



KYLE OF SUTHERLAND Gala week

MINUTES OF AGM – MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2009

Present - Alan Ross, Caroline Munro, Claire Bruce, Carole Morrice, Carrie Vettters, Gail Munro, Angi Sutherland, Wilma Campbell, Elissa Steven, Sally Mackintosh, John Mackintosh

Apologies – none.

Item
Adoption of previous minutes
Proposed by Claire Bruce and seconded by Caroline Munro.
Convenor's Report
<p>The year began with our AGM on Tuesday 3rd March 2009. Unfortunately we had a very low turnout, with only four of the previous year's committee in attendance. Caroline Munro continued as Treasurer, with Gail Munro agreeing to be Sub-Treasurer, whilst Claire Bruce took over the role of Secretary and I was voted on as Convenor. Wilma Campbell and Michelle Mackenzie rejoined as committee members at the following meeting and Carole Morrice was co-opted on as a new member in June.</p> <p>The subsequent meeting opened with a discussion as to how much such a small committee could reasonably be expected to organise during the gala week itself. It was agreed that the week would run as normal, but with gala committee-run events limited to the opening Saturday and the final weekend. The rest of the week would be filled by events run by other organisations and letters were sent to them, requesting that they hold their events on the Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This seemed to work very well and mostly all of the events held by the committee in previous years were fitted in over the Thursday, Friday and Saturday.</p> <p>Our first event of the year was the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Gearrhoille Woods in Ardgay. 14 children attended and the bouncy castle was erected in the hall for the bonnet making competition.</p> <p>The Queen Dance was held to Blue Ridge on the 16th May in Bonar hall. There was a terrific turnout, however everyone arrived so late that the takings from the bar were disappointing. Sharon Ross was chosen by the band as the Salmon Queen.</p> <p>Fundraising continued throughout the year. A bake stall was held at Bonar Primary School's fun day on May 30th; we did a sponsored cycle from Bonar to Lairg and back on the 7th June; a pub quiz was held in the Lady Ross on the 12th June and a quiz sheet was put out in the local area. The usual letters were sent to local businesses asking for raffle prizes, sponsorship and adverts for the programme, all of which were gratefully received. A special thank you goes to Migdale Smolt and Transport</p>

for their generous donation and also Key Commercial Services for again printing our programmes this year.

The bouncy castle continues to be a fantastic asset, raising money at the Lairg Mayfest, Lairg Gala Week, Lairg Crofter's Show and the Invercharron Highland Games, as well as having a busy summer of private hires. We were delighted to take delivery of our new inflatable slide, which was purchased with funds from both the Co-op Community Fund and Benn Tharsuin windfarm fund, as well as some of our own money. Its first outing was to the Gledfield Primary School fun day in August, after which it was at the Invercharron games, where it proved to be a big hit.

The Gala Week itself got off to a fantastic start, with the raft race held on the Kyle from Invershin to Bonar. The timing meant that the rafts crossed the finishing line whilst the opening ceremony was taking place, meaning there were plenty of people around to show their support. The Caledonian Curry Company held a BBQ and bar, raising funds for the fire brigade and the local youth group gave some musical performances, all helping to make the afternoon one of the most successful in the gala's recent history. The rest of the week went well, with all events going ahead as planned and good turnouts at most of them. Numbers at the fun day on Saturday afternoon were not as many as we hoped for and it has therefore been suggested that we move the elements of this event to the Invercharron Games – digger ducks, face painting, bouncy castle etc. It is a lot of hard work to set up the field for the day and it is always a rush to then get ready for the last dance that night.

The band for this year's last dance was Torridon, who proved to be a tremendous success. The dance was one of the busiest we have ever had and really helped to boost our funds. Members of the Lairg Crofter's Show committee kindly ran the bar for us, after members of our committee ran their show dance bar. This is a great money-saving arrangement for both committees and one that should hopefully continue in the future.

I would like to thank the members of the committee for all their hard work and support in making the 2009 gala such a success. We can hopefully build on this with new ideas to make 2010's gala even better.

Alan Ross
Convenor 2009.

Treasurer's Report

Caroline went through the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is attached. It will also be displayed in the butcher's shop window for the public to see.

Election of Office Bearers

All the current office bearers stepped down from their posts, with a resignation submitted by Michelle Mackenzie. Caroline took over the proceedings and the new Office Bearers were elected as follows –

Convenor : Alan Ross

Proposed by Claire
Seconded by Carole

Secretary: Claire Bruce

Proposed by Caroline
Seconded by Alan

Treasurer: Gail Munro

Proposed by Claire
Seconded by Caroline

Sub-Treasurer: Caroline Munro

Proposed by Carole
Seconded by Wilma

Committee Members: Wilma Campbell, Carole Morrice, Carrie Veters, Elissa Steven & Sally Mackintosh.

Alan once again thanked everyone for attending and showing their support for the gala week. The meeting was then closed.