2010 of £18,376. The deficit was mainly due to three items; the increased cost of producing the newsletter and the revamped website, the Party for deliverers and the donation of £1000 to Joanna Lamb to help with the production costs of her book on Dalrymple Crescent.

The accounts were adopted by the AGM. **Proposed:** Alison Bramley **Seconded:** Doreen Allerton

Most of the legacy of £10,000 remains to be spent – this should be considered by the new committee.

## **8. Adoption of membership fees for 2010**

The secretary explained that the annual cost of the revamped newsletter would be about £2500 and with other running costs, such as the cost of events and office bearers' expenses, the expenditure would be over £3000. Income from membership subscriptions at the present rate totals about £1400 resulting in an annual deficit of over £1600. The last increase in subscriptions had been in 2000. The proposal was for a new annual rate of £10 for individuals and £15 for a household; this would be introduced for 2012 and should be sufficient to cover costs for at least 5 years. The committee accepted that this was a large increase and that not all members were happy with this proposal, especially as no concession rate was proposed. However, it was felt by many that this still represented good value for members.

The membership fee increase to £10 for individuals, £15 for households for January 2012 onwards was proposed by Tony Franks and seconded by Neil Davidson. The meeting voted 29:4 to accept this.

At this point the Honorary President, Derek Lyddon gave a speech of thanks to Sofia Leonard in which he detailed her work for the association starting with her Green Report "Case for Conservation" in 1982 to her current two years as chair.

## **9. Election of office bearers, committee members and Auditor's appointment**

Thanks were given to all the members of the committee who retired this year; these are:

Jon Oberlander, Andrew Bell, Kirstine Baxter, Grigor Mitchell and Marion Cantley.

The secretary presented the committee's proposal for the coming year's committee. There were no nominations from the floor and the following were elected to serve for 2011/12.

Honorary President: Derek Lyddon

Chairman: John Graham

Vice Chair: Doreen Allerton

Hon Treasurer: Richard Brown

Hon Secretary: Sue Tritton

Ordinary members re-elected to the committee: Dan Cronin, Olga Franks, Tony Reeves, John Duffus

New members elected to the committee: Graham Bell, Alison Bramley, Margaret Thom (one vacancy)

Co-opted members: Richard Mowe, Sofia Leonard, Gordon Liddle, Dorothy Ryle, Judith Reeves

The Independent Examiner, Ken Robertson, has not yet said if he is willing to act again. The meeting approved his appointment provided that he is willing to stand.

## **10. Question time**

Mike Falchikov wondered if it was a good idea to have the 20mph limit on bus routes.

There being no further business the chair brought the AGM to a close.

Following the AGM Tony Reeves introduced Jessica Morgado to talk about the Hermitage of Braid

## CHAIR REPORT to 33<sup>rd</sup> AGM (14<sup>th</sup> March 2012)

I think we can say that the Grange Association is in good health. Membership has grown significantly during the year and is now over 350. The three issues of the new and larger newsletter have been well received. A varied programme of events has generally attracted good audiences, with a record turnout at the January meeting. The new Garden Exchange has created a lot of interest.

The past year has not seen any major new proposals for development in the area. The Association has commented applications for new town houses and flats in Newbattle Terrace, now under construction, and on the site of the former telephone exchange in Pitsligo Road, both on the edge of our area. We have objected to a number of plans for paving over front gardens, in some cases successfully, and commented on some proposals for unsympathetic extensions and obtrusive solar panels. The completion of one or two schemes to which we had previously objected has borne out the reservations we expressed at the time.

We supported the experimental 20 mph speed limit for a large part of our area, and were disappointed that some of the main roads were excluded from the pilot. It remains to be seen how prominent the necessary signage will be. The new parking arrangements for the area south of the S1 zone came into effect, and we continue to monitor how these are working.

We have given considerable thought to making best use of the generous legacy we received a few years ago, and we are considering possible maintenance work on the carved wyverns in Grange Loan, some form of electronic guide to the area and some tree planting. We would welcome further suggestions.

None of this would have happened without a great deal of dedicated work on the part of the other office-bearers, the members of the committee, the many volunteers who deliver the newsletter and our other supporters. I am very grateful to them all.

## **Secretary's Report to 2012 AGM**

**Traffic and Parking in our area:** Priority Parking area "B1" (where parts of some roads have restricted parking for 90minutes on weekdays) came into operation in September 2011 and has generally been welcomed by residents. At about the same time more 9-hour parking bays have been introduced in underused parts of the "S1" CPZ zone. Minor problems caused by these schemes have been reported to the Council and are (we hope) being addressed. A trial "20mph limit" will come into operation on 23<sup>rd</sup> March in all streets apart from the main bus routes. The Association supported this trial but was disappointed that streets such as the Kilgraston Road - Marchmont Road route remain at 30mph. A major concern was the amount of new signage required and we requested that this should be kept to the legal minimum. New poles are being installed as this is being written and we have been assured that some old poles will be removed – we need to see what will actually happen.

**Community Council Liaison:** The Grange Association area is split between two Community Council areas: Marchmont Sciennes CC (MSCC) and Grange Prestonfield CC (GPCC). Dorothy Ryle has continued to attend meetings of the MSCC and Alison Bramley now attends the GPCC as representatives of the Association. Both report back relevant issues to the Grange Ass.

