



Credit Union Limited

NOTIFICATION AND ANNUAL REPORT

2020



where community matters

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Synergy Credit Union Limited will be held virtually via Zoom,

On Tuesday 6th April 2021, @ 7.30 pm

In line with Public Health Guidance and restriction of numbers allowed at indoor gatherings, the Annual General Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom, a live video stream that you will be able to access on-line. The meeting will be hosted by AVC Ltd. Each member is required to pre-register for the meeting.

A link for pre-registration is available on our website www.synergycu.ie.

Pre-registration will close on Tuesday 30th March 2021.


Notice of Elections

Elections will be held to fill 5 vacancies on the Board of Directors, 3 vacancies on the Board Oversight Committee and the position of Auditor.

Data Privacy

At Synergy Credit Union, we are fully committed to protecting and respecting our members' privacy. Our privacy statement, which is available in any of our branches or to download from our website, sets out the basis on which any personal data we collect from and about you, or that you provide will be processed, used and stored by us.

If you require more information you can contact our DPO by emailing dp@synergycu.ie or Freephone 1800 27 29 27.



Online and Mobile Banking Services

Keeping you connected



Register for secure online banking @ www.synergcu.ie



Download the Mobile App for Credit Union banking in your hand.



Manage your Loan Online from application to drawdown.



View account balances and print e-statements.



Pay bills and transfer funds 24/7.



Sign up for our current account online with a debit card and overdraft facility.



Upload and sign documents securely Online.



Call us for support and queries: Freephone 1800 272927

Register today @ www.synergcu.ie

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Agenda

Topic	Time
(a) The acceptance by Board of Directors of the authorised representatives of members that are not natural persons;	7.30 pm to 7.35 pm
(b) Ascertainment that a quorum is present	7.35 pm to 7.40 pm
(c) Adoption of standing orders	7.40 pm to 7.45 pm
(d) Notice of Motions (Rule Amendments)	7.45 pm to 7.50 pm
(e) Approval (or correction) of the minutes of the 2019 annual general meeting (as circulated)	7.50 pm to 7.55 pm
(f) Report of the Board of Directors	7.55 pm to 8.15 pm
(g) Consideration of the accounts to 30th September 2020	8.15 pm to 8.30 pm
(h) Declaration of dividend and interest rebate	8.30 pm to 8.35 pm
(i) Report of the Auditor	8.35 pm to 8.45 pm
(j) Report of the Board Oversight Committee	8.45 pm to 8.50 pm
(k) Report of the Nomination Committee	8.50 pm to 8.55 pm
(l) Election of Auditor	8.55 pm to 9.00 pm
(m) Election to fill vacancies on the Board Oversight Committee and the Board of Directors	
(n) Report of the Credit Committee	9.00 pm to 9.05 pm
(o) Report of the Credit Control Committee	9.05 pm to 9.10 pm
(p) Report of the Membership Committee	9.10 pm to 9.15 pm
(q) Announcement of election results	9.15 pm to 9.20 pm
(r) Any other business	9.20 pm to 9.25 pm
(s) Close of meeting	9.25 pm

Notice of Motion – Amendment to Rules

Motion No 1: Board Oversight Committee membership and General Provisions

That Rule 53(1) of Synergy Credit Union Limited is hereby amended to read
“the credit union shall have a board oversight committee which shall consist of 5 members”

Standing Orders for A.G.M.

1. Voting:

- Each member shall be entitled to one vote irrespective of his/her shareholding, in accordance with section 82(2) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

Since this year's AGM will be a virtual meeting, voting on motions and elections will be by electronic means. Each member will be given the opportunity to exercise their vote electronically during the meeting.

2. Election Procedure - Electronic Voting

- Following the announcement of nominations attendees will be given the opportunity to vote electronically "Yes" or "No" for each candidate. Those in attendance will be given one (1) minute to record their vote. The mechanics of the electronic virtual voting process will be explained in more detail at the AGM by the Chair. Elections shall be in the following order:
 - Position of auditor
 - Members of the board oversight committee
 - Board of Directors

The votes will be tallied electronically. When all elections have been completed and results become available the chair will announce the results.

3 - 4 Motions

- Due to the specific difficulties, we are facing in holding an Annual General Meeting this year due to Covid-19, the purpose of this year's AGM is to deal with the essential business of the credit union.

This includes reporting to members on the financial status of the credit union, declare a dividend/interest rebate, and elect officers. Any other non-urgent matters will be dealt with at next year's AGM.

As such, there will be no motions from the floor due to the difficulties in managing same remotely.

Participants at the meeting can use an inbuilt Questions & Answer function to ask a question of the main speakers and presenters.

- The Chairman's decision on any matter relating to these Standing Orders or interpretation of same shall be final.

5 - 9 Miscellaneous

- The Chairperson of the credit union shall be the Chairperson of any general meeting, except where he/she is not available, in which case it shall be the Vice-Chair, except where he/she

is not available, in which case the Board shall decide amongst themselves who shall act as Chair of any general meeting.

- The Chairperson may at his/her discretion, extend the privilege of the floor to any person who is not a member.
- Matters not covered by the Agenda may be introduced under "Other Business" at the discretion of the Chairperson. At a virtual AGM in the current circumstances, this may not be practical, however, the option may be invoked if required.
- The Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote in addition to his/her own vote on matters other than voting at elections where there is an equality of votes (Standard Rule 99(1)).
- Any matter to be decided upon by a vote at the AGM shall, unless otherwise expressly provided for by law or the rules be decided upon by majority vote.
- Adjournments
Adjournments of the AGM shall take place only in accordance with sections 81(1) and 80A of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

11-16 Virtual Meeting Items

- Members shall keep their microphones muted and video cameras off for the duration of the meeting, except for when requested to make contributions for the meeting.
- A member shall only address the meeting when called upon by the Chair to do so for a maximum time period of 3 minutes. A countdown clock will be used. When a speaker has 30 seconds left, the clock will appear briefly on the screen. If you exceed the allotted speaking time you may be muted at the discretion of the Chair.
- All members are asked to utilise the Q&A button on the bottom of the toolbar in Zoom to ask questions.
- All members are reminded to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Please refrain from sharing any explicit, violent or inappropriate content.
- Provision shall be made for the protection of the Chair from vilification (personal abuse).
- All members are asked to keep their mobile phone silent. The vibrate setting can also cause disruptions. If you must take urgent calls, please ensure that your microphone is muted.

Directors' Report

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 September 2020.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the business continues to be the operation of a credit union.

Authorisation

The credit union is authorised as follows:

- Insurance, reinsurance or ancillary insurance intermediary under the European Union (Insurance Distribution) Regulations, 2018.
- Entitled under the European Union (Payment Services) Regulations 2018 to provide payment services.
- To act on behalf of a payment institution in providing payment services.

Business review

The directors acknowledge the results for the year and the year-end financial position of the credit union. The directors expect to develop and expand the credit union's current activities and they are confident of its ability to continue to operate successfully in the future.

Dividends and loan interest rebates

The directors are not proposing a dividend or loan interest rebate in respect of the year ended 30 September 2020 (2019: proposed dividend of €7,402 (0.01%) and a proposed loan interest rebate of €19,702 (2.50%) on standard rate loans).

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties faced by the credit union are:

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss.

