

## **Minutes of Blairmore Hall Trust AGM on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

### **In Attendance**

Bruce Marshall (Trust Chairperson) Pauline Horton (Trust Treasurer) Isobel Brown (Trust Secretary)

Pam Horton (Trust Member) Catherine Rae (Trust Member) Community Members: June MacDonald; Gordon MacDonald; Lorraine Whitton; Janice Hampson

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies**

Bruce extended a warm welcome to all in attendance. Apologies had been received from Helen Bremner (Trust Member), Pat Lynn, Martin Lindsay

#### **2. Minutes of AGM 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

These were proposed as an accurate record by Pam Horton and seconded by Catherine Rae

#### **3. Treasurers Report**

Pauline Horton circulated her prepared statement of accounts which showed a balance of funds at 20 April 2015 of £14166.81 Pauline drew attention to the 'Awards for all 'grant awarded for the scoping of the hall redevelopment and how it was accounted for within the income and expenditure. Legal fees for dealing with the generous donation of transference of ownership of the adjoining garage from Catherine Rae to the hall was itemised under the expenditure. Pauline pointed out that over the year difficulties with the Electricity Account had been settled and after a rebate we are now on regular monthly payments. She raised concern that the Insurance for the hall seemed excessively high and hoped that we could look for another insurer over the coming year. Pauline highlighted that the Hall income had come from donations, events and the ongoing 50 – 50 club. She noted that the Karate Club who had started to have a regular booking in the hall had meant extra income this year. At the time of preparing the accounts there was still some outstanding income to be received from some clubs. In response to a question from Janice Hampson about the invoice system for bookings Pauline explained that an invoice is issued for every booking of the hall except in the case of regular users of the hall who are on the reduced rate. For these groups there is a different periodic invoicing. Pauline reported that the Charity Commission were happy with the accounts which were presently with the auditor Madalene Lee.

#### **4. Chairperson's report**

Bruce Marshall opened his remarks by thanking those present for their interest and questions before proceeding to give particular thanks to Pauline for her diligent account keeping over the year and for her regular financial spreadsheets which kept all members of the Trust informed about the Hall's financial situation. He stressed that as a small hall it was good to be busy but we were always looking at ways to encourage other clubs and individuals to hire the hall

He extended thanks to Isobel Brown for her secretarial duties over the year, to Pamela Horton for managing the lets and to the remainder of the Hall Trust committee for their commitment and attendance at regular meetings. Moira Gardner had left the Trust over the past year and he thanked her for all the work and commitment she had given to the hall.

He asked Lorraine Whitton if she would pass on the Hall's thanks and appreciation to Eric for his support and assistance throughout the year in the matter of hall maintenance.

Bruce highlighted the fundraising events we had initiated over the past year. The Skills Cafes where people shared a particular skill and knowledge over refreshments had been enjoyable and he thanked all those who shared their time and skills. He gave particular thanks to the members of

Cowal Fiddle workshop who had given an excellent concert which was very much enjoyed by a good attendance. He pointed out that the Trust members were constantly thinking about fund raising activities which would also give opportunities for community socialising.

Bruce was pleased to report that the Hall Trust had been working in partnership with Kilmun & Benmore Development Trust and Blairmore Village Trust. Although there had been a decision taken not to merge with BVT it had been agreed that representatives from the two trusts would attend each other's meetings in a liaison capacity.

#### **5. Letting Charges Review**

Pauline Horton proposed, seconded by Pam Horton that we retain the same letting charges in the coming year. They felt that as the income generated from the regular clubs was covering our outgoings this was appropriate. This proposal was unanimously agreed by all present. Bruce pointed out that once the hall has been renovated we may have to increase our rates.

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

Bruce confirmed that all existing members of the Trust were willing to serve for another year. The existing office bearers agreed that they were also willing to carry out their roles and the following were re-elected:

**Chairperson** Bruce Marshall

**Treasurer** Pauline Horton

**Secretary** Isobel Brown

**Lettings Secretary** Pam Horton

#### **7. Hall Redevelopment Update**

Bruce stressed that the Hall Redevelopment was an ongoing issue to be addressed and that securing funds of up to £260,000 to carry out the work needed was a major challenge as was our quest to make a Victorian listed building fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. He informed that a Lottery Grant Application was being prepared for submission by the end of June. Other sources of grant funding were being constantly researched and monitored. He pointed out that in the interim necessary maintenance and cosmetic changes would be undertaken to meet the needs and comfort of the user groups.

#### **8. AOCB**

Lorraine Whitton informed that she was to be the person from Blairmore Village Trust who would attend the Hall Trust meetings in a liaison capacity.

#### **9. Date of Next Annual General Meeting** It was agreed this would take place in May 2016 on a date to be determined nearer the time