

NESPWF

North East Scotland Police Welfare Fund

Registered Charity SCO44963

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Was held at 7 pm on Thursday 24th October 2024 within the community meeting room, at The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, 19 North Anderson Drive, Aberdeen.

Members Present: Brian Dick (Secretary), Bill Archibald (Chair), Ron Findlay (Vice Chair), Norma Howley, Pete McAndie, Tony McCullie, Angus Hamilton, John Drysdale, Fiona McCluskey, Meg Simpson, Flora Munro and Raymond Mack..

1. Opening of Meeting Chairman Bill Archibald took the chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all for their attendance and invited all to join in any discussions that took place. Due to a new member being present an around the table introduction took place.

2. Apologies – Euan Forbes (Treasurer), Ian Anderson, Marie Rennie, Harry Ord, Keith Davidson, Irene Charlton, Patricia Kemp, Neil Lawrie and Ian Birnie from the RPOAS North East Branch who has been an observer at past meetings.

3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting on 27 October 2023 – having been circulated were; -

Proposed by Raymond Mack.

Seconded by Fiona McCluskey , the minutes were then approved.

4. Matter Arising – There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report - This had been pre-circulated by the Secretary on behalf of the Chair - (see attached)

The Chair then briefly went over his report thanked the Trustee's for their support over the year. He took time to express his and the 'Fund's' appreciation to Pete McAndie who with the assistance, in particular of Jordon Blythe, had committed so much of their time and effort in relation to the procurement and distribution of the 'Challenge Coins'. The project had raised a considerable amount of money for the 'Fund' and due to this, the money

raised could be put to good use. He thanked the guests that had attended the previous meetings and to Ron Findlay for his assistance regarding concatenating the reports and sending them to OSCR. He stated that we as a Board, will continue to try and assist those in the Police Family that are in need. He concluded by stating that there is always a need for new volunteers to join the 'Board' and would encourage anyone that has an interest to contact him or any other members to get involved.

6. Treasurer's Report – In the absence of the Treasurer Euan Forbes, the Secretary referred to the previously circulated report (see attached) and intimated that the NESPWF funds are in a very healthy position. There being no queries, the Chair intimated the Boards appreciation to the Treasurer and to 'Val Kelman' for providing the NESPWF with her skills in the preparation and ratification of the Treasurers Report to OSCR.

7. Motions

There were no motions.

8. Safeguarding & Notifiable Events There was nothing new to report.

9. Data Protection – The Chair reiterated the importance of not keeping data over 6 years old. There was nothing further to report.

10. AOCB

- a) **Retiral of Trustee's** – The Chair intimated that the Constitution provides that, at the AGM, one third off the Trustees are required to retire using a random process. Raymond Mack, Ian Anderson and Norma Howley stood down.

11. Closure of Meeting. There being no further competent business, The Chair, brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for attending.

A vote of thanks was given to the Chair in the usual manner.

12. Date of Next Annual General Meeting – 23 October 2025 (To be confirmed).

Brian Dick
Secretary

Bill Archibald
Chairperson

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CHAIR'S REPORT - 24 OCTOBER 2024

The past year has, I believe, seen awareness of the North East of Scotland Police Welfare Fund substantially increase. Early on in the reporting year, Trustee Peter McAndie made fellow Trustees' aware of an increasing trend by members of the worldwide Police family (and others) to collect Police themed "Challenge Coins." Peter presented a sample Grampian Police Challenge Coin that he had designed and had had manufactured to a very high standard. His proposal that batches of these coins be purchased by the NESPWF and sold to interested parties, with all profits made returning to the Charity, was unanimously supported by the Trustees. Social media primarily, was utilised to publicise the coins, and suffice to say that demand has far exceeded both Peter's and the Trustees' expectations. In addition to bringing additional funds to the Charity, the process of publicity of same has greatly increased awareness of the NESPWF and its purposes. The Trustees are very grateful to Peter, who has been assisted by a work colleague, for the considerable personal time and effort that they have put into this initiative to date.

