

Old Mill of Birsack
Kinellar
Aberdeen AB21 0TP

CUKPA COMMITTEE NEWS

30 October 2020

Dear Committee Colleagues,

Firstly allow me to send my very best wishes to all. I do hope that you're keeping well and coping with all the challenges presented by this extraordinary period. By comparison with normal, life for us in deepest rural Aberdeenshire has been very quiet, while in Sevenoaks in Kent, the welcome reappearance of schoolchildren around the town, is an indication that things might just be stabilizing.

Under normal circumstances we would be preparing for our Association's AGM at this time. It is truly regrettable that we have had to defer this event to next year. I thought it important that we should maintain our contacts and share information about Association matters that would normally be covered at our pre-AGM committee meeting.

Safety and wellbeing is uppermost in all our minds at present as we go about our daily affairs. We are all delighted that Alan Dennison came through his life-threatening ordeal. Alan, we hope you continue to regain strength and energy. Well done indeed.

Committee Membership and Roles. We are delighted that Peter Young has joined the committee and has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer. Peter is a co-opted member at present until he can be formally ratified, which will occur after the February 2021 committee meeting. Peter, many thanks indeed. Alan Dennison has agreed to take the role of Membership Secretary and Grace Shacklady that of Secretary. Dave Poulter will take a well-deserved rest from his role as combined Treasurer/Membership Secretary. Dave, thanks from all of us for your outstanding service over so many years.

Association Accounts. Earlier this month Dave issued our account status which showed the Association to be in a solid financial position. Our inability to hold our normal attended meetings has resulted in a marked reduction in expenses thereby increasing our current balance.

2019 AGM. Last year's AGM was held on 29 October 2019 at the Medical Society of London. The meeting conducted the usual agenda items in a routine manner. The subject that attracted lively debate was that of how the Association might protect member's interests in the light of North Sea asset sales and impact on the Pension Covenant with the Company. It had been suggested that the Association should retain its own legal counsel. After reassurances that the Trustee had retained its own competent counsel and was prepared to use the services of the Pensions Regulator if needed, the committee concluded that pensioner's interests were sufficiently safeguarded, the cost of separate

counsel would be prohibitively expensive and potentially divisive. There has been no recurrence of this matter within the last 12 months.

Website. The Association website: cukpa.org.uk has been refreshed. Thanks to Dave for handling this.

Latest Industry News. On a more practical note, the industry in Aberdeen remains quiet. Many employees are still working from home and will continue to do so for months to come. A number of companies including some majors are downsizing their offices and redundancies are again becoming more common. The industry situation remains extremely difficult, with many smaller companies and consultancies closing down. The same can be said for a number of retail businesses as well, this in common with the rest of the country. Chevron have relinquished their office in Rubislaw and moved to a much smaller facility in the city centre, with only some 50 people remaining. When visiting becomes possible, I will be calling on them, just to make our mark as it were!

Company News. A zoom meeting was held earlier in the year with Ashley Sanders. The meeting notes were issued to committee members following the meeting. Ashley's position is uncertain and is under organizational review. He would be a great loss as he has been a welcome and supportive link with the company. Trevor has advised that the following changes to the Trustee board were confirmed at the 30 September meeting: Beth Claar replaces Irene Melitas, GM Benefit Plan Investments, Chevron. Audrey Lamastro replaces Taryn Shawstad, GM Total Remuneration, Chevron. Gregor Cameron, GM Crude S&T Europe, proposed as replacement for Chairman Stewart Wright, who is retiring.

The next Trustee Newsletter is expected to be delivered at the end of October. The newsletter will announce the findings of the 3 yearly actuarial valuation of the fund, effective 31 December 2019.

Chevron has confirmed its acquisition of Noble Energy

San Ramon, Calif., **October 30, 2020** – Chevron Corporation today reported a loss of \$207 million (\$0.12 per share - diluted) for third quarter 2020, compared with earnings of \$2.6 billion (\$1.36 per share - diluted) in third quarter 2019.

San Ramon, Calif., **October 28, 2020** The Board of Directors of Chevron Corporation declared a quarterly dividend of one dollar and twenty-nine cents (\$1.29) per share, payable December 10, 2020, to all holders of common stock as shown on the transfer records of the Corporation at the close of business November 18, 2020

UK Pensions matters. Trevor has also offered the following:

The Pensions Scheme Bill received its second reading in the Commons and now passes to a Public Bill Committee, which will scrutinise the Bill line by line and is expected to report to the House by 5 November 2020. Time will tell if this target date will be met. The PPF has published its 2019/2020 report and accounts. Reserves decreased to £5.1bn., Assets increased from £32.1bn to £36.1bn.

The state pension “triple lock” has been maintained for the 2021/2022 tax year. One idea being considered is replacing the state pension triple lock with a ‘double lock’, this would save £20bn over five years. Meanwhile, removing the Winter Fuel Payment and the free bus pass in England would free up around £3bn.

Millions of pensioners will receive a pay rise of 2.5% from April 2021, in line with the triple lock guarantee

Pensioners who are entitled to the full new single-tier state pension will get £179.60 a week from 6 April 2021, up from £175.20. The change means pensioners will be up to £228.80 better off by the end of the 2021-22 tax year, taking their total income to £9339.20. Pensioners that reached state pension age before April 2016 and receive the basic state pension will see their weekly pension payments rise from £134.25 to £137.65 next year. This amounts to a £176.80 pay rise in 2021-22, with income rising to £7,157.80 a year.

GMP Equalisation: Judgement expected imminently on the Lloyd’s Bank Case. The company will contact those members affected.

All relevant documents relating to the Chevron UK Pension Plan can be found at the website www.chevronukpension.co.uk. The website is an important reference point for personal pension information. Following the CUKPA tab on this site takes the reader to the CUKPA website, which includes current meeting minutes and recent copies of Insight, Retiree News and much more.

Insight. The usual call for articles for the next issue please. Perhaps a “collective” article with a short contribution from each committee member along the lines: “What did you do during lockdown Granny/Grandpa?” We might also consider an edited version of this newsletter in lieu of an AGM report.

To close, again I would like to express my appreciation for all the work done by committee members, particularly those directly concerned with new and changing roles. May I ask that we take the opportunity to share any information of interest by email within the committee. Please feel free to comment on this newsletter and make any additions or suggestions you feel would be of interest.

Finally, I would like to thank Neil Jones, who stood in as Chairman while I was ill with Shingles last Autumn, also for his much-appreciated support throughout.

Our thanks again and very best wishes to you, your families and friends.

Alan Higgins
Chairman

Neil Jones
Vice Chairman