



Friends of the Earth Scotland

Annual General Meeting 2025 – Draft Minutes for Approval

7th June 2025, City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, Edinburgh, and online via Zoom, as part of the 'National Gathering and AGM'

Report compiled by Ric Lander (staff) with notes on the business taken by Anny Morel (staff) and movement building workshop by Ruby Bayley (staff)

A video recording of the full day is held on file

Agenda

11:00-11:30 Introductions from Rochana Sheward, Director, and Kate Whitaker, Movement Building Lead

11:30-12:20 "A Play for Torry", forthcoming community theatre production in collaboration with FoES

12:20-12:50 Panel discussion with Kirtana Chandrasekaran, Friends of the Earth International and Caroline Rance, Head of Campaigns

12:50-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 **AGM: Business and Reports**

2:30-3:00 **AGM: Movement building workshop**

3:00-3:10 Break

3:10-3:40 **AGM: Motions**

3:40-3:55 **AGM: Trustee elections**

3:55-4:30 Counting and announcements

National Gathering

The 2025 AGM took place as part of a day long 'National Gathering & AGM'.

The morning began with practical announcements and a welcome from the host Kate Whitaker, Movement Building Lead:

"We're in a time of multiple interlocking crisis and we're here because things feel urgent. I hope that by coming together with people across the country today and hearing about our work together – from the very local to the international – that this can inspire us.

"It's really convenient for the people we're up against if we feel hopeless – it's what they want – to feel like we *can't* take action. I hope the conclusion of today is that we can."

Director Rochana Sheward introduced herself and gave an overview of the last year:

"It's been great to meet members new and old today. As Director I hope to be here long enough to see some impactful changes. Long enough to facilitate and support the change we need to see in Scotland around just transition: putting communities at the heart of decision making. Long enough to support the development of alternative energy solutions. Long enough for all of us to see transformative change.

"We're striving to phase out fossil fuels, advance transformative solutions and building solidarity. Despite the chaos and uncertainty in the world today we're to celebrate hope and mark the wins we have made in the last year including securing a major victory in forcing SSE to address the true climate impact of the Peterhead power station and – this time last year the Circular Economy Bill came into law with amendments we supported. There's much more in the Annual Review."

Rochana also took time to acknowledge Young Friends of the Earth Scotland and our community organising work in the North East.

Scott Herrett, Just Transition Organiser working in Aberdeen presented a preview of the "A Play for Torry" a forthcoming community theatre production developed in collaboration with FoES.

The morning concluded with a panel discussion with Kirtana Chandrasekaran, Friends of the Earth International and Caroline Rance, Head of Campaigns, on how we can achieve transformative change.

Between the speakers and during lunch members attending in person were encouraged to speak to folk they don't know, with staff and board members, and view a display of Scotland's history of local environmental activism.

Business and Reports

Robin Aitken, Chair, introduced himself and explained how the formal part of the AGM was to proceed.

Note: 51 people attended the meeting in person and 19 took part online. 10 proxy votes were cast. Therefore, a total of 80 members participated in the AGM in whole or part.

The minutes of the 2024 AGM were put before the meeting, proposed by Mark Ballard and seconded by Catherine Lyons.

→ **The minutes were unanimously agreed as a fair record by show of hands in the room.**

Robin spoke about the challenges that come with political leaders prioritising defence and economic growth over the environment and the need for systemic change. He spoke of overseeing a period of work over the last year that's included mobilising against new fossil fuels at Peterhead and holding the Scottish government to account; recruiting of staff in the North East, our new Director, Rochana, and Ruby our fundraiser, and appointing Caroline as Head of Campaigns; championing a just transition by standing with Grangemouth workers; enabling thousands to contact MSPs about the circular economy bill; winning fossil fuel divestment; nurturing youth leadership; and supporting relationships with allies like Uplift and Greenpeace.

Regarding the year ahead, Robin was enthusiastic about our plans for strengthening our governance and thinking about how we have impact, broadening our movement, and welcoming new members as part of our efforts towards system change. He concluded that he trusted in FoES' role as leading "a movement that not only changes the way we live but also strives for a fairer more just world for everyone."