The reporting year has seen only one application for assistance made, and it is fair to say that this, at least in part, arose through the aforementioned increased awareness of our existence and purpose. The Trustees have been very keen to broaden our reach, in terms of support to the Police family – and the assistance provided on this occasion has been quite different to what has gone before. Given the confidentiality of our processes, it is not possible to share detail of the applicant or of the assistance provided. However, it is the case that as a group we were unanimous in agreeing the need and the appropriateness of supporting this application with substantial financial commitment. Matters related to the application have recently been completed and we are very happy to have been able to assist in a way that will have enhanced the quality of life for a family in the local area.

Over recent times, news reports have constantly reminded us of a multitude of factors that impact upon the 'cost of living' and quality of life for so many. We remain alert to identifying persons that may meet the criteria for our assistance and continue to rely to a considerable extent upon Trustee Raymond Mack, the 'go to' person on all things welfare related for many years in this regard.

In our endeavour to broaden our reach, early in the year we welcomed the Chair of the Retired Police Officers Association Scotland North East Branch, Mr Ian Birnie to our meeting. Whilst several Trustees are linked to the RPOAS in a variety of ways, it was pleasing to have Ian attend and discuss some of the crossovers and shared interests of the two groups. We were also pleased to invite a local representative of the Scottish Police Federation to our June 2024 meeting. The Trustees gleaned interesting information relative to some

of the matters currently experienced by the Federated ranks, and we are grateful to Inspector Andrew Sawers for his attendance and input.

Further “new blood” in the group was most welcome in the form of Flora Munro and Meg Simpson, both of whom became Trustees during the year. I look forward to working with all of our new and existing Trustees in the years to come and I am confident that their contributions will add to the knowledge and work of the charity.

The Charity continues to be in good financial standing, and I am grateful to our Treasurer Euan Forbes for his ongoing monitoring and manoeuvring of funds to ensure that opportunities are maximised. This takes time and effort that goes mostly unseen but is essential to the good health of the Fund.

The role of Secretary is also crucial to the efficient and effective operation of the NESPWF, and I thank Brian Dick for his continued work in this regard.

I wish to thank all the Trustees for their continuing contributions to the operation of the NESPWF. Were it not for their willingness to give of their time and be a part of the group it would not exist as we know it. I am confident that I speak for us all when I say that we will endeavour to make all efforts to ensure that the NESPWF continues to be here for those who most need its support in the future.

Bill Archibald

Chair

NESPWF

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TREASURERS REPORT TO AGM ON THURSDAY 24th OCTOBER 2024

The finances of the fund continue to be in a very healthy position.

Interest of **£1,740.55** has been received during the year comprising **£143.49** from the TSB Business Account, Scottish Police Credit Union **£472.85** and **£1124.21** from the Charity Bank Account

Donations were received of **£1,000.00** from the family of a deceased member of the public who were grateful for the assistance given by the Police and **£333.00** from the retiring offering at a member's funeral.

22 charity cheques for **£25.00** have been cashed since the last AGM and Raymond Mack wrote 2 personal cheques due to banking difficulties which means that we have donated **£600.00** to charities nominated by relatives of deceased members this financial year.

189 Tesco gift vouchers of **£25.00** each were purchased for distribution to all known widows/widowers at Christmas. A Miscellaneous payment of **£63.38** relates to the hosting of our web page domain.

We had one welfare application and we paid out **£4,000.00** in relation to this during this financial year.

An account with the Charity Bank with an initial deposit of **£30,000** was opened and has since been continued including the reinvestment of the interest.

The most significant difference in this year's accounts from previous years is the fundraising initiative undertaken by Pete McAndie in selling Grampian Police Challenge Coins with the profits being donated to the fund. This year this has been recorded under the Miscellaneous category. The coins cost **£1,490.80** to purchase and raised **£3,281.65** yielding a profit of **£1,790.85** in this financial year.

We have the following balances in our accounts

TSB Business Account	£ 5,622.40
TSB Current Account	£ 3,971.00
SPCU Account	£22,040.78
Charity Bank Account	£31,124.21

We have a fund of **£ 62,758.39** to disburse in line with our charitable goals.

The accounts balanced and were audited by Val Kelman who also prepared the necessary reports for OSCR.

Euan Forbes, Fund Treasurer