**Astley Ainslie and Royal Edinburgh Hospitals.** NHS Lothian is considering the re-provisioning of some services, currently on the Astley Ainslie (AAH) site, at the Royal Ed site. There is still a long way to go before final plans are available – not least the raising of the necessary finance. However, the Grange Association is concerned with the future of the AAH site and any reduction in the green space there (this could happen if parts of the site are sold) which contributes so much to our conservation area. Together with representatives of the four local Community Councils (GPCC, MSCC, Morningside and Merchiston) we are looking at ways in which the site can be preserved as an amenity for the community and as a walking and cycling route for access and a safer route to school. NHS Lothian has restricted some access recently and requests to reopen routes have been rejected on Health and Safety grounds.

**Other Local Associations:** We continue to work closely with members of other local associations, especially over planning issues. These include the Craigmillar Park Association and the Blasket and West Blasket Associations.

### **Proposed Committee for 2012/13 – see over.**

The new committee will also consider, at its first meeting, if any members should be invited to join as co-opted committee members to provide additional expertise.

Sue Tritton

**Proposed Committee for 2012/13**  
(Year after name is date of Election)

**Office Bearers (normally serve for up to 4 years)**

Chair – John Graham 2011  
Vice Chair – Doreen Allerton 2010  
Hon Treasurer – Richard Brown 2011  
Hon Secretary – Sue Tritton 2011

**Committee (8) (term is 4 years maximum)**

Olga Franks 2011  
Dan Cronin (Newsletter delivery) 2010  
Alison Bramley (Garden project, GPCC Liaison) 2011  
Tony Reeves (Events) 2010  
Margaret Thom (Minutes) 2011  
Adam Rennie (2012)  
Roger Kellett (2012)  
Alastair Keatinge (2012)

**Retiring (elected members)**

Graham Bell (Planning) 2011  
John Duffus (Planning) 2008 (2<sup>nd</sup> term)

**Retiring as Co-opted members**

Richard Mowe (Newsletter editor)  
Sofia Leonard (former Chair)  
Dorothy Ryle (MSCC Liaison)  
Judith Reeves (Gardens and plants)

In addition, Derek Lyddon was appointed as Honorary President

## **Grange Association Treasurer's report – AGM 2012**

I am proud to have completed my first year as Treasurer.

A number of significant changes and initiatives occurred in 2011.

### **Subscriptions and memberships**

At the 2011 AGM, subscription rates for 2012 membership (formerly £2.50 concession and £5 family) were changed to £10 individual and £15 for a household, with a guarantee they'd stay at that level for 5 years (2017).

Therefore, we undertook an exercise to inform all members of this, so that Standing Orders could be changed.

At the same time, we contacted members whose Standing Orders hadn't been received in 2011 (probably due to a change of GA bank account in the past), and took the opportunity to contact residents whose details we had on file, but no recent subscription.

This exercise was very successful, yielding a substantial amount of subscriptions, renewed members and new members, including nearly £900 in advance subscriptions for 2012, from new and renewed members.

### **More advertising revenue**

With the move to a full colour newsletter, we are attracting more advertising than before, but aim not to stray above the equivalent of 1 page in 8 being advertisements, all of an appropriate local and useful character.

The recent Winter newsletter did have more advertising than that ratio, more to get advertisers on board than anything else.

The advertising revenue goes a long way to paying for the full colour, glossy format.

### **Bank interest**

During 2011, the Bank of Scotland removed even the tiny interest they were paying on the account (£1.55 was a typical month!).

We complained about phone calls to the Bank about a new account not being actioned, and they gave us £50 compensation !

We researched a Charities interest-bearing account with Scottish Widows Bank, and moved £15000 there in late 2011.

This has already brought in over £39 in interest, in just the first quarter (not in the 2011 accounts, as it was paid in 2012) !

### **Membership numbers**

Membership numbers have increased as a result of the activities during the year.

At the end of 2011, the number of paid members was 369 (285 at same time in 2010).

274 members have already paid for 2012 (158 at this time in 2011).

**The Grange  
Association  
Statement of Income and Expenditure for 2011**

	2011	2010
	£	£
<b>Income</b>		
Subscriptions and donations	2,617 <sup>1</sup>	1,348
Gift Aid and Tax refunds	<sup>2</sup>	286
Sale of books	16	10
Plant sale (net proceeds)	192	186
Garden Outing (net proceeds)	7	71
Advertising Revenue	280	140
Bank Interest	8 <sup>3</sup>	21
Bank compensation	50 <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,170</b>	<b>2,062</b>
<b>Deduct</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Printing of newsletter	2,805 <sup>5</sup>	1,478
Subscription - The Cockburn Association	40	40
PA system	127	
Newsletter & Web design		548
Reception for deliverers		401
Local donations	520	1,100
Meeting expenses	390	391
Officials expenses	73	245
Other expenses	237	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,192</b>	<b>4,209</b>
<b>Surplus for Year</b>	<b>-1,022</b>	<b>-2,147</b>
<b>Statement of funds at 31st December</b>		
General fund - year open	18,376	20,523
surplus for year	<b>-1,022</b>	<b>-2,147</b>
<b>General Fund - year end</b>	<b>17,354</b>	<b>18,376</b>
<b>Represented by :</b>		
Bank of Scotland Treasurer's account	2,354	18,376
Scottish Widows Charity Account	15,000	
	<b>17,354</b>	<b>18,376</b>

<sup>1</sup> includes £877 early membership subs at new (2012) rate, from campaign

<sup>2</sup> Gift Aid for 2011 was received early in 2012

<sup>3</sup> Bank interest was suddenly removed from current account, leading to hunt for interest-bearing account

<sup>4</sup> BoS paid £50 after complaint that phone calls had gone unactioned

<sup>5</sup> Newsletter printing costs in 2011 = £745, £1410 (100th edition) and £650