Finances

Catherine Lyons (Treasurer) summarised the contents of the Annual Report and Financial Statements, as circulated:

	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
Income	£375,384	£689,667	£1,065,051
Expenditure	£385,689	£731,640	£1,117,329
Deficit	£10,380	£41,971	£52,351
Fund Balances	£37,378	£678,692	£716,340

Restricted Funding

The following work areas are funded by specific grants.

Fossil Fuel Phase Out and Just Transition

- Energy Transition Fund
- Uplift
- Leet Hill Charitable Trust

Fossil Fuel Divestment

- Climate Change Collaboration
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Activism

- Patagonia
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Unrestricted Funding

FoES also received unrestricted funding as follows:

- Players of the People's Postcode Lottery
- Our members including the estates of:
 - Rachel Howell
 - Morag Morris
 - Fay Allan
 - John Cowan
 - Alan Grant Reid Findlay
 - Michael Thurlow

Reserves policy

The board has formally agreed a reserves policy of six months of operational costs. This balances the need to show we are spending the money we raise whilst also giving us a cushion. Six months is relatively conservative by charity standards.

At year-end figures, we have approximately ten months of operational costs in unrestricted reserves.

Finance and fund-raising

- Ruby Bayley, our new fund-raising lead, has joined the operations team, led by Alison Ritchie.
- Individual giving this year has already exceeded the total for 2024.
- We're securing new grant funding for key work in membership development and community engagement.
- We are managing the deficit strategically with active stewardship

Appointment of the auditor

It is standard practice that the auditor is reviewed periodically to reduce the risk of over-familiarity. The Board reviewed several alternative providers but concluded that Thomson Cooper still represented the best value and were reassured that their internal practices guarded against over-familiarity.

Therefore, the Board propose that Thomson Cooper Ltd should continue in their position as our auditor.

This was put to a vote:

Yes: 48

No: 0

Abstentions: 14

→ **The proposed auditor was approved.**

Chair, Treasurer and Director Q&A

The following questions were put to the Chair, Treasurer and Director.

Question: Why do we have more reserves than our policy requires?

Answer: We will be spending down our reserves and this is something we can do pro-actively. Fundraising is currently challenging so this will also give Ruby a cushion to generate more funds to lower the running deficit in the longer term. We are also confident that a renewed focus on membership can improve our financial position longer-term.

Question: Concerned about the £50,000 deficit and want to highlight the amazing legacies, especially Rachel Howell. Please expand on how we are going to lower the running deficit.

Answer: To build our membership base we need to look at our priority campaigns and listen to our members, as we will do in the next session, to understand what our members want to rally behind. The Board has agreed we will run a deficit this year. Ruby's work will take some time to come into effect but should address this over time. The budget will be reviewed in Autumn.

Question: Is there a plan to expand the team to do even more?

Answer: We interviewed for a Digital Content Creator this week, this is a post which has been a long-time in development. The movement building work could create a need for more capacity: we need to work on what it looks like for staffing. This part of the work for the next year. The strategy also needs development in this period but overall we would be expected to grow.

There was a request from the floor to vote on whether we accept the annual report and accounts. Robin clarified that this is not required by our rules.

→ ***The financial report was unanimously agreed by show of hands in the room.***

Catherine is stepping down as Treasurer and a vote of thanks was offered for her work.

Movement building workshop

A workshop was held for participants in the room and online to discuss movement building in more detail prior to the vote on the motion.

Kate introduced the session: “When we talk about movement building we mean creating a force of people moving in the same direction that has the power to demand the kind of change we want to see. This might involve skilling people up, bringing more people into the movement or building connections across different struggles. Our strategy requires building ‘people powered’ approaches to change, to deliver this we’ve been thinking about what’s worked and what hasn’t worked.”

Members were invited to attend four stations on the following themes:

- Membership
- Participation in campaigns
- Local organising
- Collaboration with other movements

A further two groups were gathered for online participants. The views expressed in the groups are summarised as follows.

Defining and enabling participation

We need to reframe participation as something deeper than taking action, it’s about contributing to ideas, shaping direction, and influencing strategy. While many people are ready to take direction, there’s a growing group who want to be part of the thinking. Our challenge is to shift from simply broadcasting messages to creating space for two-way dialogue. This includes inviting people into campaign development from the start and valuing the expertise they bring. Staff leadership remains important, but we must consciously make room for distributed ownership.

