

FOCHABERS VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

HALL COMMITTEE

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday, 14th March, 2017, 7.30pm, at 29 High Street

PRESENT: Gordon Christie, Iain Rennie, Liz Rennie, Janet Hallyburton, Frances Duncan, John Wiles, Margo Howe, Una Hamilton

APOLOGIES: Stewart Harris, Alan Brown, Angela Brown, Sybil Stuart

1. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- The correct balance was £33,164.77 and not £19,313 as stated.
- The Minute was approved

2. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Gordon Christie for Alan Brown: Hall Management

- The current balance is £124,527.08.
- A bill from GA Construction has to be paid.

Liz Rennie: Fund Raising

- Preparations for the opening weekend are underway.
- Liz showed a sample of the invitations which will be sent out to around 200 guests invited to the preview on Thursday, 13th April.
- There will be a catering sub-committee to provide drinks and canapes.
- On Sunday, 16th, an open day for the general public, there will be a stall for the 300 Club to encourage new members.
- Mhairi Marwick will be invited to provide music during the afternoon.
- The catering sub-committee will provide bite sized nibbles.
- Preparations are also underway for Strictly Come Dancing on 29th April.
- Tickets will be £15, to include a Bucks Fizz on entry.
- Sybil will organise the catering which will consist of prepacked, individual boxes on the theme of Movie Night.
- Volunteers include Janet, Moira, Margo and Una
- The Men's Shed will undertake front of house duties.
- A bar will be provided.
- There will be a rehearsal for an audience of children on the Saturday afternoon.
- It was suggested that businesses, including Baxter's, should be approached to provide canapes.
- McKay's have offered to provide a fashion show when the hall is operational.
- A Pimp Your Prosecco afternoon for ladies has been suggested for October/November.
- It was suggested that Gordon McPhail could provide a whisky and gin tasting event for men.
- Una had permission from the committee to approach Scottish Opera about becoming a venue for their travelling productions.

- Janet will contact Ewan Martin to enquire about the status of his next play.
- There have been enquiries about the tombolas.
- Liz had received 3 possible designs for the logo from Milne's High. The majority preferred the example which included the bridge with a deep aubergine background and stone coloured building.
- The application to TSI Moray was unsuccessful but the Men's Shed will apply for a grant for the stair lift.
- The curtain material has arrived and volunteers will meet in Bellie Church Hall on Wednesday 22nd to begin making them. It is hoped that 2 pairs will be ready for the opening.

Stewart Harris: PR

- Stewart has amended the web site making it possible to click on to the different rooms where there is information including size and capacity.
- He has also included a booking form and details of terms and conditions.
- An application to the Beatrice Fund remains outstanding.

Gordon Christie: The Project

- Work is proceeding well and should be completed by the due date. Floors have been sanded in preparation for varnishing, the Green room will be completed and the light board has been set up, etc
- Kitchen equipment will be installed shortly.
- The bar has been set up.
- Two second hand Casio tills have been purchased and they will also track stock.
- Gordon talked with the owner of The Grant Arms Hotel to explain bar pricing. Drinks will be charged at 10% more than hotel prices so that there is no loss of income for the hotel.
- Toilets are being finished to a high standard and mirrors have been ordered.
- Curtain rails for the stage have been installed and curtains will be closed automatically.
- Floodlights have been installed on the front of the hall.

Gordon Christie: Funding

- There remains a shortfall in funding however, applications have been made to The Robertson Trust and The Moray Council for the residue of their funding.
- Abbeyfiled Fochabers Society Ltd will donate the residue of their funds shortly, once the company has been wound up.
- 182 Burgess chairs and a trolley to move them have been purchased from The Mansfield Hotel.
- The Mansfield has also offered, free, a steam oven.

The next meeting will be held on **9th May, 2017.**