



## PRESS RELEASE – 20 SEPTEMBER 2018

### CHANGE OF CHAIRS AT ABBEYFIELD SCOTLAND

After a decade of dedicated service on the Board of Abbeyfield Scotland, Chairman James Craigie has retired from the role.

James (Jim) has been Chairman of Abbeyfield Scotland, the not for profit organisation that provides independent living with support for older people in Scotland, for the past seven years and served on the Board for three years before that.

Jim has steered Abbeyfield Scotland through many changes as it adapts to the needs and expectations of older people who need support and care. His dedication to the organisation including his excellent relationship with staff saw Jim lead the Board during a restructuring of the organisation and the creation of a new subsidiary, Crandeen, which is an innovative business providing support services to people in their own homes. Jim will continue to serve on the Board of Crandeen.

Following the organisation's AGM held on 19 September, the Board appointed Helen Barclay as its new Chair. An existing Abbeyfield Board member, Helen has a long history in senior leadership roles in the housing sector. She has over 20 years' experience in housing management and is a SACRO qualified mediator and Chartered Institute of Housing mentor. She has worked with Forth, Grampian, Ark and Fife housing associations and was Director of Housing Services with Viewpoint Housing Association.

Ken Robertson has been appointed Vice Chair with the current Vice Chair, Nance Smith, stepping back from this role and retaining her position as Company Secretary. Ken is the former Corporate Relations Director at Diageo and he brings strong strategic leadership skills to the Board, as well as experience in governance and stakeholder engagement.

**Retiring Abbeyfield Scotland Chair, Jim Craigie** said: *"It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve Abbeyfield Scotland as a Board Director for ten years with the last seven years as Chairman. We have seen many positive changes during these years and my*

*thanks go to everyone who assisted and supported the business in achieving our goals. I am pleased to confirm that the business will continue to go forward with a very strong and professional team at the helm. I wish everyone associated with Abbeyfield Scotland every success in the future.”*

**New Abbeyfield Scotland Chair, Helen Barclay, said:**

*“On behalf of all the team at Abbeyfield Scotland, I want to sincerely thank Jim for his steadfast Chairmanship over the years. Building on Jim’s legacy the Board can continue to provide and develop further the highest quality services possible for our current and future residents and their families. I am proud to be appointed as the new Chair and I look forward to working with the skilled Board as we take the organisation forward.”*

**20 September 2018**

**- ENDS –**

**For further information please contact:**

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About Abbeyfield Scotland** - Abbeyfield Scotland is a not for profit organisation and a registered charity that provides independent living with support for older people at 15 properties in Scotland. They provide safe and secure accommodation in a homely environment where residents retain a high degree of independence whilst enjoying the company of fellow residents and of the volunteers who visit each Abbeyfield House. Abbeyfield Scotland has existing properties across Scotland –Bridge of Allan, Coatbridge, Dumfries, Greenock, Giffnock, Haddington, Inverness, Killearn, Lenzie, Lockerbie, Nairn, North Berwick, Stonehaven, Turrieff and Torphins.  
[www.abbeyfieldscotland.com](http://www.abbeyfieldscotland.com) @ScotAbbeyfield

**About Crandeen** - Crandeen is a wholly owned subsidiary of Abbeyfield Scotland Limited. From its base in Aberdeen the charity provides bespoke private rental bungalows for older people in the Hazelwood area. It also provides a tailored outreach programme designed to meet the individual needs of older people living in their own homes in the Aberdeen community.  
[www.crandeen.scot](http://www.crandeen.scot) @crandeenscot