We also heard that participation needs to feel local and tangible. People are more likely to shift from taking action to shaping action when there are clear, meaningful ways to contribute in their own neighbourhoods or communities. This requires entry points that are rooted in place, not just issues.

Inclusion and accessibility

Our current membership and regular participant base don’t reflect the full diversity of Scotland. To change this, we need to meet people where they are and reduce barriers, including time, confidence, clarity of language, and access to childcare. Broadening who gets involved means designing participation that’s genuinely inclusive, flexible, and relevant to different lived experiences. It also means being honest about where we’re starting from and committing to ongoing change.

Exhaustion, food insecurity, and digital exclusion were raised as real barriers to involvement. Supporting participation means meeting people’s basic needs, sometimes that’s as simple as offering a hot meal at a meeting. It also means always offering offline options, not assuming comfort or access with online tools.

Structure and culture

If we want participatory work to succeed, it must be supported by a strong internal culture and clear frameworks. We need to be explicit about our values, strategic goals, and how decisions are made. There’s a balance to strike between keeping campaigns focused and opening them up to wider input. Participatory processes should feel purposeful and transparent, with staff and members working in dialogue, not in parallel tracks. Being honest about disagreement and collaboration across difference is part of the work.

We need to be clearer about how local groups govern themselves and how they relate to the wider movement, especially where there are differences in approach or tactics. The absence of a shared model can create confusion and fragmentation. Honest dialogue about structure, autonomy, and collaboration will help build trust.

Pathways for involvement

People need varied and accessible ways to engage. Some want to lead or organise, others want to learn or contribute in smaller ways, all are valid. We should build a visible, structured range of entry points, with flexibility for people to dip in and out. This includes low-barrier, one-click actions, training and upskilling offers, and opportunities to shape strategy. A mix of online and in-person formats, and clear signposting, will help people navigate what's possible.

There was a strong call for easier ways to become a local organiser, backed by clear, low-barrier recruitment routes and supporting infrastructure. A visible “become an organiser” sign-up and starter pack could help meet this need. People also emphasised the value of reaching young people through schools, freshers weeks, and after-school clubs – going where they already are, and building trust over time.

FoES' identity and vision

Members and supporters are asking for clarity. They want to know what we stand for, what we prioritise, and how we're different. Our current messaging can sometimes feel too broad or abstract, we need to be clearer about our strategy and the change we're working towards. There's also a strong appetite for hopeful, justice-focused storytelling that connects the dots between climate, power, and community action.

Support for local and other movement work

Local organising is seen as both valuable and under-supported. Groups and individuals want more practical infrastructure - toolkits, visibility, access to shared resources - alongside light-touch coordination and encouragement. People want to work locally while still feeling part of a wider movement. Our role can include helping connect these dots, offering scaffolding during quieter moments, and holding space for collaboration across groups, places, and peaks in energy.

Despite strong interest, there are still too few organisers – even within active groups – and many areas of Scotland have no Friends of the Earth Scotland local presence. People want more support for organising and more physical spaces to meet. Examples like the Aberdeen Social Centre's weekly radical café show what's possible when regular space and trust are built over time.

