

MINUTES OF TORTH Y TIR COMMUNITY BENEFIT SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Friday June 30, 2023, 7pm  
'Peter's Plaice' 2 High Street, St Davids, SA62 6SD

**Attendees:**

Gerald Miles (chair)  
Gordon Main (secretary)  
Guy Dinmore (treasurer)  
Jack Wheatley (director)  
Tom Callaghan  
Alma Joensen  
Sam Miller  
Rick Coldman  
Kevin Rabbitt  
Buffy Wheatley  
Alan Wheatley  
Amelia Orromswan  
Ana Sanchez-Martin  
Stephen Howard

**Apologies:**

John Lupton  
Andrew Oswald  
Amanda Goodall  
Julia Horton Powdrill  
James Stewart  
Katie Versluys  
John Mansfield  
Ruth Howells  
Bryn Jenkins  
Maria Atkins

## Ffion Matthews

1. Chair Gerald Miles welcomed everyone. Minutes of the 2022 AGM were taken as read.
2. Secretary Gordon Main presented his report, explaining why Torth y Tir had not been able to resume baking at Brawdy for health and safety reasons, and with a wood-fired oven that was not safe to use where sited. However TyT ran a successful pizza operation at Caerfai farm camp site in the summer of 2022 and is leasing out the operation this year. TyT volunteers cleaned grain that was milled at the St Dogmaels water mill with flour sold on the Peninsula Food Hub in St Davids. Some grain was sold and TyT is also providing heritage grain which TyT members intend to drill using innovative methods at Car y Mor just outside St Davids. TyT is not directly employing workers and is mostly relying on volunteers, but is exploring options for a future bakery. TyT is paying back loans and communicating with its creditors. The Coastal Community Fund has given permission to sell assets it grant funded. TyT has advertised the wood fired bread oven for sale, with the intention of using funds to buy more suitable baking equipment if possible.
3. Treasurer Guy Dinmore presented the 2022 accounts, which will be posted. TyT made a slight loss in 2022 but was able to pay back £3,000 of loans, with the total outstanding loans, itemised as long-term liabilities, falling to £29,799 at end 2022. TyT is on a much more stable financial footing and will be able to reduce the debt load further by the end of the 2023 summer season. The treasurer thanked all creditors for their patience and generosity. He also explained that TyT would reduce the amount of space it is renting at Brawdy which will substantially reduce the rent over the next 12 months. No new loans or grants were taken in 2022. The meeting applauded Katie Versluys, TyT book keeper, for generous contribution of her time. The treasurer took questions from the floor.
4. The meeting unanimously adopted the 2022 accounts which are to be submitted to the FCA by end-July 2023.
5. **Elections to the board:** Gerald Miles, Gordon Main and Jack Wheatley stepped down from the board and were re-elected. Guy Dinmore remained on the board and will continue as treasurer. Alma Joensen was elected to the board and becomes the new TyT chair. Rick Coldman was elected to the board and is the new secretary.
6. **AOB.** There was a wide-ranging discussion over the future of Torth y Tir and in what form it will continue, particularly as the CBS will need to vacate Brawdy completely by July 2024 at the end of its forthcoming 12-month lease. Possibilities include transferring assets to other entities, such as a proposed grain cooperative in north Pembrokeshire, a community hub or bakery in St Davids if one is set up, or even to an existing bakery elsewhere. Several members expressed the wish to change the name of Torth y Tir because of negative associations generated under its previous management. Volunteers who have

given a lot of time to support the CBS expressed a great sense of achievement in having kept TyT assets in the community by blocking the previous board's 2021 plans to move the operation and all assets to the Gower. However there is a sense of anxiety and frustration among volunteers at working hard to pay back loans that are seen to have been wrongly taken on in the past. A major contributor told the meeting that creditors wanted TyT to succeed as a community organisation and were not exerting pressure.

Thanks were given to Peter's Plaice for hosting our AGM and the meeting broke up around 9.30pm.