



Scottish Consortium
for Rural Research

MINUTE OF THE 135TH MEETING OF THE SCRR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON 30TH MAY 2018 IN ROOM 019, BRAHAN BUILDING, PERTH COLLEGE UHI CRIF ROAD, PERTH PH1 2NX.

Present:

Prof Stuart K Monro (Scientific Director, Acting Chair)
Prof Willie Donachie (Secretary/Treasurer)
Prof Martin Price (UHI)
Dr Kathy Velandar (Edinburgh Napier University)

Apologies:

Prof Steve Yearley
Dr Nick Fraser (NMS)
Prof Pete Hollingsworth (RBGE)
Prof David Miller (JHI)
Prof Alastair Stott (SRUC)
Prof Lee Innes (MRI)
Prof Des Thompson (SNH)
Dr Ed Mackey (SNH)

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** SKM welcomed those present and noted thanks to UHI for hosting the meeting.
2. **Minutes and matters arising from 134rd Executive meeting:**
 - 2.1 New SCRR Director: The search for a new Scientific Director has progressed and a candidate will be interviewed early in June.
 - 2.2 "Treelines and Beyond" sponsorship now agreed 2-4th November 2018
3. **Update, Members, Centres of Excellence and Networks**
 - 3.1. **Edinburgh Napier University: (KV)** "Design Thinking and Creative Development" used in recent workshop in Estonia was very successful. A report on its utility would form an interesting article for the newsletter.
 - 3.2. **SAMS: (SKM)** SKM will be giving the Graduation Address later in the summer
 - 3.3. **UHI: (MP)** As we were about to receive presentations on UHI research it seemed sensible to move on to the next report.
 - 3.4. **SSAC:** The website is now being updated. A number of reports and consultations have been completed or are underway
 - Women in STEM in Scotland Consultation;. The response from SSAC has been completed.
 - The SSAC's response to the 'UK Foresight Report: Future of an Ageing Population' was launched at a conference of the Scottish Dementia Research Consortium in Glasgow on 23 April.

The following pieces of work are drawing to a close and are expected to be published in 2018:

- A briefing note on 'Open Science'.
- Horizon-scanning project on Cyber Resilience, commissioned by the Scottish Government (SG) Cyber Resilience Unit.
- The Future of Human Genomic Medicine, commissioned by the SG Health and Social Care Directorates.
- A report on 'Scotland's Science Landscape', commissioned by the SSAC from Elsevier.

4. Events

4.1 Peter Wilson Lecture 2019: (SKM) - Francesca Osowska identified as the speaker for the PWL and SKM will contact her directly.

4.2 Biological Collections Workshop: The meeting arrangements are apparently stalled and SKM will contact PH and NF again to push things along.

4.3 Coastal Event Workshop: WD reported that progress is still slow but a possible date and venue, The MASTS Annual Science Meeting in Glasgow 31 October - 2 November 2018, has been discussed with collaborators.

4.1. Scotia/SCRR Essay Competition and Lecture: Although we were unsuccessful in our initial attempt to get take up we are pursuing another approach. SKM and WD talked to LI at Moredun and there may be a way to work with SEFARI. One point that came up was that maybe we should target Primary School pupils. It may be that an essay is not the preferred format and a more open ended project is needed. A new formulation involving SCRR/Scotia and SEFARI may emerge. SKM will draft a paper for discussion.

5. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): This issue was handled via the Newsletter which included a flyer describing SCRR's policy on personal data. SCRR takes the view that its database addressees receive the Newsletter because of Legitimate Interests (related to rural science).

6. Membership

6.1. Consortium membership: SKM made an invited presentation to Geography and Sustainable Developments Department at St Andrews University.

6.2. Executive membership: No changes. Still looking for replacement for Ruth Wolstenholme.

7. Finances

7.1. Accounts and current financial position: WD presented the current financial position which was very healthy (see Appx 1). One more subscription came in since the previous Executive Meeting. The cost of the Peter Wilson Lecture increased significantly this year with the cost of the venue being the main item. Hopefully this is an adjustment which will not be a regular occurrence.

8. Publicity & communications

8.1. SCRR Website: WD reported that the website was still needing updating and it may be useful to have some help to do this. A student with good IT/web skills could be an option.

8.2. SCRR Newsletter: WD reported that we were on track for the Summer Newsletter and August was the target time for posting.

9. Any other business: None

10. Date and place of next Executive meeting: Global Academy for Agriculture and Food Security, University of Edinburgh, 29th August 2018.

KEY	Prof Stuart K Monro	SM
	Prof Willie Donachie	WD
	Prof Martin Price	MP
	Dr Kathy Velander	KV

Appendix 1

Scottish Consortium for Rural Research

Income & Expenditure Account Year to date 30/05/18

	Actual	Balance in
	£	Bank
		£
Balance brought forward 30/05/2018	40,053.99	40,053.99
Income		
Subscription	950	41,003.99
Total Income	<u>950</u>	
Expenditure		
Salaries & Honoraria	3,663.24	37,340.75
Travel	0	37,340.75
Meetings & Hospitality	1,503	35,837.73
Office Rent, Rates, Heat & Light	0	35,837.73
Office Expenses & Telephone		35,837.73
SCRR Newsletter publication	1,056.00	34,781.73
Publicity, Posters, Website		34,781.73
Miscellaneous		34,781.73
Total Expenditure	<u>6222.26</u>	
Balance		
30/05/2018		<u>34,781.73</u>