Structures for participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Set up campaign advisory boards or working groups involving members early on.– Host regular idea drop-ins and sounding board sessions for campaigns.– Develop a framework of participation options (e.g. low time, creative, organising).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Bring back in-person gatherings (e.g. Spring/Autumn events). – Offer more online talks, debates, and Q&As. – Create a short governance guide for local groups, including how decisions are made and how groups relate to the national organisation. – Launch a national call-out for volunteer organisers, supported by light-touch training and a buddy system.
Clarify values and focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Be explicit about FoES’s core values, strategic priorities, and how decisions are made. – Publish a plain-language explainer of what FoES is fighting for and why it matters.
Make engagement easy and accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Use clear, jargon-free comms and visually engaging materials. – Offer online and in-person training on campaigning, organising, and power mapping. – Provide action pathways with variable time commitments and clear next steps. – Build shared meals into meetings and events, not just as hospitality but as part of care and solidarity. – Develop a digital inclusion offer – such as phone support or tech-free participation options – to make involvement more accessible. – Pilot child-friendly spaces and activities to include parents.
Grow and diversify membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create local recruitment drives/events, especially outside the central belt. – Develop targeted comms and actions for different regions (e.g. Dundee). – Pilot collaborations with non-climate groups (e.g. community centres, faith groups, or the Girl Guides), learning from their approaches to intergenerational and family-based engagement.
Support local groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provide organising manuals/toolkits for easy replication. – Offer light-touch staff support, resources, and infrastructure (e.g. Zoom, printing, office space use).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create a directory or map of local activity to increase visibility and connection. – Provide small grants or in-kind support to help local groups secure regular community spaces or run pop-up hubs.
Showcase the movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Share stories of members, local groups, and FoEI connections in meetings and media. – Highlight strategic partnerships and collaborations publicly. – Increase visibility on radio/TV and pitch spokespeople to high-profile platforms.
User experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Make joining and updating comms settings easier and more intuitive.

Following the workshop there was a short break before the meeting reconvened to vote on formal motions chaired by Robin.

Motion #1: Movement Building

Motion text:

This motion proposes:

1. An amendment to the 2024-26 Strategy
2. The commitments we make to movement building

Introduction

Over nearly fifty years, Friends of the Earth Scotland has conducted national mobilisations, events, training programmes, support for local struggles, online and community organising, and built coalitions. These approaches have enabled key local and national victories. However, they have fallen short of sustaining a consistent base. We therefore propose to commit to movement building to fulfil our larger Organisational Strategy, 2024–26: our mission, values, and strategic aims.

The movement-building approach and this set of commitments have been created collaboratively by the Senior Leadership Team, the Campaigns Team, community-organising staff in Aberdeenshire, and members of the board.

This motion is brought before FoES members because the trustees and staff team believe that movement building is the work of many, and we all need to understand the strategy in order to deliver it, and because this is a plan to deepen participation, and as such can only succeed if it has the backing of our members.

Amendment to the 2024-26 Organisational Strategy

Our 2024-26 strategy set out the following Strategic Aims:

1. Scotland is on track to make a just transition away from fossil fuel production by 2031.
2. FoES is a thriving, resilient and inclusive organisation, and a best practice employer.

To give due prominence to movement building in the Organisational Strategy, this amendment proposes a third strategic aim:

- 3. Movements for system change in Scotland that align with our vision become more powerful and connected.**

The Organisational Strategy presents our Vision for the future of environmental and climate justice:

a world where systems of power and resource use are transformed so that all living beings and ecosystems have what they need to flourish, now and in the future.

The Organisational Strategy distinguishes between building the 'climate movement' and the 'broader progressive movement'; it introduces 'deep partnership work and relationship building' where these intersect. FoES is uniquely placed in Scotland to foreground climate and environmental justice as a compelling dimension of the broader Scottish movements for system change.

Our commitments to movement building

For FoES, movement building means growing the capacity and power of networks of people, communities, and groups seeking environmental, social, and economic justice.

In our movement-building approach, together we establish the following commitments.

1. We believe this diverse approach to movement building will establish lasting change.
2. We prioritise membership as the main way to get involved in our movement, to build power through participation; we commit to diversifying our membership demographics.
3. We balance political advocacy, mobilising action, and community organising.
4. We work at community and neighbourhood level, speaking to the experiences of people in Scotland, identifying and empowering leaders, sharing knowledge about systems of power, and building partnerships of solidarity.
5. We campaign for transformative solutions to environmental problems: proactive alternatives that are stepping stones to system change, connecting local and global experiences of injustice.
6. We support other groups in alignment with our vision, with funds, spaces, knowledge and services, attending to conflict and care, and understand our leadership role in climate and broader progressive movements.
7. We amplify our distinctive voice within broader movements for system change, recognising environmental justice as the lens through which FoES understands inequality; we recognise that the impact of environmental degradation and climate change falls most acutely on those least responsible for it, whether in the industrialised North or the global South.

