



Registered Scottish Charity No. SC033935

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 21st June 2017

Present: Evie Campbell, John Kelly, Teresa Hunt-Earle, Lenny Brown, Ishbel Fraser, Maureen Brankin, Maggie Adams, Martin Donovan, Alison Duncan.

Apologies: Cathy Cameron, Alison Diamond, Anne Craig, Peter Ellwood, Catriona McIntyre.

Previous Minutes: These were proposed by JK and seconded by MA.

Report from Chair: EC welcomed everyone and delivered the following report:

Matters Arising: See under AOCB at the end of the minutes.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the committee members for their help and support over the past year and I hope they will continue to support the workshop.

Thanks to our secretary John Kelly, who has been invaluable to the workshop. Not only as secretary but attending to the numerous requests to format music for The Tune Book. He also edits a very full and interesting Newsletter.

Thanks also to Teresa for her accounting. Keeping the accounts up to date, securing suitably qualified accountants, paying the tutors and all the bills and still managing to keep within our budget is a great feat.

We are also fortunate to have our website which is accessed by many more people than just our members. Thanks to Sabine Weiten for its upkeep.

And thanks to all our members.

Our tuition year ends in May each year but before that point we start considering how our classes will run for the following tuition year. For the 2016 – 2017 session LFW committee put much thought into planning the future of the workshop. A questionnaire (on-line and by post) was sent to each member asking for their views and suggestions regarding the workings of the workshop. Response was varied.

Everyone enjoyed the classes, some wanted more 'by ear' learning but also wanted to have technique taught.

At the AGM on 29th June 2016 decisions, taking into consideration the questionnaire responses, were made. From September 2017 we have had the services of two tutors concurrently. Kathryn Bailie agreed to return for a second year of teaching and works particularly on technique. Mairi Voinot, a previous student member of LFW was welcomed back as our latest tutor. Mairi teaches in the traditional way, 'by ear'. With their very different backgrounds Kathryn and Mairi have been producing some inspiring evenings for us all this year.

Our classes were rearranged slightly differently with more mixed ability classes as well as Beginner and Improver classes. Some of our members benefited from attending both tutors, at no extra cost to themselves. I'm pleased to say that Mairi and Kathryn have both agreed to come back for the new teaching session. Details of the new classes will require to be discussed.

We held a 'come and try' class in August 2016 and were delighted to gain four new adult beginners this year.

Our Junior fiddle classes are now well established. At present 5 children attend, travelling from a wide geographical area. We are able to offer them traditional teaching focused closely on their varying ability levels and they have shown themselves to be very keen. We applied to Awards for All for a grant to help support the junior class and I am pleased to say we have been successful. Junior classes for next session will be free of charge as per the award conditions.

Public performances and Fundraising: Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop continues to play a significant role in the community. Over the past year we have been invited to take part in several community events which include; The Friendship Group, Troop Aid Fundraiser, Strachur Local History Society Open Day, Youth and Drama Group Christmas party and The Lauder Variety Show.

Workshops: We have held two workshops; Graham Mackenzie In July 2016 (kindly stepped in for Nigel Gatherer, who unfortunately fell ill). In March 2017 we held a mixed instrument workshop, run by the very experienced Amy Geddes. We had hoped to hold a Junior Workshop but due to time constraints this did not materialise. However, we sponsored our juniors to attend a workshop in Glasgow, organised by Mairi, which they reported on very favourably.

Tune Book: I'm delighted to say that The Tune Book is well on its way to the printers and I look forward to receiving many orders for it.

Last year I said it was time to stand down from the executive committee. However, I have decided that should I be proposed, I would be happy to continue on the executive committee.

Thank you.

Treasurer's Report: Teresa presented the current financial report as follows: At the end of the financial year on 31st March 2017, total funds stood at £5982, compared with £5388 at 31/03/2016.

Grants were received from Third sector, Creative Scotland, and western Ferries, totaling £2140. These were almost entirely Restricted Funds, to be used to develop the Junior Classes. The grants allowed us to cover costs of tutor travel from Glasgow (£1170 annually).

Excess of receipts over payments was £594; this means that our financial position would be much less healthy were it not for the grants!

EC has managed to secure a grant of £3042 for session 2017-8 from The Big Lottery Fund. This carries the condition that juniors receive their tuition free.

Membership has hovered around 21 plus juniors; class fees raised just short of £5200. The two workshops made a small net profit of £90 and other fundraising, largely thanks to a St Andrew's Night event and raffle organized by Martin Donovan in MacClure's Bar, brought in £395.

Insurance will continue with Zurich, the cost increasing slightly from £130 to £140. Accounts were audited by Henderson and Co of Dunoon for £120 and the OSCR submission will be made following the approval of the accounts at this AGM.

Two points arise for the coming session.

1. Membership numbers are likely to fall if no new members are enrolled.
2. We have paid tutors a rate of £25 per hour for several years now and we might consider raising this

An increase in monthly charges to members might be considered from September 2017, increasing from £19.50 per month to £22, giving an increase of £30 per member per year. (Concessions will still apply and registration fee will remain at £26).

Final Tune Book costs still to be established.

Secretary's Report: JK briefly reported that anything he might have to add had already been covered by the reports from the Chair and Treasurer. He pointed out that with a few laudable exceptions communication between committee and members especially via e-mail, was a very sketchy affair indeed. This is also true when trying to elicit material from members for inclusion in the newsletter. It is really important that when information is being sent out, whether as surveys or requests for ideas or whatever else, that members at least acknowledge that the communication has been received. The committee can only do its job if it feels the members are in accord with it.

Election of Executive and Committee Members:

Alison Duncan was elected Chairman, proposed and seconded by EC and MA.
Evie Campbell has become Secretary, proposed and seconded by JK and TH-E
Teresa Hunt-Earle continues as Treasurer, proposed and seconded by EC and IF.

Committee members for the new session will be Maureen Brankin, Maggie Adams and Martin Donovan.

AOCB:

EC and JK were presented with Thank-you cards and tokens from the committee for their efforts throughout the year, and especially with bringing together the tune book. Both expressed their surprise and gratitude at this kind gesture.

The Tune Book is in its final stages and ready to go to print. It has been a mammoth task!

New Fee Structure:

As mentioned in the Treasurer's report, the proposed new fees for Session 2017/8 were agreed as follows:

Registration Fee - £26
Monthly instalment - £22
Concessionary Monthly Instalment - £17.60

Change of RBS Signatories:

Following the election of Alison Duncan as Chair, and the departure of John Kelly, a resolution is required to change the authorised signatories for LFW's RBS bank account. A Resolution was therefore proposed by TH-E, seconded by MA and passed unanimously as follows :

Resolution : It was resolved that the authorised signatories in the current mandate for the RBS bank account Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop (a/c no. 00147656, sort code 83 23 07) be changed as follows, and otherwise the current mandate will continue as amended :

The following signatory to be removed : John Kelly (secretary).

The following signatory to be added : Alison Jeanne Duncan (chair).

The existing signatories, Evie Campbell (now elected as secretary) and Teresa Hunt-Earle (treasurer) will remain on the mandate.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 8 p.m.

John Kelly (Secretary)

23rd June 2017