Lack of loan demand

Lending is the principle activity of the credit union and the credit union is reliant on it for generating income to cover costs and generate a surplus.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will decrease. This risk can arise from fluctuations in values of, or income from, assets or changes in interest rates.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the credit union will not have sufficient cash resources to meet day to day running costs and repay members' savings when demanded.

Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed processes or systems of the credit union, any failure by persons connected with the credit union or from external events.

Directors' Report (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

These risks are managed by the board of directors as follows:

Credit risk

In order to manage this risk, the board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's credit lending policy. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the credit lending policy in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

Lack of loan demand

The credit union provide lending products to its members and promote these products through various marketing initiatives.

Market risk

The board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's investment policy and funds are invested in compliance with this policy and regulatory guidance.

Liquidity risk

The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Operational risk

The operational risk of the credit union is managed through the employment of suitably qualified staff to ensure appropriate processes, procedures and systems are implemented and are further supported with a robust reporting structure.

Accounting records

The directors believe that they comply with the requirements of Section 108 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) with regard to books of account by employing accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the finance function. The books of account of the credit union are maintained at the credit union's premises at 27/29 Patrick Street, Fermoy, Co Cork.

Events after the end of the financial year

Since the year end the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to have a direct effect on the credit union, the economy and the general population. The directors and management are closely monitoring the evolution of the pandemic, and while there is no clear indication as to when the impact will be curtailed or eliminated, they will continue to take appropriate actions to mitigate any possible adverse effects on the credit union, on its officers and on its members.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 115 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended), the auditors Grant Thornton offer themselves for re-election.

This report was approved by the board on 24th October 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

On behalf of the Credit Union:

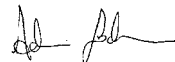
Chairperson of the Board of Directors: Pat Leogue

Date: 24th October 2020



Member of the Board of Directors: Adrian Godwin

Date: 24th October 2020



Directors' Responsibilities Statement

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations. The directors are also responsible for preparing the other information included in the annual report. The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the credit union and of the income and expenditure of the credit union for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and reason for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the credit union will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the credit union keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the credit union, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and income and expenditure of the credit union to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the credit union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This statement was approved by the board on 24th October 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

On behalf of the Credit Union:

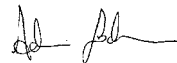
Chairperson of the Board of Directors: Pat League

Date: 24th October 2020



Member of the Board of Directors: Adrian Godwin

Date: 24th October 2020



Chairperson's Address

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend a warm welcome to you, our members, to our first ever virtual Annual General Meeting, where it is my duty to present the annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2020.

The onset of Covid-19 in March 2020 created unprecedented and unpredictable challenges which impacted on all our lives. Having made a very encouraging start to the financial year to March 2020, Synergy Credit Union, like all other businesses had to face the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic and this naturally impacted negatively on the financial performance for the year ending 30th September 2020.

Income at €2,766,269, was €594,283 lower than the income to 30th September 2019. However, 2019 income included €754,000 received from the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation. This was the final tranche owed to Synergy Credit Union from the Anglo-Irish Credit Union Bond and therefore was non-recurring.

Expenditure, at €2,956,762 was €197,582 greater than the expenditure figure for year ended 30th September 2019. The major contributor here was the addition of €595,869 to the provision for bad debts. The Board decided on this prudent approach to provisioning to cover the possible negative impact of Brexit, Covid 19 and other macro-economic factors on future loan repayments. This prudence has resulted in the increase of the provision for bad debts to €2,731,720. This increase should not be taken as an indicator of increased arrears, it is a prudent approach given the economic uncertainty currently prevailing. We are therefore reporting a deficit of €190,493 for the year ended 30th September 2020 compared to a surplus of €601,372 for the previous year.

Total assets of Synergy Credit Union as of 30th September increased by 4.24% to €94,682,707. Loans to members increased by 1.44% to €25,063,828 and represented 26.47% of total assets. Deposits & Investments increased by 5.32% to €68,478,491 to represent 72.32% of total assets.

Member shares increased by 4.98% to €80,952,316. This increase was much less than the increase of 10.36% experienced in 2019 and was the result of the savings management strategy approved by the Board, which limits members shares at €30,000 from 1st January 2020.

When we look at income generation, we see that our Deposits & Investments which represented 72.32% of our assets as at 30th September 2020, contributed a mere 20% of total income for the year. On the other hand, interest paid by our borrowing members, whose loans represented just 26.47% of our assets as at 30th September 2020, contributed 79.18% of total income.

The Credit Union model is built upon the provision of savings and loans and when savings are not used to fund lending, they are placed in secure investments. The rate of return on such investments has reduced substantially in recent years and show no signs of improving. This, compounded by the continuing low demand for borrowing, led the Board of Directors to recently introduce further measures aimed at protecting the balance sheet by limiting the increase in members shares. From 1st January 2021 a cap of €10,000 has applied to new members share accounts and all members are limited to lodging a maximum of €5,000 per month. The Board is satisfied that these measures will have minimal impact on most of our members or prospective members.

Your Board is obliged to consider the stability of the balance sheet. As advised in my address last year, Central Bank regulations basically mean that for every additional €100,000 of savings, the Credit Union must allocate €10,000 from surplus to reserves. Since there was no surplus, we were not able to make a transfer to the Regulatory Reserve which therefore reduced from 10.98% to 10.53%. We were fortunate therefore to have had a cushion in our existing reserves. Our total reserve figure at year end was 13.7%, down from 14.5% at year-end 2019. Furthermore, given that there was no surplus, the Board is not recommending any distributions by way of a dividend to members or by way of an interest rebate to borrowing members. This is in line with Central Bank guidance issued to Credit Unions in September 2020.

On behalf of the Board and our members, I must commend our CEO, Martina Cotter, and the team of committed and loyal staff that she leads, in the manner in which they responded to the unprecedented challenges of Covid-19. The decisions made and actions taken throughout the past year have ensured that our 3 offices remained open while protecting our members and our staff. One of the measures introduced is

Chairperson's Address (continued)

facilitating working from home where possible. With fewer staff available for counter duties and in line with public health advice, we as members should be doing our bit by avoiding visits to the credit union offices whenever possible. Over the past 12 months the Credit Union has continued to improve our online offering and capabilities. You can now do all your business from the comfort of your own home so I am asking those members who still insist on calling into the office in these dangerous times, if it's an essential visit and could you not carry out your transaction online?


I wish to thank the volunteers who work tirelessly and spend long hours as members of sub-committees and /or members of the Board. Volunteerism is a unique feature that has served this and other Credit Unions extremely well for over 50 years. We are delighted to welcome new volunteers, three of whom are standing for election to the Board tonight and we commit to assisting you all to get to grips with your new roles. I also ask all members, who feel that they have something to contribute, to consider volunteering.

I thank the Board members who step down tonight or have recently done so, Catherine Buckley, Rachel Delaney and Lisa Keohane. Catherine has given many years of unselfish service initially with St Patrick's and lately with Synergy. Rachel and Lisa joined the Board last year but due to changes in their individual circumstances over the past year they have decided to step down. We are encouraged however that they are both open to considering volunteering with us again at some stage in the future, if circumstances permit. We face very challenging times. The deficit reported in the latest accounts includes a period prior to the emergence of the pandemic when we were performing well. We will not have that buffer this year and, as of now, there is no indication that the global trend of increased savings and a drop in a demand for borrowing is about to change anytime soon. I assure you, however, that your Board will continue to work diligently in the best interests of the Credit Union and will continue to implement whatever measures it determines are required to ensure the future viability of Synergy Credit Union. As members we can all help by using our Credit Union for all our borrowing needs if possible. Remember that, in addition to the traditional loan, we now offer a current account with overdraft facility. Loans can be applied for and drawn down on-line.

