

## MINUTE

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS OF HIGHLAND MUSIC

WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019, 2.00PM WATERSIDE HOTEL, 19 NESS BANK, INVERNESS

APOLOGIES: William Gilmour, Coll Findlay, Gordon Fleetwood, Patricia Moore, Alison & Colin Mackenzie, Mr & Mrs J Jamieson, Carol Brown, Martin & Beryl Campbell, Margot Tuley, Andrew and Mary Sked, David Cameron.

Moira Leslie opened the AGM welcoming the 18 members in the small room at the Waterside Hotel.

1 THE MINUTE OF THE 2018 AGM WAS RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED.

It was Proposed by Oona Sim and Seconded by Dave Greer.

2 THE ANNUAL REPORT OF FRIENDS OF HIGHLAND MUSIC

Moira spoke to her report which was tabled. Various Grants for most interesting projects had been awarded as listed. The Ceilidh Tent Come & Try, taken on by Rhona MacDonald as a joint venture with Fèisan nan Gàidheal and Friends of Highland Music, had become a popular item at Belladrum with people now looking for it. We had an interest in 3 trophies at the Inverness Music Festival, which continued despite reduced resources. We were grateful to Eric Allan who continued to fund raise through his Tune For You venture. The Slow Jam held at Ness Bank remained popular.

It was Proposed by Helen Allan and Seconded by Kathreen Hunter.

3 THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS HAD BEEN INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED BY ANNE MACIVER

The Summary Accounts were tabled. Moira had been the acting Treasurer and spoke to the accounts. They had been lodged with OSCR. Income was down and expenditure up but the closing balance at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 stood at £24,629. There was some discussion around the gap between the income from the Slow Jam, and the payments to Ness Bank Church for the use of the premises. Committee to consider further. Moira thanked Anne MacIver, who had acted most promptly and helpfully, as Independent Examiner.

The Adoption of the Accounts was Proposed by Dave Grier and Seconded by Alan Findlay.

4 RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ANY RESOLUTION WHICH HAS BEEN COMPETENTLY LODGED AND CIRCULATED.

There were none.

5 DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE DURING THE ENSUING YEAR.

Presently £5 for Individual Membership and £10 for Family Membership. Eric Allan Proposed that the subscriptions remain at £5 for an Individual Member and £10 for a Family Membership, and that was Seconded by Jim Leslie.

#### 6 ELECT REPLACEMENTS FOR RETIRING ELECTED MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Moira Leslie and Rhona MacDonald were content to continue with the second year of their current term of office.

Dave Greer, Kathreen Hunter, Oona Sim and Jean Fleetwood were available for re-election after completing their two years. Helen Allan Proposed their re-election en bloc for a further 2 years and that was Seconded by Marion Stewart. There were no other nominations. Moira pointed out that the post of Treasurer was still vacant.

#### 7 SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

Moira told the meeting that committee felt that the public image of Friends of Highland Music needed raised, and had decided to engage the services of PR Consultant Tanera Bryden, who had joined us, and who was well recommended by Rhona MacDonald on our committee. It was expected to launch a Highland Music Youth Fund, specifically aimed at those 18 years old and younger. The resulting publicity might bring us more into the public eye than the leaflet drops had achieved.

As some of our instruments were getting past their best for hiring out, it had been decided to rationalise the stock. With help from Eric Allan, the stock, mostly of fiddles, is being divided up into those still suitable for hiring out, and those that could be used by music groups/charities for occasional use at events such as the Come and Try at the Belladrum Ceilidh Tent. (See Item 2 above)

Moira pointed out the large gift cheque for Friends of Highland Music, which had just been received from NES TVR Car Club holding their Celtic Gathering in Inverness the previous weekend. Dave Greer had managed the arrangement, whereby he met with their representative Jo Pratsides at Inverness Golf Club where our young expert bagpiper, Kyle Cameron, piped the guests in to dinner. Rachel Campbell and her young players, Astar, also provided pre-dinner entertainment. Both were greatly appreciated and Dave was presented with a cheque for £500 from NES TVR Car Club. (Kyle Cameron and Rachel Campbell had both been previous recipients of our grants.)

The formal meeting finished at 2.30pm

Tea, coffee, cakes and shortbread were served. Eric Allan spoke about the Slow Jam, a group of players of various instruments that meet in Ness Bank Church Halls. It has been going for 20 years now, the idea being that those who were perhaps not the fastest players, could meet in a welcoming non-challenging environment. About a dozen of the Slow Jam players had come to entertain us, which they certainly did. Mostly fiddlers and one piper played very competently indeed, and none too slowly! Moira gave the vote of thanks. The afternoon closed.