

## **Brain Injury Grampian (BIG Group)**

### **Annual General Meeting**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Venue: Lochter Activity Centre**

**Attendance: 36 members**

#### **1) Apologies**

Apologies were accepted on behalf of John Scott and Christine Kennedy.

#### **2) Minutes of the 2019 AGM were agreed.**

Members should note that it was not possible to hold an AGM in 2020 as we were following Scottish Government guidance on Covid-19.

#### **3) Conveners Report**

##### **Our aims**

- To support carers and make it possible for them to meet together to share experiences.
- To involve and encourage those with a brain injury.
- To reduce social isolation for those with a brain injury, their family and carers.
- To help promote partnership working between/among health services, social work and voluntary organisations.

#### **So - What have we done year to end March?**

Most of the year we were under lockdown regulations or severe Covid restrictions which meant that we could not meet. However, we did start the following:

##### **Online:** - Regular Messenger chats

- Weekly Zoom Quiz (continuing)
- Weekly Music and Laughter sessions

And we did have brief socially distanced face to face meetings on the doorsteps of those who received Christmas hampers from us.

#### **What have we managed to do since March?**

Mid July – Drop-In at Inchgarth restarted  
August 22 – Trip to Falconry Centre Huntly

September 29 – Annual Dinner at Palm Court  
September 29 – Fine Peace (Now Wellbeing Café) Support Group restarted  
Today. LOCHTER!

### **What is still to come?**

Today - Full programme Lochter Activity Day  
Oct 20 - Speaker Maggie Whyte at Inchgarth  
Nov 17 - Speaker John Nicoll  
Dec 10 - HMT Beauty and the Beast  
Dec 16 - Potential Codonas Christmas  
Jan 19 - Burns Supper at Inchgarth  
April 02 - HMT Chicago  
April 29 - Headway BRAW Weekend

### **Continued Involvement:**

Brain Injury Group Exercise Class at RGU:Sport  
Headway through regional and Scottish Development Committee meetings  
Actively, support the Aberdeen, Wellbeing, Inverurie and Elgin ABI support group  
Local and Grampian NHS ABI MCN's.

### **Members Departed**

Unfortunately, since our last AGM in 2019 we have lost members Stuart Innes and Alistair MacLean. They will both be sadly missed. Our thoughts lie with Carol and Christine and their families as they come to terms with their sad loss.

### **What is planned for next year?**

Survival  
Re-establish fundraising activity  
Re-build our support groups in Inverurie, Elgin and any other sites identified.  
Re-build our programme and attendance numbers.

### **What about the future?**

It is a difficult environment for small charities. Many may fold. Raising funds is becoming increasingly challenging. We will always suffer from lack of public awareness of the lifelong/life changing effects of Acquired Brain Injury but modest signs of improvement. However, we are lucky to have regularly received support from Morningfield Assoc, Creative Breaks, Bank of Scotland Foundation and the Ingram Family.

We must continue to submit applications to these organisations but also investigate any new funding opportunities as we are made aware of them.

#### 4) Treasurer's Report April 2020 to March 2021

Treasurer's account:

Opening Balance:	£27,776.43
Expenditure has been:	(£6,998.50)
Transfer in from Development Account	£ 1,000.00
Income received has been:	<u>£16,268.00</u>
Balance to be carried forward to next year:	£38,045.93

Development account:

Opening Balance:	£31,038.51
Transfer to Treasurers account:	<u>(£1,000.00)</u>
Balance to be carried forward to next year:	£30,038.51

Summary of balances carried forward:

Treasurer's account:	£38,045.93
Development account:	<u>£30,038.51</u>
Balance to be carried forward to next year:	£68,084.44

Notes

- Fundraising: No fundraising activities were arranged during lockdown / pandemic but despite that our income for the financial year 2021 has exceeded expenditure.
- £1,000 transfer was made from the Development Account to the Treasurers Account to keep the account alive.
- £5,000 donation was made by Jonathan Darcy.
- £7,000 received as grant from the Bank of Scotland Foundation.
- £1,225 additional contingency funding for covid was awarded by the Bank of Scotland Foundation. No formal evaluation of this funding is required.
- £2,500 was received as grant from the Morningfield Association.
- £3,400 was spent on music and laughter therapy which was moved online and £115 on the zoom quiz.
- £1,418 was spent on Xmas hampers instead of the annual Xmas meal.
- £580 was spent on tickets for a theatre trip.

Finances (09/10/2021)

Development Account:	£32,538.51
Main Account:	<u>£28,550.59</u>
Total funds held:	£61,089.10

Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 were agreed subject to audit.

## **5) Committee Elections 2021**

### **Office Bearers:**

Convener Ian Crombie, Secretary John Cushine and Treasurer Jimmie Dickie were all willing to stand again and were duly re-elected.

They were nominated by Alistair Macdonald and Carol McLeod.

### **Members Standing Down by Rotation**

Carol Innes (willing to re-stand)  
Christine Kennedy (wishes to step down)  
John Scott (wishes to retire due to ill health)

Carol Innes was re-elected to the committee.

Liz Breen, Morag Little and Claire Stewart were elected to the committee.

They were proposed by Isobel Buchan and Ian Crombie.

ABI representatives to the committee Paul Breen and Chris Smith were willing to re-stand and were duly re-elected.

They were proposed by Jimmie Dickie and John Cushine.

## **6 A.O.C.B**

A BIG thank you was given to John Scott and Christine Kennedy for their long and loyal support.