In conclusion, and on the good news front, Synergy Credit Union, through our involvement in Metamo, has been approved by the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) to participate in the Covid 19 Credit Guarantee Scheme. This is a Government supported scheme to assist SME businesses and primary producers that have been adversely impacted by Covid-19, to access loan facilities to support the continued viability of their business throughout the pandemic and beyond. We are delighted with the interest being expressed by the business community in the scheme and are very pleased to advise that loans have been approved and funds issued in the small number of weeks since introduced.

Further exciting products and services are planned, and details will be furnished when these are ready for roll out.

Thanks for supporting your Credit Union to date and please continue to do so.



Pat Leogue
Chairperson

Board Oversight Committee Report

The Board Oversight Committee is pleased to report to you, the members of Synergy Credit Union Limited, in respect of the year ended 30th of September 2020.

Credit Unions are volunteer led and professionally run. The Directors are members themselves and are responsible for appropriate governance arrangements which will protect members' savings.

The Credit Union Act, 1997, as amended, requires the appointment of a Board Oversight Committee to assess whether the Board of Directors has operated in accordance with Part IV & IV (a) of the Act, any regulations made for the purposes of Part IV & IV (a) of the Act and any other matter prescribed by the Central Bank of Ireland.

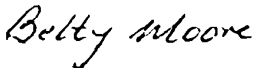
At the end of February 2020, the Covid-19 Pandemic hit the country and restrictions on movement and gatherings were introduced by the Government to stop the spread of the virus. The board moved to an online secured platform to hold their monthly board and committee meetings.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the general control, direction, and management of the Credit Union. The Board meets as often as is necessary, but at least monthly, to discharge this responsibility, these meetings are held remotely via a secure platform since the outbreak of COVID-19. The Board continually keeps under review the principal risks and challenges facing the Credit Union.

During the past year, the Board Oversight Committee has discharged its obligations under the Act. Work undertaken by the committee included holding our monthly committee meetings to discuss Credit Union matters and ensuring that the committee was present at all meetings of the Board of Directors. The committee held four quarterly meetings with the Board of Directors in accordance with the Act and we attended various committee meetings throughout the year including the Credit Union's Strategic Planning programme. It is our view that the Board of Directors have operated in accordance with all legislative and regulatory requirements in all material respects.

We also wish to pay tribute to the outgoing Directors for their very considerable contributions and efforts. In the early stages of the pandemic the Government listed Credit Unions as essential service providers and requested that as far as possible, they continue to provide services to their members. This was challenging but our CEO along with her staff faced these challenges on a daily basis. We the Board Oversight Committee are proud to confirm that the staff, management team and the Board of Directors are a credit to you our members in how they dealt with and continue to deal with the challenges of Covid-19.

Finally, we wish to thank the Board of Directors, the CEO, her Management Team and the Staff for their professionalism, sincerity, and support throughout the last 12 months.



Betty Moore
Chairperson

Statement of Board Oversight Committee's Responsibilities

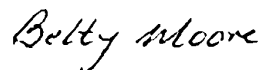
For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the appointment of a board oversight committee to assess whether the board of directors has operated in accordance with part iv, part iv(a) and any regulations made for the purposes of part iv or part iv(a) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and any other matter prescribed by the Central Bank of Ireland in respect of which they are to have regard to in relation to the board of directors.

This statement was approved by the board oversight committee on 24th October 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

On behalf of the Board Oversight Committee:

Chairperson of the Board Oversight Committee: Betty Moore



Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Synergy Credit Union Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Synergy Credit Union Limited, which comprise the income and expenditure account, the statement of other comprehensive income, the balance sheet, the statement of changes in reserves and the statement of cash flows for the financial year ended 30 September 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements is Irish law including the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

In our opinion, Synergy Credit Union Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland of the state of the credit union's affairs as at 30 September 2020 and of its income and expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared so as to conform with the requirements of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) ('ISAs (Ireland)') and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the credit union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, namely the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA) Ethical Standard concerning the integrity, objectivity and independence of the auditor, and the ethical pronouncements established by Chartered Accountants Ireland, applied as determined to be appropriate in the circumstances for the entity. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the credit union's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

Other information comprises information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

to the members of Synergy Credit Union Limited

Matters on which we are required to report by the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended)

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- in our opinion proper accounting records have been kept by the credit union;
- the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records of the credit union; and
- the financial statements contain all primary statements, notes and significant accounting policies required to be included in accordance with section 111(1)(c) of the Act.

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS 102, and for such internal control as they determine necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the credit union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intends to liquidate the credit union or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements

The auditor's objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes their opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), the auditor will exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. The auditor will also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for their opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the credit union's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the credit union's ability to continue as a going concern. If they conclude that a material uncertainty exists, they are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify their opinion. Their conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the credit union to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves a true and fair view.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

to the members of Synergy Credit Union Limited

The auditor communicates with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that may be identified during the audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the credit union's members, as a body, in accordance with section 120 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the credit union's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the credit union and the credit union's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Denise O'Connell FCA
for and on behalf of
Grant Thornton
Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Audit Firm
Mill House, Henry Street, Limerick

Date: 24th October 2020

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

	Schedule	2020 €	2019 €
Income			
Interest on members' loans		2,190,198	2,050,430
Other interest income and similar income	1	554,460	1,287,373
Net interest income		2,744,658	3,337,803
Other income	2	21,611	22,749
Total income		2,766,269	3,360,552
Expenditure			
Employment costs		1,162,840	1,161,756
Other management expenses	3	1,183,499	1,315,266
Depreciation		176,651	151,715
Net impairment losses on loans to members (note 5)		433,772	130,443
Total expenditure		2,956,762	2,759,180
(Deficit)/Surplus for the financial year		(190,493)	601,372

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 24th October 2020 and signed on behalf of the credit union by:

Chief Executive Officer: Martina Cotter

Date: 24th October 2020

Member of the Board Oversight Committee: Joe Tobin

Date: 24th October 2020

Member of the Board of Directors: Pat Leogue

Date: 24th October 2020

Martina Cotter
Joe Tobin
Pat Leogue

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

	2020 €	2019 €
(Deficit)/Surplus for the financial year	(190,493)	601,372
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year	<u>(190,493)</u>	<u>601,372</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 24th October 2020 and signed on behalf of the credit union by:

Chief Executive Officer: Martina Cotter
Date: 24th October 2020

Martina Cotter

Member of the Board Oversight Committee: Joe Tobin
Date: 24th October 2020

Joe Tobin

Member of the Board of Directors: Pat Leogue
Date: 24th October 2020

Pat Leogue

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 September 2020

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
Assets			
Cash and balances at bank		1,943,215	1,455,310
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents	7	11,301,648	14,930,561
Deposits and investments – other	7	57,176,843	50,086,673
Loans to members	8	25,063,828	24,707,605
Provision for bad debts	9	(2,731,720)	(2,135,851)
Members' current accounts	14	15,987	-
Tangible fixed assets	10	1,485,759	1,381,741
Investment in associates	11	265,000	265,000
Prepayments and accrued income	12	162,147	143,080
Total assets		94,682,707	90,834,119
Liabilities			
Members' shares	13	80,952,316	77,108,669
Members' current accounts	14	296,842	2,449
Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges	15	463,739	539,500
Other provisions	16	16,058	10,982
Total liabilities		81,728,955	77,661,600
Reserves			
Regulatory reserve	18	9,972,205	9,972,205
Operational risk reserve	18	800,861	743,134
Other reserves			
- Realised reserves	18	2,099,563	2,363,545
- Unrealised reserves	18	81,123	93,635
Total reserves		12,953,752	13,172,519
Total liabilities and reserves		94,682,707	90,834,119

