Balloch Community Association

Draft Minutes of AGM 10 March 2014

Present: Billy Lowrie, Morven Reid, Jenny Card, Linda Lowrie, Ruth McGowan, Morag Halkett, George Mudd, Jim MacPherson, Lorna Robertson

Apologies: Isobel Brill, Allan Robertson

Matters arising from Minutes of Last Meeting.

1. None.

J Card proposed adoption of minutes, seconded by R McGowan.

Agenda

President’s Report

Billy Lowrie thanked those who had worked hard over the summer to provide the hall with much improved facilities. More remains to be done. He mentioned that Runrig had used the hall to rehearse for a re-union “gig”.

A Vote of Thanks was proposed to Lorna Condie for all her efforts in facilitating the transfer of the funds from the defunct Balloch Social and Outdoor Bowling Club to the Balloch Community Association. This has funded the new kitchen, disabled and gents toilets.

Morven Reid had stepped into the breach as Convenor in the autumn and had secured lots more business, including the unicycle club and even a funeral wake. She received well-deserved praise for this, and for streamlining booking forms and accounting systems, so that things will run more smoothly in future.

Jenny Card had completed a full year as Treasurer. It had been a most unusual year of spending, with much more work involved with finances than normal and Jenny was thanked for her wonderful job of bringing the accounts up to date and in such a meticulous fashion.

Lorna Robertson was thanked for continuing to record meeting minutes.

The ladies toilets will be upgraded, hopefully during the Easter break. Outdoor storage solutions continue to be pursued. New trollies have been purchased for the easier storage of tables and chairs. Plywood fascias will be put on hall doors, to improve the look of them. 10 new lights have been purchased, to be controlled by dimmer switches, to provide more ambient lighting for evening events. Scotmid had approached BCA with details of possible funding and the purchase of disco style lights for the dance area would be the project applied for by any grant from them.

Treasurer’s Report

The accounts have been audited by Mr L Birnie. A copy of the accounts was available for those attending the meeting. The Bonus Account, which had been opened for the funding of the hall improvements now stands at £13.77, but will be kept open as a “rainy day” account with funds transferred in from time to time. The Current Account stands at £9,323.12.

Convenor’s Report

Morven Reid, having done this job since the autumn, was in a good position to talk about this. . Last year’s AGM had agreed that role of Convenor should be paid, capped at £2000. The way it had been operating previously was untenable in the long term. MR told the meeting it is a very “bitty” job, which cannot be done in a pre-planned manner. Computer problems, as she was setting up new financial and booking systems, had been frustrating and very time-consuming. Phone calls come in erratically,at all times, often making things difficult to deal with. Positive reactions for hall enquiries and users make it worthwhile, but MR feels £2000 is not sufficient reimbursement for the role. She suggests that a “bonus” should be paid at the end of a year, depending on the number of bookings and the work these involve. A joint Convenor/Cleaner would be ideal, someone whose finger is on the pulse of what is going on in the hall. The bonus could be a percentage of the hall income, reflecting the work involved. Angela, the current cleaner, had indicated she was leaving and so Linda Lowrie has agreed to take on this combined role starting this month. This was met with the meeting’s agreement.

Election of Office Bearers

The current committee was re-elected unanimously by those present.

President Billy Lowrie

Vice-President Morven Reid

Treasurer Jenny Card

Minute Secretary Lorna Robertson

Rent Rates 2014-15

Looking at the income and usage rates, it was decided to maintain the current levels of rent rates. This should encourage more hall usage.

Clubs represented gave reports. The Snooker Club turned 30 last year. In the past they have donated excess funds to BCA but this year they spent £1000 to replace the lights.Their membership is about 30, with only 10 from Balloch, compared with over 100 from the village 30 years ago.

The Over 60s and the Bowling clubs mentioned the difficulty of getting new members.

The Lunch Club is thriving, with between 65 and 70 at the lunches, and most of these are from the local community. It was suggested that other clubs could display publicity at the lunches.

AOCB

The Entertainment Licence will be renewed this year.

Fire Assessment will be needed for this.

J Card reflected the feelings of the entire committee when she said it was appreciated how much time, effort and expertise had been put into the building project by B Lowrie over the past year. Without his leadership we would have a lesser establishment.

Date of next committee meeting - 7.30pm Wednesday 16 April 2014.