Haemophilia Scotland

Minutes from 2025 Annual General Meeting

Date:	Saturday, 30th August 2025
Location:	Edinburgh Zoo Education Centre, 134 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh EH12 6TS
Present:	There were 33 members present at commencement of the meeting (with further members joining after the meeting had commenced as listed in the attendance schedule). An additional 31 proxy appointments had been received in advance of the meeting, bringing the total to 64. With a membership of 446 on the date of the meeting, the required quorum was 45, meaning the meeting could proceed.

1. Welcome

Our Chair, John Dearden, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for making the journey to Edinburgh and joining us.

2. Approval of the 2024 Annual General Meeting minutes

The minutes of the 2024 AGM had been approved by the Board of Trustees as was normal practice. They had been published in advance on the AGM 2025 page of Haemophilia Scotland's website and all members were notified prior to the meeting. John invited members to raise issues arising. No issues were raised by those present, nor had any been submitted in advance by members unable to attend.

The minutes were received.

3. Chair's Report

John began by referring members to the 2024-25 Annual Report that was now available on our website and physical copies at the meeting, which provides a detailed account of the year's activities.

John then highlighted a number of key areas of work that Haemophilia Scotland had been involved with in the past year:

- Ongoing work relating to the Infected Blood Disaster and the Compensation Scheme, alongside the support provided by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, which made interim compensation payments during the year.
- Continuation of the *Learn and Connect* Programme, with local meetings held in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Inverness.
- An Over-50s weekend in Dunblane in November, which went ahead successfully despite severe weather conditions.
- A further Comic Book Workshop in Edinburgh, leading to the development of a new publication which was also available at the meeting or a PDF version on the Haemophilia Scotland website.
- The Welfare Benefits Advice service, launched in May 2024 and led by Maxie, which has continued to expand and provide valuable support to members.
- Fundraising efforts by members through sponsored walks and runs, with thanks expressed for this support.
- A donation of £1,160 from the former West of Scotland Committee of the Haemophilia Society, to be used for activities in the West. The Chair recorded thanks to Margaret Lughray, former Chair of the Committee, for this generous contribution.

John concluded his report by noting that Haemophilia Scotland continues to provide support, information and fellowship for members, and expressed gratitude to all who contributed during the year.

4. Treasurer's Report

Our Treasurer, Thomas Lorenz, presented a summary of the organisation's income and expenditure for the financial year and outlined its overall financial position.

This was summarised as follows:

Total Income over the 2024-25 period:	£140,317
Total Expenditure over the 2024-25 period:	£154,999
Deficit for the reported period of:	£14,682

Thomas explained however that this deficit can be attributed to two main factors, namely a late payment from a key funder into the next financial year, plus some of the expenditure throughout the year was related to restricted projects that we had received funding from in previous financial years. Therefore, the board are satisfied that the organisation is still in a strong financial position.

Thomas reported the bank position of the main account after restricted funds and other monies held for projects was sitting at £18,275 at the end of the financial year.

The organisation has maintained its reserves policy of holding three to four months' core operational costs in a separate reserves account to cover any unforeseen circumstances. The reserves account on 31st March 2025 was £51,331.

In addition, Haemophilia Scotland holds a separate account for the Infected Blood Tribute Fund on behalf of the infected and affected community, with a year-end balance of £42,922.

Thomas concluded his report by outlining the organisation's various sources of income and providing a breakdown of core and restricted expenditure.

John then asked the members present to vote for approval of the annual accounts presented as part of the 2024-25 annual report.

The accounts were approved by members.

5. Operational Plan Overview

Our Director, Alan Martin, gave an overview of Haemophilia Scotland's Operational Plan for the year and highlighted the key achievements of the organisation over this period.

Alan reported that membership had risen to 415 as of 31 March 2025, representing a 10.4% increase on the previous year.

As part of our focus to support members, Alan highlighted some of the events throughout the year including the women's health awareness campaign, the Adults over 50 activity weekend and the increased demand for information and support to our members in relation to the Infected Blood Inquiry and compensation.

Alan also reported on the impact the new financial wellbeing service had made in such a short time, with 84 referrals received and £62,660 annual benefits secured for members from successful applications.

The organisation continued to advocate for better standard of care for patients by representing the patient perspective in new treatment appraisals and helping co-ordinate the development of paediatric care plans for schools and nurseries.

Alan concluded his report by mentioning some of the plans for the year ahead with new awareness campaigns, more focus groups and workshops planned.

6. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution

Members had been notified in advance of proposed amendments to the constitution, required due to recent changes in Scottish charity legislation as well as practical adjustments to simplify the charity's operations. An explanatory note outlining the amendments had been circulated to members and is appended to these minutes for reference.

A two thirds majority of members present or voting by proxy was required to give approval to the amendments.

A total of 33 votes were cast in favour, with a further 29 proxy votes also supporting the amendments. The amendments were approved with effect from the close of the AGM.

7. Election of Charity Trustees

John expressed his appreciation for the active involvement of the current trustees at meetings and events over the past year, and for their continued support.

Since the last AGM, Adam Davidson had left the board after five years of service.

In accordance with the constitution, one third of the longest-serving trustees are required to retire each year. This year, Jay Gardiner and Katie Mackie were due to retire and have chosen not to seek re-election. John thanked all three retiring members for their valuable contributions to the organisation.

Joanne Kirkham was also due to retire as one of the longest-serving trustees and is seeking re-election to continue.

Earlier this year, the board appointed Heather MacLeod as a trustee to the organisation. As per the constitution, Heather is now required to stand for election at the first annual meeting following her appointment.

In addition, two members, Louis Marlow and Vicki Medina, had registered an interest and applied to become trustees. Members were asked to vote on each nomination. All nominations received 33 votes in favour from members present, with a further 31 votes in favour via proxy for each.

Accordingly, all four candidates were appointed to the board. At the conclusion of the meeting, the trustees were:

Kazeem Alabi, John Dearden, Joanne Kirkham, Thomas Lorenz, Heather MacLeod, Louis Marlow, Carolyn McGimpsey, Gregor McInnes, and Vicki Medina.

8. Questions from Members

Following questions from members, the meeting was closed.

Approved by the Trustee Board as an accurate record on 7th October 2025

Meeting ended at 11:50am

Members Attendance Schedule

#	First Name	Surname
1	Cheryl	Adams
2	Mackie	Ahmed
3	Kazeem	Alabi
4	Lucica	Banu
5	Rosemary	Bowes
6	Vicki	Davidson
7	John	Dearden
8	Sean	Dillon
9	Julia	Gordon-Smith
10	Jay	Gardner
11	Andy	Gunn
12	Joanne	Kirkham
13	Leone	Lints
14	Thomas	Lorenz
15	Katie	Mackie
16	Louis	Marlow
17	Heather	MacLeod
18	Carolyn	McGimpsey
19	George	McNaughton
20	Jaa Ming "Ben"	New
21	Manuelito	Nunes
22	Stacey	Pearson
23	Cherie	Reynolds
24	Natasha	Ritchie
25	Kimberley	Swan
26	Lianne	Tawse
27	Garry	Kerr
28	Nicola	Thompson
29	Amanda	Tonner
30	Robert	Tonner
31	Kirsty	Sim
32	Martha	Gray
33	Bill	Wright