

Important - Extraordinary General Meeting by Zoom on Wednesday 12th May at 7pm

Dear Member

We need to make some changes to protect the committee members from personal financial liability should some unfortunate, unforeseen event occur during our activities. This protection would be given if we can change the organisation from its present status as a Scottish Charity to a SCIO. i.e. a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

A SCIO is a legal status unique to Scotland which provides protection against liability for committee members. The need to provide this protection has become clear as people are increasingly reluctant to become new committee members because of uncertainty over personal liability in these more litigious times. Many of the other Friends groups in Edinburgh have taken legal advice and become SCIOs.

To become a SCIO :

1. We first have to call an Extraordinary General Meeting to ask your permission to change the name and the constitution into the form that the Scottish Charity Commission (OSCR) requires. The Friends' new name will be the same with the addition of SCIO i.e. 'The Friends of Inverleith Park SCIO'.
2. If the EGM agrees then the committee will hold a second EGM to present you with the details of the new constitution for approval. That will be in a few weeks time.
3. The constitution is a technical matter and we would like to thank Rose Pipes for agreeing to take on the onerous task of rewriting the new constitution and taking it through all the checks with EVOC - the Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council before we present it to the Friends at a second EGM and finally to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR). The new constitution needs to satisfy the stringent requirements of OSCR but will also stay similar to the present constitution.

Please join our zoom meeting - it wont take long but we cannot proceed without your agreement.

Thank you for your help with this. Please let us know if you are able to join us - we need to know so that we can send you a zoom link by email. Click on the blue link just before the meeting and join us. We will give you more information on zoom nearer the time. We had a successful AGM by Zoom. last year - its easier than you might think.

With best wishes

Pam Barnes

Convenor of the Friends of Inverleith Park