



Dunbartonshire Concert Band

AGM Minutes

12th October 2013

12:30pm Cairns Church

1. Apologies & Attendance

Apologies were received from Angela Caldwell, Amy Cutler, Sula Duffy, Anne Dunbar, Phil Hair, Alan Hunter, Laura Hunter, Arthur Main, Jacqui McMahon, Louise Muir, Michele Muir, Anne Richards, Collette Waller, Michael Yeoman.

32 members of the band and the musical director, Robert Baxter, were present at the meeting, which was chaired by David Broad, Chairperson.

2. Approval of the 2012 AGM minutes

The minutes were approved without any changes by Alan Cooper and Ruth Sinclair.

3. Chairperson's Report

David began his report by congratulating the band on a very enjoyable 40th anniversary year.

Our numbers have continued to increase which means we are constantly seeking new performance venues as we have started to outgrow existing ones.

He noted that numbers at weekly rehearsals are relatively stable from week to week, showing commitment from members

The committee were thanked for all their work behind the scenes contributing to the smooth running of the band. He also thanked Robert for his ongoing enthusiasm for the band and his commitment to our enjoyment of the band.

David drew our attention to a few people who required specific thanks.

Anne Dunbar was heavily involved in our (successful) application to the BBC Performing Arts Fund. She was thanked for her time and effort.

The McCree family for their help on the door and serving refreshments at the West End Festival.

On a lighter note, he thanked Joan Gemmel for her medical skills looking after Peter McKinnon's sore leg.

Reflecting on events during the last year, some highlights were:



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40th Anniversary Reunion – was very well received with a large number of former members in attendance and sitting in to play with the band. He thanked everyone who was involved in the day – with catering, photo boards, programmes, awards and membership lists etc. It was a very enjoyable morning and generated a lot of positive feedback, including a request for it to become an annual event!

40th Anniversary Concert in June was a real highlight for us. It was a great success with 230 people joining us in the audience, in a new venue and with the increased ticket price.

Speaking about concerts, David thanked Laura Watt for her ongoing work as Engagements Secretary. He noted that we try to space our concerts to try and avoid overloading the workload of the band.

We are always trying to find new venues but are pleased to have a number of repeat engagements, namely our annual concert in Kelvingrove Art Gallery, which they are now marketing as the Kelvingrove Christmas Concert, the Gorsilaure Concert in Dumbarton and the Kirkintilloch Canal Festival concerts.

David informed the band that the garage where we store our music had recently been leaking and there was an urgent move of our entire music library into the church buildings. He thanked everyone who helped with this. Cairns Church have now re-roofed the building and have also increased the storage space available to the band.

On a sad note, one of our horn players, Clare Rankin passed away after a short illness in June. There are plans to have some form of tribute from DCB. Discussions are in the early stages and are leaning towards a possible fundraiser, ideally before the end of this year. Any ideas should be passed to the committee.

Looking forward, David reminded the band that we are planning a trip to the Mid Europe Festival in Austria in 2015. Planning is in the very early stages with David, Monika Mihm & Anneli Demberg forming a planning group at present. There is an opportunity for members to donate tea money towards the trip each week - with 2 separate dishes to collect monies.

David noted that he has received a formal request to change the wording of the band Constitution. This will be dealt with when committee meet. Once changes are made, this will be presented to the band at an EGM and if accepted, it is submitted to OSCR, the charities regulator.

He concluded his report by stating we are compliant with and fulfilling the demands required by OSCR and thanked Alan Donnelly and Anne Dunbar for this.

4. Musical Director's Report

Robert began by thanking David for his chairmanship.

He reflected on a number of highlights from the last year – our community concerts at Mugdock Park, Dumbarton and Kirkintilloch; our concert at the West End Festival, the Kelvingrove Christmas concert - which seems to grow each year - and the Cairns Christmas concert.

The 40th Anniversary Concert in the Royal Conservatoire was a huge success. He thanked Laura Watt for her help with arranging this.

Robert was delighted that we were able to commission the new piece of music Loch Awe by Steve Foreman and give it its world premier at the 40th concert. The piece gave us the opportunity to play something completely different in terms of sound, style and type of music. It was well received by the audience at the concert and a very enjoyable and interesting experience for us as a band. The CD of the 40th Anniversary concert was distributed to the band at the AGM. Robert advised he has listened to it several times and is delighted with it. He said he was 'blown away' with the standard of playing.

Looking to the future, Robert hopes to meet the challenge of keeping the momentum going after such a big year. He hopes to 'push the band to its limits' with big pieces already handed out – Shostakovich, Grainger and Galante – as well as introducing some new pieces for our lighter repertoire which have been ordered.

We will also be performing another world premier this year. Colin Suckling, one of our horn players, has written 'Three Course Meal' for the band and we will play this at our Christmas concert. He thanked Colin for this.

Robert advised he is also already looking ahead and planning for the Austria trip in 2015, working on a 12-24 month plan.

He is keen to keep developing new venues and new links in the community. We were invited to be the band at a conducting workshop at the RCS earlier this year which was unfortunately cancelled. This has been rescheduled and we have again been invited to play. New date is Sunday 16th February 2014.

We have also been asked by Nigel Durno from the Scottish Concert Band Festival to be one of the festival's Performance Bands. We would share this with Stewarton Winds and Glasgow Wind Band, rotating each year. The Performance Band presents an example of a 'big' piece of wind band repertoire to the festival at lunch time on the day of the festival. As DCB only takes part in the festival every 2nd year, he hopes we can incorporate our performances with the years we

are there.

5. Treasurer's Report

Alan Donnelly reported that it has been another good year for the band financially.

A financial statement was issued to members and some key points highlighted.

Subscriptions almost completely cover the MD fee.

Income from the 100 Club is an ongoing success and the BBC grant, which we are still due another installment from.

Overall, band funds are stable and looking positive going forward.

There was one question regarding the income from Kirkintilloch Canal festival which was not shown. Alan advised this was not included in this year's statement as it was received after the accounts were completed and will show in the next statement.

6. Election of Committee for 2013-14

Peter Lord and Peter MacKinnon have both stepped down from their committee positions. David thanked them for their contributions.

It is proposed the Amy Cutler takes over as Librarian and Alison McCree joins committee as an Ordinary Member. The rest of the committee remains unchanged.

This is the proposal:

Chairperson	David Broad
Vice Chairperson	Monika Mihm
Secretary	Michele Muir
Treasurer	Alan Donnelly
Librarian	Amy Cutler
Ordinary Members	Laura Watt (engagements) Alison McCree Sharon McKay

The new committee was accepted unanimously by vote.

7. Musical Director's Fees

Robert left the room prior to discussions.

David apologised to the band that an EGM was not held in June to vote for the



MD appointment. There was a unanimous vote at this point to re-appoint Robert Baxter.

MD fees are currently £100 per rehearsal and £100 per concert.

The committee proposal is to keep this the same for the next year.

There was a unanimous vote in favour of this.

8. Members Subscriptions 2013-14

Subs are currently: £85 full, £55 retired and £45 unwaged.

David advised that the hall rental was due to be increased from £35 to £45 and continues to be good value. Alan Donnelly confirmed that this was affordable. The committee proposes keeping these the same for the next year.

After some discussion, there was a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal.

9. AOCB

Alan Cooper asked if it would be an option to liaise with Helensburgh Orchestral Society with regard to Clare Rankin. Robert advised the orchestra have a concert planned in March which is going to be in her name. He is unsure that a joint event would be possible and felt it would be possibly be easier to do our own event. He and others will liaise with Clare's family with regard to this.

There was no other business to discuss and the meeting was closed by David at 13:25.