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 24th October 2020 and signed on behalf of the credit union by:

Chief Executive Officer: Martina Cotter

Date: 24th October 2020

Member of the Board Oversight Committee: Joe Tobin

Date: 24th October 2020

Member of the Board of Directors: Pat Leogue

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Martina Cotter
Joe Tobin
Pat Leogue

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Reserves

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

	Regulatory reserve	Operational risk reserve	Realised reserves	Unrealised reserves	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
As at 1 October 2018	9,972,205	520,268	2,154,184	96,318	12,742,975
Surplus for the year	-	22,866	573,849	4,657	601,372
Dividends and loan interest rebate paid	-	-	(164,328)	-	(164,328)
Payment from reserves	-	-	(7,500)	-	(7,500)
Transfers between reserves	-	200,000	(192,660)	(7,340)	-
As at 1 October 2019	9,972,205	743,134	2,363,545	93,635	13,172,519
(Deficit) for the year	-	-	(191,600)	1,107	(190,493)
Dividends and loan interest rebates paid	-	-	(27,076)	-	(27,076)
Payment from reserves	-	-	(1,198)	-	(1,198)
Transfers between reserves	-	57,727	(44,108)	(13,619)	-
As at 30 September 2020	<u>9,972,205</u>	<u>800,861</u>	<u>2,099,563</u>	<u>81,123</u>	<u>12,953,752</u>

- The regulatory reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 September 2020 was 10.53% (2019: 10.98%).
- The operational risk reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 September 2020 was 0.85% (2019: 0.82%).

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

		2020 €	2019 €
Opening cash and cash equivalents		16,385,871	15,792,664
Cash flows from operating activities			
Loans repaid by members	8	11,714,490	10,402,568
Loans granted to members	8	(12,328,858)	(12,939,890)
Members' current accounts lodgements	14	2,760,945	23,957
Members' current accounts withdrawals	14	(2,482,539)	(21,508)
Interest on members' loans		2,190,198	2,050,430
Other interest income and similar income		554,460	1,287,373
Bad debts recovered and recoveries		420,241	431,538
Other income		21,611	22,749
Dividends paid		(7,362)	(68,195)
Loan interest rebates paid		(19,714)	(96,133)
Operating expenses		(2,347,536)	(2,484,522)
Movement in other assets and liabilities		(89,752)	40,170
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>386,184</u>	<u>(1,351,463)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Fixed asset (purchases)/disposals		(280,669)	(94,405)
Investment in associates		-	(265,000)
Net cash flow from other investing activities		(7,090,170)	(4,932,523)
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(7,370,839)</u>	<u>(5,291,928)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Members' shares received	13	52,003,788	64,111,698
Members' shares withdrawn	13	(48,160,141)	(56,875,100)
Net cash flow from financing activities		<u>3,843,647</u>	<u>7,236,598</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(3,141,008)</u>	<u>593,207</u>
Closing cash and cash equivalents	6	<u>13,244,863</u>	<u>16,385,871</u>

The notes on pages 19 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

1. Legal and regulatory framework

Synergy Credit Union Limited is registered with the Registry of Credit Unions and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The registered office of the credit union is located at 27/29 Patrick Street, Fermoy, Co Cork.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Irish accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the credit union.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102).

2.3 Going concern

After reviewing the credit union's projections, the directors have reasonable expectation that the credit union has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The credit union therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.4 Income

Interest on members' loans

Interest on members' loans is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest method.

Deposit and investment income

Deposit and investment income is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest method.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis.

2.5 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and deposits and investments with a maturity of less than or equal to three months.

2.6 Investments

The specific investment products held by the credit union are accounted for as follows:

Held at amortised cost

Investments designated on initial recognition as held at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. This means that the investment is measured at the amount paid for the investment, minus any repayments of the principal; plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the amount at initial recognition and the maturity amount, minus, in the case of a financial asset, any reduction for impairment or uncollectability.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Central Bank deposits

Credit unions are obliged to maintain certain deposits with the Central Bank. These deposits are technically assets of the credit union but to which the credit union has restricted access. The funds on deposit with the Central Bank attract nominal interest and will not ordinarily be returned to the credit union while it is a going concern. The amounts are stated at the amount deposited plus accrued income and are not subject to impairment reviews.

Investments at fair value

Investments held for trading and investment in stock market shares (i.e. non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares) are included in this category. Financial assets at fair value are classified as held for trading if they are acquired for sale in the short term. They are valued at fair value (market value) at the year-end date and all gains and losses are taken to the income and expenditure account.

The fair value of quoted investments is determined by reference to bid prices at the close of business on the balance sheet date. Where there is no active market these assets will be carried at cost less impairment.

2.7 Financial assets – loans to members

Loans are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments. Loans are recognised when cash is advanced to members and measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Loans are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired, usually when all amounts outstanding have been repaid by the member.

2.8 Provision for bad debts

The credit union assesses if there is objective evidence that any of its loans are impaired with due consideration of environmental factors. The loans are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics. Individually significant loans are assessed on a loan by loan basis. In addition, if there is objective evidence that any individual loan is impaired, a specific loss will be recognised. Bad debt provisioning is monitored by the credit union, and the credit union assesses and approves its provisions and the adequacy of same on a regular basis.

Any bad debts/impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

The credit union adds to the carrying amount of an item of fixed assets the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred, if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the credit union. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. Repairs and maintenance are charged to the income and expenditure account during the period in which they are incurred.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold premises	2% straight line per annum
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line per annum
Computer and office equipment	20% straight line per annum

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'other gains' or 'other losses' in the income and expenditure account.

2.10 Impairment of assets

At each reporting date assets are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If the estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account. If an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not in excess of the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account.

2.11 Investments in associates

Investments in associates are accounted for at cost less impairment.

2.12 Other receivables

Other receivables such as prepayments are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Financial liabilities – members' shares

Members' shares are redeemable and therefore are classified as financial liabilities. They are initially recognised at the amount of cash deposited and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

2.14 Members' current accounts

The credit union provides Member Personal Current Account Services in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

2.15 Other payables

Short term other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges are measured at the transaction price.

2.16 Pension costs

The credit union operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the credit union in independently administered funds. Employer contributions to the pensions scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

2.17 Holiday pay

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement which is accrued at the balance sheet date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement so accrued at the balance sheet date.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.18 Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligations of the credit union specified in the contract are discharged, cancelled or expired.

2.19 Regulatory reserve

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016 requires credit unions to establish and maintain a minimum regulatory reserve requirement of at least 10 per cent of the assets of the credit union. This reserve is to be perpetual in nature, freely available to absorb losses, realised financial reserves that are unrestricted and non-distributable.

2.20 Operational risk reserve

Section 45(5)(a) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires each credit union to maintain an additional reserve that it has assessed is required for operational risk having regard to the nature, scale and complexity of the credit union. Credit Unions are required to maintain a minimum operational risk reserve having due regard for the sophistication of the business model.