8. We develop internal governance protocols and structures that mitigate risk, uphold the obligations of trustees, distribute power democratically within the membership, and amplify those voices within the movement that struggle to be heard.
9. We monitor and evaluate our deployment of the strategy; we reflect on progress and use our learning to inform ongoing development.
10. We embed movement building within our fund-raising strategy and commit to sharing our learning with grant-funders.
11. We work strategically: we commit to this work in the long-term, preparing for movement boom and bust, not getting deflected by reactive campaigns, adapting to change, being accountable and democratic, sharing our strategy openly.
12. We account to the membership by sharing the experience and results of this strategy at each AGM.

Proposer: Catherine Lyons

Secunder: Mark Ballard

A formal debate took place on the motion:

- Catherine (proposer) introduced the motion explaining that its key function is to amend the 2024-26 Strategy by adding a Strategic Aim on movement building. She said it's not an operational plan, which is the responsibility of the Director, but provides a framework for action and learning for our work national and local levels.
- No-one wanted to speak against the motion so the Chair took questions.
- Question: Local groups have been in a bad way for some time and so they do welcome this new approach. However, some local groups had seen more detailed planning which seems to be missing from this motion. When will we get this clarity?
- Answer: There is a commitment to monitoring and evaluation. There may be a need for more of a "constitutional" motion later on to address these relationships.
- The debate was concluded with a speech from the seconder, Mark, who is leaving the Board.

A vote was then held:

Yes: 65

No: 0

Abstentions: 3

→ **Motion #1 'Movement Building' was carried by majority vote.**

Motion #2: Trans solidarity

Motion text:

Friends of the Earth International has previously recognised¹ that all forms of oppression are linked and gender based injustice is both fuel for the climate crisis and a barrier to system change. Gender justice, particularly both trans and women's liberation, is fundamental to the environmentally just world we are building.

We, Young Friends of the Earth Scotland (YFoES), expanded on this in our Introduction to Climate Justice booklet², explaining that the same colonising forces which first instigated environmental destruction and exploitation also instigated the repression of gender and sexual diversity in Indigenous communities across the world. The effects of this are alive in many countries today, including ours.

In Scotland, transphobia has resulted in a dramatically increased risk of homelessness for trans people and therefore a greater vulnerability of the trans community to ever increasing climatic hazards. Globally, LGBTQ+ people are also more likely to have trouble crossing borders to escape conflict and disaster.

Throughout history, attempts to police queer communities' expression and control society's understanding of gender have been a 'smoke signal' to broader crackdowns and increases to authoritarianism. The rights we have now; to campaign, protest, and resist, hinge on us supporting the liberation of the marginalised communities we work alongside. Striving for women's and trans liberation is an inherent part of climate justice.

In acknowledgement of this, part of the FoES current strategy is to position itself at the intersection of the climate and broader progressive movements. For YFoES, this includes taking ongoing steps to facilitate the comfort and safety of trans people within the network, recognising the necessity of gender liberation for all people - both cis and trans.

Given the increase in cultural and legislative transphobia, this motion aims to recognise and cement gender liberation work within the broader FoES movement.

Friends of the Earth Scotland therefore:

- Sees trans liberation and women's liberation as part of a shared struggle for gender justice and equity
- Actively and visibly stands in solidarity with the trans community's organising for equity in Scotland and globally
- Actively and visibly stands in solidarity with women's organising for equity in Scotland and globally
- Recognises the work that YFoES has done making visible the links between climate justice and LGBTQ+ liberation
- Facilitates the inclusion, comfort, and safety of trans people within FoES movement building, organising, and campaigns
- Recognises that there is no place for transphobia or gender-based oppression in an environmentally just world.

Proposer: Tamsin Wake

¹ <https://www.foei.org/what-we-do/gender-justice-and-dismantling-patriarchy/>

² https://foe.scot/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/YFoES-Booklet-%E2%80%94-A5_Spreads-For-Digital-View.pdf

Secunder: Cameron Smith

A formal debate took place on the motion:

- Tamsin (proposer) introduced the motion explaining that the motion has been brought forward on behalf of Young Friends of the Earth Scotland and has come from their work in making YFoES a welcoming space for people of all genders. Friends of the Earth International has also been clear that gender justice is a fundamental prerequisite to climate justice. LGBTQ+ people are more likely to face violence and oppression globally and here in Scotland and their efforts to challenge this make the world safer for us all.
- One speaker spoke in opposition saying that there are areas where the trans liberation movement is in conflict with the women's liberation movement and voicing a concern that the motion will enable people being "cancelled".
- A member closed the debate on behalf of the seconder by saying that FoES' commitment to working in an intersectional way is critical to how we build the future we want to see and that we should recognise and welcome trans people's contribution to our movement.

