

**Cross Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on Rural Policy**

**AGM Minutes**

**16<sup>th</sup> January 1.30-2.00 pm (online)**

**Minutes (unapproved)**

**Present**

**MSP attendees:**

Edward Mountain MSP

Tim Eagle MSP

Colin Beattie MSP

Emma Harper MSP

**Non -MSP attendees**

Jane Atterton

James Calder

Mike Danson

Carey Doyle

Jim Hume

Grace Hutchinson

Holly McLennan

Carol McLaren

David Nasseri

Ann Packard

Lorna Pate

Emily Peitka-Nykaza

Lorna Philip

## **1. Welcome, introduction and apologies**

Edward Mountain MSP (Group co-convener) welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the purpose of the meeting was to re-elect the secretariat, co-conveners and to review the work the Group has carried out over the preceding year.

Apologies were provided in advance from David Glass and Theona Morrison.

## **2. AGM**

- a) It was proposed by Jim Hume that SRUC would be re-elected as secretariat without challenge, this was seconded by Ann Packard.
- b) Edward Mountain MSP and Emma Harper MSP were re-elected as co-conveners without challenge, with Jim Hume proposing and Ann Packard seconding the motion.
- c) Information on the work carried out over the preceding year is available on SRUC Rural Policy Centre's (secretariat)'s website:  
<https://www.sruc.ac.uk/research/research-impact/rural-policy-centre/rural-policy-events/>. There was a discussion about how the previous meetings had gone and it was agreed that they should continue in the same format going forward.

## **3. AOB**

The minutes from the June CPG which were not approved at the October CPG meeting were approved by Jim Hume and Edward Mountain MSP.

## **4. Next meeting**

Edward Mountain MSP proposed a change to next meeting date to 28<sup>th</sup> January. This was agreed by all. Action - Edward Mountain MSP to arrange a new room booking and the secretariat to notify speakers and attendees of the date change.

The topic for the meeting is: What are the biggest threats to rural Scotland for the parliament to consider?

Edward Mountain MSP suggested that a short briefing be written on the basis of discussion at the January meeting for a future rural-focused Cross Party Group to consider.