The definition of operational risk is the risk of losses stemming from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. The directors have considered the requirements of the Act and have considered an approach to the calculation of the operational risk reserve. The credit union uses the Basic Indicator Approach as set out in the operational risk measurements techniques proposed under Basel II capital adequacy rules for banking institutions in calculating the operational risk reserve. Therefore the credit union will hold an operational risk reserve which will at a minimum equal 15% of the average positive gross income for the previous three years. For any year in which there was a deficit, this will be excluded from the calculation.

In addition, the credit union has included in its operational risk reserve a Member Personal Current Account Service operational risk reserve, in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

2.21 Other reserves

Other reserves are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends returnable to members. The other reserves are subdivided into realised and unrealised. The credit union has established a social fund reserve to be used by the credit union for social, cultural and charitable purposes in accordance with section 44 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and this is included in realised reserves. In accordance with the Central Bank guidance note for credit unions on matters relating to accounting for investments and distribution policy, investment income that has been recognised but will not be received within 12 months of the balance sheet date is classified as "unrealised" and is not distributable. A reclassification between unrealised and realised is made as investments come to within 12 months of maturity date. The directors have deemed it appropriate that interest on loans receivable at the balance sheet date is also classified as "unrealised" and is not distributable. All other income is classified as "realised".

2.22 Distribution policy

Dividends and loan interest rebates are made from the current year's surplus or reserves set aside for that purpose. The board's proposed dividends and loan interest rebates to members each year is based on the distribution policy of the credit union.

The rate of dividends and loan interest rebates recommended by the board will reflect:

- the risk profile of the credit union, particularly in its loan and investments portfolios;
- the board's desire to maintain a stable rather than a volatile rate of dividend each year; and
- members' legitimate dividend and loan interest rebate expectations;

all dominated by prudence and the need to sustain the long-term welfare of the credit union.

For this reason the board will seek to build up its reserves to absorb unexpected shocks and still remain above minimum regulatory requirements.

The credit union accounts for dividends and loan interest rebates when members ratify such payments at the Annual General Meeting.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.23 Taxation

The credit union is not subject to income tax or corporation tax on its activities.

3. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key source of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires the directors to make significant judgements and estimates. The items in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

Determination of depreciation, useful economic life and residual value of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these useful lives and change them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year. The net book value of tangible fixed assets subject to depreciation at the year end was €1,485,759 (2019: €1,381,741).

Provision for bad debts

The credit union's accounting policy for impairment of loans is set out in the accounting policy in note 2.8. The estimation of loan losses is inherently uncertain and depends upon many factors, including loan loss trends, credit risk characteristics in loan classes, local and international economic climates, conditions in various sectors of the economy to which the credit union is exposed, and, other external factors such as legal and regulatory requirements. The provision for bad debts in the financial statements at the year end was €2,731,720 (2019: €2,135,851) representing 10.90% (2019: 8.64%) of the total gross loan book.

Investments in associates

The investment in associates represents Synergy Credit Union Limited's investment in Metacu Management Designated Activity Company. This investment was made for operational purposes. The credit union holds 6.25% Redeemable A Ordinary shares in the company and through the terms of the shareholders agreement agreed between each of the participating credit unions, Synergy Credit Union Limited is deemed to have influence over the operations of this company. Therefore the investment has been accounted for as an investment in an associate.

Operational risk reserve

The directors have considered the requirements of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and have considered an approach to the calculation of the operational risk reserve. The credit union uses the basic indicator approach as set out in the operational risk measurements techniques proposed under Basel II capital adequacy rules for banking institutions in calculating the minimum operational risk reserve. In addition, the credit union has included in its operational risk reserve a Member Personal Current Account Service operational risk reserve, in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The operational risk reserve of the credit union at the year end was €800,861 (2019: €743,134).

Adoption of going concern basis for financial statements preparation

The directors have prepared projections and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the credit union's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the credit union was unable to continue as a going concern.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

4. Key management personnel compensation

The directors of Synergy Credit Union Limited are all unpaid volunteers. The key management personnel compensation is as follows.

	2020	2019
	€	€
Short term employee benefits paid to key management	489,908	451,392
Payments to pension schemes	46,740	41,054
Total key management personnel compensation	536,648	492,446

5. Net impairment losses on loans to members

	2020	2019
	€	€
Bad debts recovered (net)	(357,209)	(364,637)
Impairment of loan interest reclassified as bad debt recoveries	(63,033)	(66,901)
Movement in bad debts provision during the year	595,869	304,844
Loans written off during the year	258,145	257,137
Net impairment losses on loans to members	433,772	130,443

Bad debts recovered (net) is analysed as follows:

	2020	2019
	€	€
Bad debt recovered	383,033	394,915
Legal fees associated with the bad debts recovered	(25,824)	(30,278)
Bad debts recovered (net)	357,209	364,637

6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2020	2019
	€	€
Cash and balances at bank	1,943,215	1,455,310
Deposits and investments (note 7)	68,478,491	65,017,234
Less: Deposit and investment amounts maturing after three months	(57,176,843)	(50,086,673)
Total cash and cash equivalents	13,244,863	16,385,871

7. Deposits and investments

	2020	2019
	€	€
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents		
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)	10,291,398	14,930,561
Other	1,010,250	-
Total deposits and investments – cash equivalents	11,301,648	14,930,561
Deposits and investments – other		
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)	45,418,254	38,861,915
Bank bonds	9,071,108	7,646,825
Other	-	2,960,452
Central Bank deposits	2,687,481	617,481
Total deposits and investments – other	57,176,843	50,086,673
Total deposits and investments	68,478,491	65,017,234

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

8. Financial assets – loans to members

	2020 €	2019 €
As at 1 October	24,707,605	22,427,420
Loans granted during the year	12,328,858	12,939,890
Loans repaid during the year	(11,714,490)	(10,402,568)
Gross loans and advances	25,321,973	24,964,742
Bad debts		
Loans written off during the year	(258,145)	(257,137)
As at 30 September	25,063,828	24,707,605

9. Provision for bad debts

	2020 €	2019 €
As at 1 October	2,135,851	1,831,007
Movement in bad debts provision during the year	595,869	304,844
As at 30 September	2,731,720	2,135,851

The provision for bad debts is analysed as follows:

	2020 €	2019 €
Grouped assessed loans	2,731,720	2,135,851
Provision for bad debts	2,731,720	2,135,851

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold premises €	Fixtures & fittings €	Computer and office equipment €	Total €
Cost				
1 October 2019	1,044,129	1,027,159	1,118,127	3,189,415
Additions	-	21,799	258,870	280,669
Disposals	-	(5,609)	(133,156)	(138,765)
At 30 September 2020	1,044,129	1,043,349	1,243,841	3,331,319
Depreciation				
1 October 2019	65,351	812,506	929,817	1,807,674
Charge for year	20,883	30,950	124,818	176,651
Disposals	-	(5,609)	(133,156)	(138,765)
At 30 September 2020	86,234	837,847	921,479	1,845,560
Net book value				
30 September 2020	957,895	205,502	322,362	1,485,759
30 September 2019	978,778	214,653	188,310	1,381,741

11. Investments in associates

Cost	€
At 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020	<u>265,000</u>
Accumulated impairment	
At 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020	<u>-</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2020	<u>265,000</u>
At 30 September 2019	<u>265,000</u>