A vote was then held:

Yes: 59

No: 7

Abstentions: 4

→ **Motion #2 'Trans solidarity' was carried by majority vote.**

Motion #3: Ethical procurement and the Boycott

Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Campaign

Motion text:

Building on the motion 'Israeli Environmental Violations in Palestine [Support for the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign]' from the 2013 AGM, Friends of the Earth Scotland commits to developing an ethical procurement policy that excludes BDS campaign targets and Israeli produce as far as possible.

A list of current BDS targets can be found here: <https://bdsmovement.net/Guide-to-BDS-Boycott>

The BDS Campaign was founded with and by Palestinian civil society, including members of PENGON (FoE Palestine). The BDS movement uses the historically successful method of targeted boycotts, inspired by the South African anti-apartheid movement, the US Civil Rights movement, and the Indian and Irish anti-colonial struggles, among others worldwide.

The BDS campaign was formally endorsed at our AGM in 2013. We reiterated the call for support in our 2023 statement on the violence in Israel and Palestine <https://foe.scot/statement-on-the-violence-in-israel-and-palestine/>

As the violence in Palestine continues to escalate, destroying lives and the environment, we must continue to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

Our support for BDS must be translated into action through policy and procedure, ensuring that FoES resources are used in line with our values.

With the acknowledgement that for some targets there may be times where no reasonable alternatives exist, and in line with our responsibilities as a charitable body, a policy should be developed that ensure that FoES excludes BDS targets as far as possible.

This ethical procurement policy will outline which products, services and distributors FoES will avoid buying from. It will be held and maintained by the Head of Operations, and updated every 6 months. The Head of Operations will ensure compliance in purchasing from the wider FoES staff and other partners using FoES resources.

Proposer: Ery McPartland

Seconder: Anna Brown

A formal debate took place on the motion:

- Ery (proposer) formally proposed the motion saying that as an environmental justice organisation it's important we have an ethical procurement policy which puts into practice our existing support for BDS.
- There were no speakers in opposition and no questions from the floor.
- Anna (seconder) summarised that this was about us putting our existing policy of support for the Palestinian people into practical action.

A vote was then held:

Yes: 63

No: 2

Abstentions: 2

→ **Motion #3 'Ethical Procurement and the BDS campaign' was carried by majority vote.**

Board elections

Robin explained that there were five candidates for the Board and five positions available. Therefore, according to our rules, candidates simply required the "approval" of members.

Each of the candidates verbally addressed the meeting in turn. Doris Jamieson provided a statement which was read out by Rochana Sheward.

Candidates' statements as submitted and circulated in advance are provided below.

Anna Brown

Endorsed by Young Friends of the Earth Scotland

Statement: As a dedicated climate and social justice advocate with experience in coordination, facilitation, and youth empowerment, I believe I am an excellent fit for the board as Young Friends of the Earth Scotland representative.

Volunteering with Young Friends of the Earth Scotland and understanding their values and strategy attracts me to participating in the FoES board to represent Young Friends of the Earth Scotland's ideas and perspectives ensuring better interconnections and opportunities for youth members.

Aoife Stephens

Proposed by: Ery McPartland

Seconded by: Elias Bate

I work with many grassroots campaigners and activists across movements for justice in Scotland, and I see Friends of the Earth as having a key role in this political moment. I would like to support Friends of the Earth Scotland with strategic development and have been following the organisation's work for some time.

I have experience in working with organisations to embed ways of working that are aligned with the external strategy and many other operational areas of running a social change organisation.

Doris Jamieson

Proposed by: Robin Aitken

Seconded by: Catherine Lyons

I have been a member of Friends of the Earth Scotland since 2002 and served as Treasurer from 2002-06. I am a Chartered Accountant by training. I have served on a range of charity and public sector boards, including Citizens Advice, NHS and Housing Associations.

