

Dunbartonshire Concert Band **Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

Saturday 8th October 2005 at Westerton Hall

Chairperson: Vicky Evans

Minutes taken by: Alison McCree

1. Apologies

Jane Caldwell, Monika Mihm, Mark McDonald, Hannah Newall, Catriona Donald, John Broad, Moyra Hawthorn.

2. Acceptance of Minutes of 2004 AGM

The minutes of the 2004 AGM were available to all band members at any time and appeared on the website.

As no points were raised, these were adopted by Alan Cooper and seconded by Ian Angus.

3. Chairperson's Report

Vicky Evans began by welcoming all the new members who have joined the band in the course of the last year or since the start of this year. It is always very encouraging to see so many new faces in the band and she hoped they would all enjoy their time in DCB.

Vicky took a few minutes to look back at some particular highlights from the last year.

The Royal Highland show was a very good event for DCB for several reasons. This event was secured through a national agency which has raised the profile of the DCB and may lead to future similar engagements.

The concert we took part in with Chepstow Male Voice Choir was another very enjoyable evening, as was the concert at Maryhill Church and Alan Cooper was thanked for his efforts in organising that event.

Vicky was pleased to report that the corporate concert at Ayr Town Hall had been very well received by all who attended and hopes this may also lead to future engagements.

The band's success in Dundee at the national concert band festival led to a Gold Award and an invite to the National Final in Manchester in March. Vicky thanked Robert Baxter (Musical Director) for his hard work in getting the band up to that level and standard of playing.

The final highlight Vicky spoke of was the concert in Henry Wood Hall in June. This was one of our most successful concerts yet and Vicky thanked everyone involved in what was a very enjoyable night for band and audience alike.

Vicky went on to speak about target for the 2005-2006 session.

These are :

1. Continue to find 'new' concerts and increase the fees for these.
2. Expand on our 'own' concert (eg Henry Wood concert) and continue to explore new ideas for this.

3. Increase the band finances and budget effectively.
Set specific fundraising targets for specific things.
Apply to trust funds for grants.
4. International Trip 2006.
5. Look for new rehearsal space in the area. Priority is a hall with storage space and improved acoustic. This will be a priority for this year.
6. Hold more workshops and sectional rehearsals.

At the end of her report, Vicky asked for questions from the band:

Carolyn Irvine: Is there a new venue in mind?

Vicky: Killermont Church is a possibility but nothing definite has been discussed.
If any band members know of a possible venue, they were asked to contact the committee.

No further questions.

End of Chairpersons report.

4. Secretary's Report

Alison McCree announced that the band address list had recently been updated and issued to band members, but unfortunately had contained several typing errors so will be re-issued in the near future. This would allow several more new players to be added to the list also.

The Band Member profiles which were first issued a couple of years ago are due for updating and will be issued to all members over the next few weeks. Alison asked that these be completed as fully as possible. A profile of the band membership is increasingly being asked for when we make grant applications so it is important that we keep these up-to-date.

No questions.

End of Secretary's report.

5. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Catriona Donald was unable to be at the meeting, so Vicky Evans gave a brief financial report and explained that the accounts were now closed and about to be audited. Vicky explained that an EGM would be announced in the near future when Catriona would be present and able to take questions from the band and for the accounts to be adopted and seconded.

A financial statement was issued to the band. This showed a loss of £92.40, although there is currently around £600 in the bank account. Despite closing with a loss, Vicky pointed out that the Manchester trip was an unforeseen expenditure for the band this year and making a small loss should not be considered as bad as it may at first seem.

Questions from the band:

Peter McKinnon: Could the proposed EGM be held as early as possible (after the required 28 days notice) to give the new treasurer the chance to start this years accounts?

Vicky: Yes, but we are going to wait until after the BASBWE concert at the end of October so we don't lose any more rehearsal time for meetings before then.

Alan Cooper: The financial statement makes no mention of tax relief and is DCB still a registered charity as there was a mix up with forms during

the year for this?

Vicky: This will be checked with Catriona. The paperwork for charity status did get sorted out so DCB should still be a registered charity. Vicky will double check.

Ian Angus: Is the band bank account in credit?

Vicky: Yes

Ian Angus: Mentioned a set of cymbals that the band were possibly going to buy but these may not still be available. Ian will check and inform Vicky.

No further questions.

EGM to be announced.

End of Treasurer's report.

6. Musical Director's Report

Robert Baxter thanked everyone for a particularly good rehearsal this morning, saying that the band sounds great!

He thanked the band for the offer of the position as Musical Director for the next year and is pleased to accept this.

2004-05 has been a particularly good year for learning new music and Robert has noticed great improvements in the bands' sight reading and increasing ability to learn new music quickly. This has allowed us to increase the repertoire of the band more.

Lots of new pieces have been brought into the music pads over the last session and this one, and lots of 'old favourites' (such as Hooray for Hollywood) have been returned to the library.

Winning a Gold award at BASBWE was evidence to the band how far we have come in the last 5 years in terms of our playing and Robert was delighted by this.

Robert looked back to the concert in June at Henry Wood Hall and thanked Alistair Savage in his absence for his excellent solo work during the concert. He also thanked the band for what was a very successful and interesting concert for the audience.

Robert endorsed what Vicky had mentioned in her report about the targets being set for the coming year.