Interests in associate

The credit union has interests in the following associate:

Associate	Type of shares held	Proportion held (%)	Net Assets €	Profit or loss €
Metacu Management Designated Activity Company	Redeemable A Ordinary	6.25%	4,128,964	(111,036)

The effect of including this investment as if it had been accounted for using the equity method would be as follows:

	Share of net assets
	€
At 1 October 2019	265,000
Share of other comprehensive income/(loss)	<u>(6,940)</u>
At 30 September 2020	<u>258,060</u>

The above financial information in respect of Metacu Management Designated Activity Company was extracted from the audited financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2019.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

12. Prepayments and accrued income

	2020	2019
	€	€
Loan interest receivable	78,177	77,528
Prepayments	83,970	65,552
As at 30 September	162,147	143,080

13. Members' shares

	2020	2019
	€	€
As at 1 October	77,108,669	69,872,071
Received during the year	52,003,788	64,111,698
Withdrawn during the year	(48,160,141)	(56,875,100)
As at 30 September	80,952,316	77,108,669

14. Members' current accounts

	2020	2019
	€	€
As at 1 October	2,449	-
Lodgements during the year	2,760,945	23,957
Withdrawals during the year	(2,482,539)	(21,508)
As at 30 September	280,855	2,449
	No. of Accounts	Balance of Accounts €
Debit	92	15,987
Credit	336	296,842
Permitted overdrafts	33	45,399

15. Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges

	2020	2019
	€	€
Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges	438,732	510,506
PAYE/PRSI	25,007	28,994
As at 30 September	463,739	539,500

16. Other provisions

	2020	2019
	€	€
Holiday Pay Accrual		
At 1 October	10,982	10,842
Charged to the income and expenditure account	5,076	140
As at 30 September	16,058	10,982

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

17. Financial instruments

17a. Financial instruments – measured at amortised cost

Financial assets	2020	2019
	€	€
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>92,750,578</u>	<u>90,467,549</u>
Financial liabilities	2020	2019
	€	€
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>81,728,955</u>	<u>77,661,600</u>

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise of cash and balances at bank, deposits and investments, loans, members' current accounts and investments in associates.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise of members' shares, members' current accounts, other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges and other provisions.

17b. Financial instruments – fair value measurements

FRS 102 requires fair value measurements to be disclosed by the source of inputs, using a three level hierarchy:

- Quoted prices for identical instruments in active market (level 1);
- Prices of recent transactions for identical instruments and valuation techniques using observable market data (level 2), and
- Valuation techniques using unobservable market data (level 3).

The table below sets out fair value measurements using the fair value hierarchy:

At 30 September 2020	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	€	€	€	€
Other	1,010,250	-	1,010,250	-
Bank bonds	<u>2,005,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,005,693</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>3,015,943</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,015,943</u>	<u>-</u>
At 30 September 2019	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	€	€	€	€
Other	<u>977,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>977,600</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>977,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>977,600</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no fair value adjustments recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2020 (2019: €nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

18. Reserves

	Balance 1/10/2019	Payment of dividends and loan interest rebates	Payments from reserves	Appropriation of current year (deficit)	Transfers between reserves	Balance 30/09/2020
	€	€	€	€	€	€
Regulatory reserve	9,972,205	-	-	-	-	9,972,205
Operational risk reserve	743,134	-	-	-	57,727	800,861
Other reserves						
Realised						
Special reserve: dividends and loan interest rebates	27,104	(27,076)	-	-	(28)	-
Future dividend reserve	20,000	-	-	-	(20,000)	-
General reserve	2,293,941	-	-	(191,600)	(24,080)	2,078,261
Social fund reserve	22,500	-	(1,198)	-	-	21,302
Total realised reserves	2,363,545	(27,076)	(1,198)	(191,600)	(44,108)	2,099,563
Unrealised						
Interest on loans reserve	77,528	-	-	649	-	78,177
Investment income reserve	16,107	-	-	458	(13,619)	2,946
Total unrealised reserves	93,635	-	-	1,107	(13,619)	81,123
Total reserves	13,172,519	(27,076)	(1,198)	(190,493)	-	12,953,752

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

19. Credit risk disclosures

In line with regulatory requirements, the credit union:

- restricts the concentration of lending by the credit union within certain sectors or to connected persons or groups (concentration limits);
- restricts the absolute amount of lending to certain sectors to a set percentages of the regulatory reserve (large exposure limit)
- restricts the loan duration of certain loans to specified limits (maturity limits)
- requires specified lending practices to be in place where loans are made to certain sectors such as business loans, community loans or loans to another credit union.

The carrying amount of the loans to members represents the credit union's maximum exposure to credit risk. The following provides information on the credit quality of loan repayments. Where loans are not impaired it is expected that the amounts repayable will be received in full.

	2020		2019	
	€	%	€	%
Loans not impaired				
Total loans not impaired, not past due	<u>22,341,090</u>	89.14%	<u>22,412,312</u>	90.71%
Impaired loans:				
Not past due	1,134,384	4.52%	487,930	1.98%
Up to 9 weeks past due	627,729	2.50%	849,583	3.44%
Between 10 and 18 weeks past due	200,589	0.80%	224,621	0.91%
Between 19 and 26 weeks past due	229,647	0.92%	30,649	0.12%
Between 27 and 39 weeks past due	77,735	0.31%	106,509	0.43%
Between 40 and 52 weeks past due	52,562	0.21%	78,947	0.32%
53 or more weeks past due	400,092	1.60%	517,054	2.09%
Total impaired loans	<u>2,722,738</u>	10.86%	<u>2,295,293</u>	9.29%
Total loans	<u>25,063,828</u>	100.00%	<u>24,707,605</u>	100.00%

20. Related party transactions

20a. Loans

	2020		2019	
	No. of Loans	€	No. of Loans	€
Loans advanced to related parties during the year	11	63,000	12	78,850
Total loans outstanding to related parties at the year end	16	119,745	20	163,688
Total provision for loans outstanding to related parties		3,742		6,420

The related party loans stated above comprise of loans outstanding to directors and the management team (to include their family members or any business in which the directors or management team had a significant shareholding).

Total loans outstanding to related parties represents 0.48% of the total loans outstanding at 30 September 2020 (2019: 0.66%).

20b. Savings

The total amount of savings held by related parties at the year end was €135,651 (2019: €211,807).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

21. Additional financial instruments disclosures

21a. Financial risk management

The credit union manages its members' shares and loans so that it earns income from the margin between interest receivable and interest payable. The main financial risks arising from the credit union's activities are credit risk, market risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The board of directors reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks, which are summarised below.

Credit risk: Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss. In order to manage this risk the board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's credit lending policy. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the credit lending policy in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

Market risk: Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will decrease. This risk can arise from fluctuations in values of, or income from, assets or changes in interest rates. The board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's investment policy and funds are invested in compliance with this policy and regulatory guidance.

Liquidity risk: Liquidity risk is the risk that the credit union will not have sufficient cash resources to meet day to day running costs and repay members' savings when demanded. The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Interest rate risk: The credit union's main interest rate risk arises from adverse movements in interest rates receivable which would affect investment income. The credit union reviews any potential new investment product carefully to ensure that minimum funds are locked in low yielding long term investments yet at the same time maximising investment income receivable.

