

Lismore Public Hall

Scottish Charity No. SCO21440

Company Limited by Guarantee No. SC343613

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Annual General Meeting

Minutes - 28th March 2024, 8.00pm

Apologies

Anita Bachull, Niaill Bachull, Andy Hough, Carol Wormleighton, Julian Wormleighton

Present

Katy Crossan (KC), Rachel Crossan-Hopkins (RCH), Jane Hough (JH), Laura Savill (LH), Anna Stewart (AS), Eilidh Willis (EW), Tony Currie (TC), Kirsty Wright, Ian Mackinnon (IM), Stuart Ross, Rosemary Barry, Gilly Dixon-Spain (GDS), Roger Dixon-Spain (RDS), Archie MacColl, Bob Hay, Dot Hay, Archie MacGilivray, Liz Buckle, Sebastien Tombs (ST)

Minutes of AGM 2023

The minutes were read out by Katy Crossan, IM suggested a word change regarding the approval of the accounts.
No matters arising. The minutes were then accepted. Proposed by IM, seconded by GDS.

Chairs Report (appendix 1)

The chairs report was read by KC on behalf of RCH.

Matters arising – There was a discussion with reference to the removal of the bins and the cost of commercial waste. GDS stated that several years ago A & B wanted to charge £65 to empty the recycling bin.

GDS requested that the step outside the door adjacent to the EV point be painted white so to be more visible. This was agreed.

RDS said that regarding Hall maintenance, discussions now were merely a reflection of what was being said in 2006 when he was first on the Hall Committee nearly 20 years ago, and that maintenance becomes a holding operation because of the poor state of the building.

Bob Hay said that he was going to take more of the Lismore Leaflets to local tourist offices and at some stage we would need new ones. It was pointed out that these were prepared by Lismore Community Trust, the Hall's involvement was for storage only.

Computer Group Report (appendix 2)

The computer group report was read by JH. ST asked how many times Murdo's map of Lismore had been viewed, JH said she would look into this and that there is a readily available Google map on the site.

IM proposed a vote of thanks to JH for the work on the website, seconded by TC.

Financial Report (appendix 3)

The Financial Report was prepared and read by LS. RDS thanked LS for an amazing job with the accounts.

The report was accepted, proposed by RDS and seconded by IM

Election of Directors

Katy Crossan, Rachel Crossan-Hopkins, and Eildh Willis are all stepping down from the board of directors.

The board will now consist of 2 directors and 1 co-opted director which does not meet the 5 Directors needed to be quorate. If the Board is not quorate, no monetary transaction can be made or the hall being used until the required minimum Directors are in place. Therefore new Directors, must be brought on to the board as soon as possible, even if they are in a temporary capacity to enable the Hall to run day to day.

The following discussion ensued:

LS pointed out that if the Hall were to close, no groups, parties, funerals, or the surgery would be able to use it and all current booking would need to be cancelled.

ST suggested a conversation with other groups regarding a merger may be a way forward RCH had spoken to the Community Trust who may consider the becoming the over arching Board and having the Hall as a sub group, like the Lismore Community Stores and the Housing (when built). The Trust did state that they do not have the capacity to run dances and activities, their role could only be administrative.

RDS suggested a community hub to look after the interests of the island generally, could use the money from the Covid Grant (£10k) that the Hall received, using these funds to fund research and create a vision, for the island in the future.

IM noted that this situation has been coming for a long time and maybe the island needs to be shocked from its complacency

The discussion continued and the way forward was discussed if the Hall cannot recruit enough volunteers to the board. Two people have said they will volunteer to act as (co-opted) directors if it's absolutely necessary, LS will follow up with these 2 individuals

GDS referenced section 7.1 of the Mems and Articles

"The winding-up of the Company may take place only on the decision of not less than 75% of its Ordinary Members who are present and voting at a General Meeting called specifically (but not necessarily exclusively) for the purpose."

The floor put it to the Board, that an Extraordinary General Meeting should be called to discuss the future of the Hall. A provisional date of 23rd May has been set.

It was also suggested that care should be taken with the messaging for this meeting.

ST made the following suggestion that the wording could maybe be:

"In view of the critical situation facing the management of the Public Hall, I propose that an EGM be called for 23rd May 2024 to explore the future of the public hall facility on the island, and its management."

ST proposed and IM seconded, a vote was also held which was unanimous in favour of calling an EGM. Publicity and getting the optimum message across was deemed to be very important and 75% of the Hall membership must be present. ST, IM and GD-S all agreed to be involved in getting the EGM arranged

IM proposed a thank you to the board, GDS seconded.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm.