

**Moray Ceilidh Club Annual General Meeting held on**  
**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2005 at 7pm in**  
**Miltontduff Village Hall**

Present:	Sandy Duncan	Jan Duncan	Steve Coomber
	Caroline Coomber	Peter Davis	Hazel Davis
	Tom Hardie	Linda Hardie	Kenny Ferguson
	Karen Ferguson	Gill MacLaren	Wendy Anderson
	Alistair Murdoch	Jenny Murdoch	Mike Pendery
	Julie Stewart	Carol Bennett	

**1. Chairman's Welcome**

Sandy opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**2. Apologies:**

Marion Hay                  Dave Cameron                  Ella Cameron

**3. Minutes of last AGM**

Minutes of the last AGM were proposed as correct by Linda Hardie and seconded by Wendy Anderson.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Sandy then went on to recap on our year. Although our first year saw us almost breaking even financially, at the end of our second year we were almost £1,000 down. Our bands over the season were 'Meantime', 'Portobello Ceilidh Band', 'Spagnum Moss', 'Irn Broo', 'The Gallivanter's' and 'Six Foot Ginger', most of whom were new to us. Most of them were good, 'PCB', 'Spagnum Moss' and 'Irn Broo' are being asked back for the next season. It seemed that every second ceilidh was better, this being the ones in Miltontduff Hall. Lower numbers at Bishopmill were more noticeable, although we did arrange the seating to compensate.

We intend to keep to the same simple formula, indeed the bands and halls are all booked, so members already know the dates. It has been suggested that perhaps 6 ceilidhs are too many, this is something we can consider next year. We feel it's very important to keep a good rapport with the bands and provide them with quality accommodation, we have been receiving very good rates from Wendy Clements at 'The Pines'. However the last 2 x bands changed their accommodation arrangements at the last minute which was disappointing as we don't want to mess Wendy about.

We had a fund-raising Quiz Night which raised almost £300. We have also recently been awarded a Arts Council for Moray grant for the maximum sum of £625, this makes a big difference to us.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

Peter gave us his report. He thanked Tom for his sums and Sandy for his up-beat positive approach and for taking our worrisome financial position in his stride. The membership is much lower this year and ticket sales have been poorer, and consequently raffle sales. Our biggest cost is the band prices, followed by hall hire and accommodation. Also the insurance is slightly higher, we've spent more on raffles after being told our prizes weren't very good, and we've also paid for local advertising. What can we do – book cheaper bands? As we reach the end of the year well below our break-off point, the grant and Quiz Night money are very welcome.

Sandy thanked Peter for his work through the year, he stated that it's the Treasurer's job to let us know if the finances are not looking healthy and Peter does this very well.

Treasurer's report was proposed by Tom Hardie and seconded by Karen Ferguson.

## **6. Election of Office Bearers and Committee**

Sandy tendered his resignation as Chairman, but since no-one else volunteered to take up the role, he was happy to continue for one more year, this was proposed by Peter Davis and seconded by Caroline Coomber.

Peter will stay on as Treasurer for another year, proposed by Tom Hardie and seconded by Sandy Duncan.

Tom to remain as Secretary, proposed by Peter Davis, seconded by Kenny Ferguson

Hazel to continue as Membership Secretary, proposed by Caroline Coomber, seconded by Wendy Anderson.

Other committee members continue as Mike Pendery (accommodation), Wendy Anderson, Steve Coomber, Caroline Coomber (editor), Marion Hay (teas), Gill MacLaren (raffles). We also welcomed Julie Stewart and Carol Bennett onto the committee.

## **7. Proposal**

*The Committee propose that the membership fees are for a fixed period starting 01Sep each year with no pro-rata amounts for shorter time periods. There will be transition arrangements to ensure people who joined after last November will not lose out.*

We had thought a rolling membership would be easier to administer, but it's become too complicated.

This was approved without dissent.

## **8. Proposal**

*The Committee propose that the cost of tickets for adults for events in the 2005/06 season be raised to £6 for members and £9.50 for non-members.*

We don't want to increase our membership fees, but reckon a slight increase in ticket prices may help to recover our finances. Prices at the moment are £5 for members, £9 for guest. Some have said that our guest prices are expensive, so we are keen to stay under the £10 figure. Children's tickets remain the same at free for member's children, £1 for guests.

This was approved without dissent.

## **9. Proposal**

*The Committee proposes that unless a member has no e-mail address all newsletters, etc will be sent to the member's e-mail address and not by post.*

We could cut stationery and postage costs by e-mailing newsletters out. After discussion it was agreed to give members the choice on their membership form of whether to receive information by e-mail.

## **10. Any other business.**

Next season: bands booked are 'Portobello Ceilidh Band', 'Bella MacNab' (highly recommended by 'PCB'), 'Spagnum Moss', 'The Marwicks', 'Irn Broo' and 'Clachan Yell' (highly recommended by committee members). We have agreed to have a ceiling price of £600 per band, also as we are booking bands directly we no longer incur a £50 agent fee per event. The contract we had with the agent seemed to be for the band's benefit, but did not protect us.

We also intend to undertake more advertising – a press release before the new season begins. We've started using [www.thebooth.co.uk](http://www.thebooth.co.uk) so that folk can buy their tickets online.

Sandy thanked the committee for their hard work throughout the year, we thanked Sandy for being such a good chairman.

## **11. Close of formal meeting**