His targets would also include:

1. Look for another commissioned piece of music if finances allow.
2. Try to use music that will push advanced players and encourage everyone's improvement.
3. Aim for a Gold again at BASBWE in Motherwell, and if successful and invited, take part in the national finals in Glasgow in March 2006. This had been discussed at committee and was possibly not going to be planned for but Robert felt it would be a pity to miss the opportunity to take part in the finals when they are 'on our doorstep' should we be invited.
4. Record Arthur Main's piece 'Dunbartonshire' and Peter Longworth's piece 'Leaf in the Water' in April / May of next year.

Finally, Robert thanked all the band for their personal support over the last few months and for the generous gifts given to Kate and himself following Anna's birth in May.

No questions.

End of Musical Director's report.

7. Election / Re-Election of Committee Members

Vicky announced that instead of each individual committee being proposed and seconded, she would read a complete list of the proposed committee and this could then be adopted. Checking that this was acceptable and correct procedure, which it was, the new committee is as follows:

Chairperson:	Vicky Evans	(re-election)
Vice Chairperson:	Collette Waller	(new role, existing committee member)
Secretary:	Alison McCree	(re-election)
Treasurer:	David Broad	(new role, existing committee member)
Fundraising:	Peter McKinnon	(new role, existing committee member)
Engagements:	Vicky Evans (until Dec)	(re-election)
Librarian:	David Broad	(re-election)
Ordinary Members:	Derek Galloway	(re-election)
	Monika Mihm	(new member - replaces Andrew McCafferty)
	Mark McDonald	(new member - replaces Moyra Hawthorn)

These were proposed by John Gourlay and seconded by Jacqui McMahan.

Vicky specifically thanked Andrew McCafferty who is standing down from the committee for his work for DCB over a long period of time. She also thanked Catriona Donald who is standing down from the committee for her work as Treasurer and Moyra Hawthorn who is standing down as Vice Chairperson.

Vicky drew the bands' attention to other members of the band who are not on the committee but who should be thanked for the work they do for the band that some people may not be aware about. These are:

Webmaster:	Alan Cooper
Travel Group:	Anneli Demberg
Hall Lets:	Collette Waller
Registrar:	Ken Howkins
Press Office:	Moyra Reid (Alan's wife)
Newsletter:	Alison McCree & Moyra Hawthorn

And finally, Musical Director - Robert Baxter.

The appointment of Auditors followed.

Jane Caldwell is standing down as an auditor so Richard Phelps had been asked to become an auditor. John Gourlay was willing to continue as an auditor.

These were proposed by Ian Angus and seconded by Ken Howkins.

8. Subscriptions

At this point, Vicky thanked Robert Baxter for his contribution to the AGM and asked him to leave so financial matters could be discussed.

A sheet was issued to all members of the band which stated the current band subscription rates and the proposed new rates which were being put forward by the committee.

The current rate (unchanged for 3 years) is:

£60	full members
£25	OAPs, unemployed on benefits or full time education

The proposed new rate is:

£70 full members
£35 OAPs, unemployed on benefits or full time education

Vicky stated that this worked out at £1.33 or £0.88 per person, per rehearsal.

Reasons to increase subs are: need to increase the band income, they
want to increase MD fees
current rate unchanged for 3 years

Questions or Comments from the band:

Jacqui McMahon: points out that the increase for the reduced rate is greater than for
the full rate.

Peter McKinnon: points out that while OAP is considered over 65 by the band, there
are some retired people in the band not yet over 65 years.

Peter McKinnon: also, if there are people in the band with specific hardship not in
the reduced rate categories, please speak to a committee
member, as we will negotiate individual circumstances.

No further comments were made, so a vote was taken.

There was a unanimous vote in favour of a subscriptions increase, so a vote against was not necessary.

9. Musical Directors Fees

The current Musical Directors fees were stated on the sheet that had been handed out for subscriptions.

The current rate is:

£60 per rehearsal and
£70 per concert

The proposed increased rate is:

£70 per rehearsal and
£80 per concert

Vicky stated that Robert had specifically asked her to announce that he has not asked for an increased fee.

Questions or Comments from the band:

Alan Reid: When was the last increase?

Vicky: Last year

Bill McLelland: Last year, the members wanted to increase the fee more than the
treasurer recommended, but went with the treasurers advice. Is
the treasurer in agreement with this increase?

Vicky: Yes.

No further comments were made, so a vote was taken.

Votes for an increase MD fee:	21 votes
Votes against an increase MD fee:	1 votes
Abstentions:	7 votes

As there was a clear majority for the increase, the MD fees will increase as stated above.

10. AOCB (any other competent business)

- a) Anneli Demberg: BASBWE competition October 30th. Time of completion to be confirmed.
Peter McKinnon: Will there be a bus?
Vicky: Bus may be arranged, but it may be easier and more cost effective for band to arrange lifts in peoples cars instead. This will be discussed at next rehearsal.
- b) Alan Cooper asked if trustees needed to be re-appointed at this meeting. Vicky explained that they did not, but that they were going to be discussed at the next committee meeting anyway and this would then allow for re-appointments or new appointments.
- c) Andrew McCafferty announced that the tour committee (Anneli, Moyra, Andrew and Alison) had met several times over the summer and would be announcing the proposal for the 2006 tour in the near future as some further research was ongoing.
- d) Subs: Please pay in the next couple of weeks now that costs have been decided!
- e) Ken Howkins: Please phone or e-mail if unable to attend concerts or rehearsals.
- f) Peter McKinnon: Killermont Church is a possible new venue and although storage is not currently available there is a possibility that it may become available. Should he pursue this in the meantime?
Vicky: Will discuss at next committee meeting.

There was no further business to discuss and Vicky closed the meeting at 12:55.