

Annual General meeting of the New Zealand Motor Neurone Disease Association held in Christchurch on Saturday 18th October 2014

Present: Hon. Ruth Dyson (Patron), Beth Watson (President), Bruce Stokell (Secretary), Graham Herriot, Clio Herriot, Richard Ryan, Sue Hayes, Kate Moulson, Heather Brunton, Helen Palmer, Helen Brown, Emma Scotter, Grace Chen, Henrik Dorbeck, Andrew Pardoe-Burnett, Barbara Gilchrist, Tony Gilchrist,

Apologies: Ray Hall, Michelle Knox, Prof. Richard Faull, Dr Andrew Chancellor, Rachael Searle, Barbara Parkin, Jan Fraser-McKenzie, Fiona Hewerdine, Dr Clare Riley, Edith Mc Carthy, Shirley Croll, Graeme East, Alice Robertson, Judy Chrystall

Beth Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting

Beth summarised the main points of the 2013 AGM and the minutes were **approved** as a true and correct record.

There were no matters arising

Annual report

Beth spoke to the Annual Report. She expressed the Council's pleasure at the stable Council, staff and programmes.

She acknowledged Grant and staff at the national office and the fieldworkers.

Noted that the facebook page was running successfully.

Beth thanked the branches for their work and congratulated the Christchurch branch on its formation.

Members of the Council were individually introduced to the meeting.

Beth stated that it was a joy and a privilege to be involved with supporting people with Motor Neurone Disease.

Beth moved her report and it was carried by acclamation

Annual Accounts

Beth noted that Michelle could not be in attendance to present her report.

Income for the year was \$455,000 and expenses were \$466,804

Noted that the Acorn Foundation is a long term investment.

Noted that the difference in donations for the 2014 year is due to the Staniforth bequest.

The Annual Accounts were received.

Annual Budget 2015

Noted that the budget is conservative.
The budget was **approved**

Business Plan

Beth outlined elements of the Business plan
The business plan was received

Council Members

Noted that Beth Watson, Ray Hall, Helen Palmer and Andrew Pardoe-Burnett were re-elected to the Council, and Fiona Hewerdine was elected to the Council. Beth thanked Council members and welcomed Fiona and informed the meeting of her welcome talents.

Appointment of auditor

Agreed that we endorse the appointment of Diane Robinson as auditor.

Honorary positions

The following Honorary positions were **agreed** by the meeting:

Geoff Thompson	Hon. Solicitor
Dr Andrew Chancellor	Hon. Medical Advisor
Prof. Richard Faull	Medical Patron
Hon. Ruth Dyson	Patron

Ruth Dyson spoke to the meeting.

She informed the meeting that she is keen to take every opportunity to help.

Was pleased to be involved in the walk.

Acknowledged the work of Council members and staff.

Noted that the key ministries are Health and Social Development to engage with on disability issues.

Ruth noted some of the matters that we could be interested in:

The building bill with its Earthquake-prone amendments

Vocational services for disabled people

Using our power more – with MPs, local Councillors, who all need to be educated more. She raised the possibility of a 'lobbying kit'.

She noted the great success that Clare Reilly has had with the walk.

There is a need for payment for family members of people who have disabilities.

Beth thanked our patron for coming to the meeting and for her wise words.

Michelle Knox

Noted that Michelle Knox has been nominated for a life membership. The meeting approved the nomination by acclamation.

The meeting closed at 2.28 pm.