

African Oyster Trust
Minutes of the 20th Annual General Meeting
Sunday 12th October 2025 15:00 hrs
On Zoom

The Chair, Kira Dalton, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Attendees: Kira Dalton, Josh Dale-Harris, Steve Emery, Margaret Maybury, Marc Sanderson, David Bailey, Liz Bailey, Andrew Bailey, Isabelle van Gruting, Lorna Stennett, Jan Pritchard.

Apologies: Karen Stirling, Pippa Zintillis, Alan and Lorna Dick, Mel and Ian Palmer, Michelle Stennett, Eva Sabin, Kemo Bah.

Minutes of the 2024 AGM

These were posted on the African Oyster Website, proposed by Andrew Bailey, seconded by Steve Emery and were approved.

Report from the Chair, Kira Dalton

Kira's Annual Report was attached to the email sent by Josh Dale-Harris to all attendees on 9th October 2025. She reiterated that the Gambia continued to be a poor country. She thanked all donors and said that all monies received were used in the Gambia for the benefit of pupils, patients and the staff employed to care for them.

Kira spoke about AOT having parted company with Bakary Sambouya Clinic but added that it may come back into the fold. All the other clinics are doing well.

Kira thanked Marc Sanderson for looking after the AOT website for almost two decades. Going forward David Bailey will be the new Web Master and will also be a Trustee.

The current trustees all agreed to remain in post and were unanimously re-elected. David Bailey was proposed and duly elected as a new trustee.

The Chair's Report was proposed by Kira Dalton, seconded by Isabelle van Gruting and was approved.

Report from Deputy Chair, Josh Dale-Harris

Josh spoke of how GSS (Gambia Schools Support) and AOT (Africa Oyster Trust) have worked closely together for almost five years and how three years ago GSS accepted responsibility for the four AOT nursery schools i.e. Mariama Mae, HENS, Jappineh and Stepping Stones. He confirmed all the schools were doing well. He mentioned the latest school to the fold, Madina Talokoto which is near Jiboroo. The roll has gone up from 40 children to 120. The local community, GSS and the Gambia Management Team have worked hard over a short space of time to make enormous improvements to the school and the quality of the teaching staff.

Josh thanked the donors for their part in making all the schools a success. The Gambia Management Team run teacher seminars every three months, have regular management meetings and are kept busy overseeing all.

The Deputy Chair's Report was proposed by Kira Dalton and seconded by Isabelle van Gruting and was approved.

Treasurer's Presentation of Accounts Y/E 31st December 2024

Steve Emery's Presentation of the 2024 Accounts and Summary were attached to the email sent by Josh Dale-Harris to all attendees on 9th October 2025.

Steve highlighted some of the points contained in the report and thanked all the donors.

The Accounts were proposed by Kira Dalton, seconded by Steve Emery and approved.

Reappointment of Independent Examiner

Brockhurst Davies Ltd. Chartered Accountants, continue to do an excellent job and have been reappointed. This was proposed by Kira Dalton, seconded by Steve Emery and approved.

The Trustees gave Marc Sanderson a huge vote of thanks for being the AOT Web Master.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 15:40

The next AGM will be held in October 2026 – exact date to be confirmed