21b. Liquidity risk disclosures

The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due. The credit union adheres on an ongoing basis to the minimum liquidity ratio and minimum short term liquidity ratio as set out in regulatory requirements.

21c. Interest rate risk disclosures

The following shows the average interest rates applicable to relevant financial assets and financial liabilities.

	2020		2019	
	€	Average interest rate %	€	Average interest rate %
Gross loans to members	<u>25,063,828</u>	9.02%	<u>24,707,605</u>	9.07%

Any dividend payable is at the discretion of the directors and is therefore not a financial liability of the credit union until declared and approved at the AGM.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

22. Dividends and loan interest rebate

The following distributions were paid during the year:

	%	2020 €	%	2019 €
Dividend on shares	0.01%	7,362	0.10%	68,195
Loan interest rebate (on standard rate loans)	2.50%	19,714	5.00%	96,133

The directors propose the following distributions in respect of the year:

	%	2020 €	%	2019 €
Dividend on shares	0.00%	-	0.01%	7,402
Loan interest rebate (on standard rate loans)	0.00%	-	2.50%	19,702

23. Events after the end of the financial year

Since the year end the COVID-19 pandemic has continued to have a direct effect on the credit union, the economy and the general population. The directors and management are closely monitoring the evolution of the pandemic, and while there is no clear indication as to when the impact will be curtailed or eliminated, they will continue to take appropriate actions to mitigate any possible adverse effects on the credit union, on its officers and on its members.

24. Insurance against fraud

The credit union has Insurance against fraud in the amount of €5,200,000 (2019: €5,200,000) in compliance with Section 47 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

25. Capital commitments

There were capital commitments as at 30 September 2020 to purchase equipment for approximately €18,000.

26. Contingent liabilities

26a. In September 2018, the Registry of Credit Unions advised all credit unions of a potential matter in relation to accrued interest outstanding on certain top-up loans which may have led to a potential over-collection of interest. The credit union is progressing a review of this matter to ascertain whether any top-up loans made to members might be impacted by these circumstances, and if so, to determine what actions may need to be taken. It is expected that the credit union will finalise its review over the coming months. Consequently it is impracticable at this time to estimate the impact, financial or otherwise, if any, of this matter and whether any net amounts will become payable or not in the future.

26b. There is a contingent liability included in the Letter of Authority held by Bank of Ireland with regard to an Electronic Funds Transfer in the amount of €100,000.

27. Comparative information

Comparative information has been reclassified where necessary to conform to current year presentation.

28. Approval of financial statements

The board of directors approved these financial statements for issue on 24th October 2020.

Schedules to the Income and Expenditure Account

For the Financial Year Ended 30 September 2020

The following schedules do not form part of the statutory financial statements which are the subject of the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 11 to 13.

Schedule 1 – Other interest income and similar income

	2020	2019
	€	€
Investment income and gains received/receivable within 1 year	554,002	1,282,716
Investment income receivable outside of 1 year	458	4,657
Total per income and expenditure account	554,460	1,287,373

Schedule 2 – Other income

	2020	2019
	€	€
Commissions and sundry income	21,611	17,494
ECCU refund	-	5,255
Total per income and expenditure account	21,611	22,749

Schedule 3 – Other management expenses

	2020	2019
	€	€
Rent and rates	17,330	23,074
Light and heat	19,327	16,295
Repairs and office administration	81,561	117,101
Printing and stationery	19,391	35,802
Postage and telephone	23,464	18,822
Donations and sponsorship	14,400	37,121
Promotion and advertising	67,406	60,729
Training costs	23,474	25,470
AGM and convention expenses	44,644	30,595
Travel and subsistence	9,622	26,988
Affiliation and associated fees and repayments and SPS fund	36,905	53,241
Deposit guarantee scheme	82,743	62,229
Audit fee	21,780	22,140
General insurance	46,873	40,205
Share and loan insurance	234,058	208,807
Death benefit insurance	31,371	137,172
Computer and software maintenance	163,470	133,277
Regulatory levies	62,980	76,788
Legal and professional fees	120,872	123,939
Cash under/(over)	-	839
Board and board oversight expenses	23,907	10,120
Bank charges	36,949	53,317
Miscellaneous expenses	972	1,195
Social fund reserve expenditure	1,198	7,500
Part utilisation of the social fund reserve	(1,198)	(7,500)
Total per income and expenditure account	1,183,499	1,315,266

Report of the Credit Committee

Section 67 of the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended, requires the Board of Directors to appoint a Credit Committee which shall consider applications for credit from the membership of the Credit Union.

During 2020, 2,045 loans were issued to a total value of €12,328,858, a decrease of €611,032 on the previous year, this decrease is due to the decreased borrowing appetite of members during the Covid-19 Pandemic. The total value of the loan book has increased by 1.4% to €25,063,828. Loan interest received has increased by 6.8% to €2,190,198.

One of the greatest challenges facing the credit union movement is growing the loan book, currently only one in four members are borrowers. As mentioned by the Chairperson in his address, 26.5% of our total assets, our member loans, generated 79.18% of total income. The credit union needs more members to borrow. Funds not lent out to members are placed on investment with various financial institutions. Return on such investments are at an unprecedented low or negative interest rate.

The credit union constantly reviews its loan products to ensure they are aligned to member's needs. With this in mind we are pleased to advise of the introduction of the Energy Union loan product in January 2020 which is specifically designed for members who are looking to make their homes more energy efficient and who wish to avail of the grants available. The credit union also offer a very competitive car loan product as an alternative to car finance and PCP.

The introduction of the Current Account has allowed Synergy Credit Union to offer an overdraft facility of up to €5,000. The interest rate on the overdraft facility is at our standard rate of 12% which is very competitive when compared to other financial institutions.

Adrian Godwin
Chairperson Credit Committee

Report of the Credit Control Committee

Section 67 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 requires the Board of Directors to appoint a Credit Control Committee, which shall seek to ensure the repayment of loans by members of the Credit Union in accordance with their loan agreements.

The Credit Control Committee of Synergy Credit Union Limited consists of three members who meet monthly, with the Credit Controller, to review the performance of the loan portfolio and identify any potential risks that may impact its continued performance.

On behalf of the Credit Control Committee I am pleased to report that 2020 continues to see positive results reflected in the performance of the loan book. 94.92% of our members are keeping to their agreed contractual repayments. Arrears continue to decrease throughout the loan book. Our loans greater than 9 weeks in arrears have decreased from 3.79% at year-end 2019 to 3.70% as at 30th September 2020.

Due to the economic headwinds caused by the Covid -19 pandemic and impending Brexit, Synergy Credit Union has had to steer through uncharted waters. As the pandemic continues to threaten our economy the Board of Directors has taken a prudent approach to provisioning to cover the possible negative impact of Brexit, Covid 19 and other macro-economic factors on future loan repayments. This prudence has resulted in the increase of the Bad and Doubtful Debt Provision to €2,731,720. This increase should not be taken as an indicator of increased arrears, it is a prudent approach given the economic uncertainty currently prevailing. Our bad debt recoveries are coming in steadily and this year we have recouped €357,209 nett of costs from loans that were previously written off.

Cora Collins,
Chairperson Credit Control Committee

Report of the Membership Committee

On behalf of the membership committee, I am very pleased to report that 663 new accounts were opened in the year to 30th September 2020, 143 or 22% of which were juvenile saver accounts.