I have a deep understanding of good governance and financial management. My passion is for organisations to deliver good service to those they serve and improve social justice.

While I am not a campaigner, I believe Friends of the Earth have a vital role to play to influence politicians and the wider public on the need to change to a low carbon economy to reduce the impact of climate change.

Megan McHaney

Proposed by: Bernice Maxton-Lee

Seconded by: Robin Aitken

Hello! I'm Megan McHaney, over my career, I've worked across the third sector in Scotland, UK and Europe focusing on movement building and advocating for political change in post-16 education and the environmental movement.

Now I work as a freelance organization design and development consultant. I'm interested in making organisations more democratic and more inclusive for their employees, society and our planet.

I have enjoyed spending my last year as a co-opted member of the Board and I have now decided to put myself forward to join Friends of the Earth Scotland board because I think my skills and experience could be valuable to the organisation and I want to contribute to Friends of the Earth Scotland continuing to be a strong voice and organisation in Scotland's third sector.

Nick Cullen

Proposed by: Ery McPartland

Seconded by: Ryan Morrison

I am a dedicated supporter of Friends of the Earth Scotland, having worked alongside the organisation for a number of years with different coalitions, as well as on collaborative projects, campaigns and mobilisations. I have learnt a huge amount working with the FoES team, and from its members and community groups across Scotland.

The core principles of FoES, of community led intersectional climate justice, strongly align with my own values. I am excited to join the board to continue to learn and grow, to support and further climate justice across Scotland and internationally.

The key skills I will bring are around intersectional movement building. I have worked with climate and migrant groups for over 10 years, as a community organiser, in frontline migrant justice work, and in campaigning, organising and coalition building roles.

I will bring expertise in connecting climate groups with migrant and racial justice, facilitating collaboration across the movements locally and nationally. I also have experience organising large scale mobilisations and events, for example with the Climate Justice / COP26 Coalition.

I hope to bring perspectives from different kinds of movement work to the board, in the belief that it is by joint action and varied approaches that we can achieve justice for people and planet.

Results

Votes were cast as follows:

	Approved	Not approved	Abstentions
Anna Brown	53	0	7
Aoife Stephens	56	0	10
Doris Jamieson	52	0	10
Megan McHaney	52	1	9
Nick Cullen	54	1	9

→ **Therefore all five candidates for the Board were elected.**

The meeting was formally closed by the Chair.

Appendix: Voting

Members' votes were received from three sources:

- Most members voted using Menti-meter in-person and online. This was done via a link or QR code which opened a web page on their smart phone or web browser.
- Non-attendees were offered the facility to vote “by proxy” by emailing agm@foe.scot. These votes were anonymised prior to counting.
- Participants in the room were also allowed to vote using a paper ballot, for example, if they did not have a smart phone.

51 people attended the meeting in person and 19 took part online in whole or part. 10 proxy votes were cast. Therefore, a total of 80 members participated in the AGM.

The vote count was coordinated by Ric Lander (Staff) and assisted by Ian Marlee (Board), Malachy Clarke (Staff), Harriet Munro (Board), Ery McPartland (Board, excepting their motion), and Eilidh Stanners (Staff). The total result was presented by the Chair to the room prior to the meeting's close.

A full record of the votes cast is as follows:

Question / candidate	Total					Mentimeter votes			Paper ballots			Proxy votes		
	Yes	No	Abstain	Total	% yes	Yes	No	Abstain	Yes	No	Abstain	Yes	No	Abstain
Proposed auditor	48	0	14	62	77%	42		2	5			1		12
Motion #1	65	0	3	68	96%	50		1	4			11		2
Motion #2	59	7	4	70	84%	40	6	4	6	1		13		
Motion #3	63	2	2	67	94%	45	2	1	6			12		1
Anna Brown	53	0	7	60	88%	42			5			6		7
Aoife Stephens	56	0	10	66	85%	46		2	5			5		8
Doris Jamieson	52	0	10	62	84%	42		2	5			5		8
Megan McHaney	52	1	9	62	84%	41	1	2	5			6		7
Nick Cullen	54	1	9	64	84%	43	1	2	5			6		7