Membership of Synergy Credit Union is open to people working, living or attending school in the common bond area. The common bond means the community in which the credit union operates.

As part of the application process for membership the Membership Committee has a legislative obligation to ensure appropriate identification is provided as follows: -

- Valid (in date) photo identification such as a driver's licence or passport
- Proof of Address – Utility bill or Statement from Financial Institution dated within the past 6 months.
- Proof of PPS Number from a Payslip, Letter from Revenue/Dept. of Employment Affairs

Access to your Credit Union account

Members of Synergy Credit Union can access their account on-line by registering for on-line services, this means you can transact at a time and place convenient to you the member either online or via the mobile app which can be downloaded from google play or the app store.

Members can also avail of our Current Account for 24/7 access to their account and secure on-line shopping.

Des Geary,
Membership Committee

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting 2019

The Chairperson welcomed members and invited guests, on behalf of the Board of Directors to the 54th Annual General Meeting of Synergy Credit Union Limited held on 10th December 2019 at Corrin Event Centre.

Mr. Leogue opened the meeting and confirmed that there were no authorities presented to the Board of Directors in respect of non-natural persons. He confirmed an attendance of 87 members and therefore confirmed that a quorum was present.

The Chairperson proposed a change to the Agenda. It was proposed that agenda items L, M & N, that is the Report of the Nomination Committee, Election of Auditor and Election to fill vacancies on the Board Oversight Committee and Board of Directors are moved to agenda items E,F & G. All other items will move down in order on the agenda. This change was proposed to allow adequate time for the count of ballot papers. This was seconded by Denis Granville. All attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item C: Adoption of Standing orders

The chairperson called upon the Chairperson of the Standing Order Committee Joe Tobin to propose the adoption of the Standing Orders. This was seconded by Betty Moore. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item D: Appointment of Tellers

The following persons are proposed for appointment as Tellers: -

Stephen Geary, Veronica Scannell, Lena Spillane, Marvin Board, Sylvia Barry and one from floor or neighbouring CU. Virginia Hypernet volunteered to be the other teller. The chairperson proposed. This was seconded by Denis Granville. All attendees voted in favour and it was carried. The Chairperson was made aware that Veronica Scannell who was proposed is not in attendance. Judy Healy volunteered as an alternate. Stephen Geary proposed and Freda Cahill seconded. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item E: Report of the Nomination Committee

The Chairperson called upon Triona O'Flynn to present the report of the Nomination Committee.

Ms. O'Flynn said that in line with statutory requirements, the Nomination Committee are proposing the following:

- Auditor – Grant Thornton are eligible for re-

election to the position of auditor.

- BOC – two valid nominations – Patrick McGrath (a new candidate) and Joe Tobin who is up for re-election.
- BOD – There are four vacancies and five valid nominations as follows: Cora Collins, Rachel Delaney, Elizabeth Keohane and Una O'Neill who are all new candidates, and Adrian Godwin who is up for re-election.

A possible conflict of interest in relation to Adrian Godwin was informed to the membership as Mr. Godwin is Managing Director of Oaktree Financial Services. Ms. O'Flynn said that, if elected, Mr. Godwin wouldn't be offering investment advice to the Credit Union, and therefore the Committee are satisfied that no Conflict of Interest exists.

Triona O'Flynn proposed the adoption of the report of the Nomination Committee. It was seconded by Joan Crowley. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item F&G: Election of Auditor, Board Oversight and Board of Directors

The Chairperson asked the members to complete their ballot papers.

The chairperson called upon the appointed tellers to collect the ballot papers and the appointed tellers to convene the count in the room adjacent to the meeting.

Agenda Item H: Notice of Motions

The chairperson confirmed that there were 96 members present who were eligible to vote.

There were four amendments to the Standard Rules for Credit Unions (Republic of Ireland) arising from League AGM 2019. Members were informed that the Notice of Motions were circulated with their Annual Report and Notice of AGM, a further copy has been provided with the registration pack.

The Chairperson put forward the motions to the membership and all were carried.

Agenda Item I: Approval (or correction) of the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

The Chairperson informed the members that the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting of Synergy Credit Union Limited held on 11th December 2018 are circulated on pages 35 and 36 of Their annual report.

The Chairperson called on Catherine Buckley,

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting 2019 (continued)

Honorary Secretary to propose the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting for adoption. Freda Cahill seconded this proposal. As there were no matters arising, the Chairperson asked attendees to vote in favour of the adoption of the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item J: Report of the Board of Directors

The Chairperson called on Catherine Buckley to give the report of the Board of Directors. On conclusion of the report, the chairperson opened to the floor for questions. There were no questions arising. The chairperson proposed the adoption of the report of the Board of Directors, Pat Cahill seconded it. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item K: Consideration of the accounts to 30th September 2019.

The Chairperson called upon Adrian Godwin to present the accounts on behalf of the Board of Directors. Adrian presented the accounts and concluded by proposing the adoption of the financial statements as contained on pages 15 to 34 of the annual report. This was seconded by Karen Allen. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item L: Declaration of dividend and interest rebate

The Chairperson called upon Adrian Godwin to propose the distribution to members: -

Adrian proposed:

- A. Dividend of 0.01% - This was seconded by Mr. Joe Tobin. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.
- B. Interest rebate- 2.5% of loan interest paid by members who have loans at the 12% standard interest rate during the period of 1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019 – this was seconded by Denis Granville. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item M: Report of the Auditor

The Chairperson called upon Sheena O'Sullivan of Grant Thornton to present the Auditors Report.

Ms. O'Sullivan said the full audit report is set out in page 12 of the Annual report and it was the opinion of the auditors that proper accounting records have been kept by the credit union. This report was proposed by the Stephen Geary, seconded by Betty Moore. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item N: Report of the Board Oversight Committee

The Chairperson called upon Ross Kavanagh to present the report of the Board Oversight Committee. There were no questions on the report. Ross concluded by proposing the adoption of the BOC Report. It was seconded by Pauline Wilson. All attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda item O: Report of the Credit Committee

The chairperson called upon Freda Cahill to present the report of the Credit Committee. There were no questions arising from the report. Freda concluded by proposing the adoption of the report of the Credit Committee. Virginia Hyvernat seconded it. Attendees voted in favour, it was carried.

Agenda Item P: Report of the Credit Control Committee.

The Chairperson called upon Adrian Godwin to present the report of the Credit Control Committee. Adrian concluded by proposing the adoption of the report of the Credit Control Committee. Ray Alley seconded this report. Attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item Q: Report of the Membership Committee.

The chairperson called upon Des Geary to present the report of the Membership Committee. Des concluded by proposing the adoption of the report of the Membership Committee. This was seconded by Triona O'Flynn. All attendees voted in favour and it was carried.

Agenda Item R: Announcement of Elections

The Chairperson confirmed that Cora Collins, Elizabeth Keohane, Rachel Delaney and Adrian Godwin had been elected to the Board of Directors. Adrian, Rachel and Cora will serve three years and Elizabeth will be up for re-election in one year.

Agenda Item S: Any Other Business

There was a presentation to Mary Fitzgerald on her recent retirement. Reference was also made to Imelda Murphy who is retiring on 16th December but who unfortunately was unable to attend the AGM. Presentations were made to retiring Directors – Denis Granville, Freda Cahill and Emily Harrington. Joe Tobin to made a presentation to retiring Board Oversight Committee member Ross Kavanagh.

Close of Meeting.

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