



Annual General Meeting
Cairns Church, Milngavie
16th September, 2017, 11.30

Meeting Minute

- 1. Attending:** Membership attending was 45. Thus the meeting was quorate.
- 2. Apologies** received from: Moyra Barns-Graham, David Broad, Arthur Main, Joan Gemmel, Phil Hair, Ruth Sinclair, Jan Winder, Michele Muir
- 3. Minutes of previous meetings (AGM 2016):** The minutes were accepted (proposed Harriet Fishley, seconded Alan Cooper).
- 4. Chairperson's report**
Welcome our Honorary President, Glyn Bragg, who conducted us and will be delivering the MD report.

The Band and Events in the last session: Monika reminded the band of some very uplifting performances early in the season, such as playing Brave in front of the spectacular Ben Lomond scenery at the Killearn Horticultural Show. She then emphasised the importance of sectional rehearsals with excellent tutoring to prepare for the SCBF regionals beginning of December. The band returned with a well deserved Gold Plus award, picked up Christmas tunes in a couple of rehearsals to perform our annual Christmas concert with a good audience here at Cairns. The SCBF finals were prepared using a full day of sectional and band rehearsal with our associate conductor, and everyone agreed with the Chair, that such an intense rehearsal day bore fruit in terms of band morale and improvement in subsequent performance. Monika highlighted that the band delivered a super performance rewarded by the Platinum award at the SCBF finals. This had been an important boost in confidence, as 2 weeks later 40 band members found themselves among the Tyrolean Alps (and all the others no doubt thinking of us) to play their best in the evening Primavera concert. Monika thanked Fraser and Cameron for their concerto performance, which was an astonishing feat after a very short rehearsal period. The season then concluded with a very satisfyingly played summer concert in a new try out venue, with a great recording to show for it.

After an exciting start to a new session (with 2x performances already under our belt), Monika congratulated the whole band for their amazing spirit and support everyone shows towards other members.

The Committee and help from band members: Monika then proceeded to thank the committee for their constructive work and suggestions over the last season. Special thanks was expressed to every individually named committee member, for their specialist input to the garage, new ideas and energy to recruit new venues and audiences, for their ideas and organisation of social events, for the successful start of the library re-organisation, the recording of concerts, design of programmes and event posters as well as accessories. Clearly, the position of PR and events organiser should be officially recognized within the committee. The persistence of the treasurer was highlighted, in pursuing the successful transition of accounts to online banking, and efficient management of online payments. Monika also thanked the treasurer for completing our compulsory OSCR return in a timely manner, and submitting the gift aid return this session. And on top of the DCB main account events, the treasurer was prepared to look after the Landeck Tour payments, and the whole band thanked her for such a high level of engagement.

Finally, Monika also stated that one bonus in this band was that almost everyone is a wonderful volunteer. While not on the committee, these band members are as committed and prepared to help and organise individual events or routine activities. She listed everyone by name and thanked them for the band, as their help was invaluable for special events, such as the coach trips or the Tour, or for the smooth operation of website, facebook, rehearsals, and handing out music.

Thanks to MDs: Monika then proceeded to describe our great relationship with both MDs, and thanked them for their patience, humour, energy and ambition. She stated that the band not only benefits from their professionalism but also from their professional connections, for the excellent tuition provided at sectionals. She informed the band that Michelle had agreed to continue being our associate conductor for this session, and concluded that we were lucky to have such a great combination of MDs.

Other band matters: She reminded the band of our relatively newly adopted constitution in which it is stated 'that we are an equal opportunities organisation', and that 'all members shall act with courtesy and due respect to fellow band members and other colleagues, and will refrain from activities that are prejudicial to the workings and reputation of the Band'.

Returning to a very positive and happy note, Monika informed the band members that refurbishment of the garage was successfully carried out in this session, and the committee and band had at all times maintained a very positive and friendly working relationship with Cairns Church, showing how much we appreciated our rehearsal venue.

Future for the DCB: On a final note, Monika emphasised again what a great performing band this was, with constant enquiries to join the DCB, and exciting performances in an incredibly supportive and friendly community band atmosphere. She concluded by encouraging the band to take on the challenge of planning big events and perhaps bi-annual projects (or a Tour to a world championship of windbands) further ahead, with annual concerts or the competitions to be used as preparation for such prestigious performances, and she was sure that the DCB was up for it!

5. **MD report (delivered in Robert's absence by Honorary President Glyn Bragg)**

Well, I have to say that this is a very easy and pleasant report to write!

Yet again I feel that the band has excelled in everything that it set out to do and that you continued to develop community concerts and contacts, learnt new and I hope exciting pieces of music and had many successes in the form of competitions, tours and concerts.

The early part of last season was spent learning new and developing some previous repertoire both for the SCBF and the visit to Landeck. I know that Michelle agrees that the level of detail you achieved for the SCBF in Livingston was very high and that was clearly recognised in the adjudication when you were given a Gold plus! After another wonderful carol concert here at Cairns in December and all the preparation with our Christmas repertoire we began working toward the SCBF finals in Perth and tour music.

The performance you gave in Perth was a special one and I felt that it deserved the platinum that was duly handed out. We all know that when we listen back to the performance there are small things that we would like to change and that can be improved upon but in general this was moving, exciting and a courageous performance that warranted the top award.

It was perfect timing to receive the platinum just before we embarked on our third visit to Austria and second in three years! It is hard to know where to start talking about the Landeck concert other than saying you were all amazing and that you expressed yourselves and the band community spirit wholeheartedly on and off stage. I found it a very difficult concert to programme given that we only needed around 45 mins of music but I was

also aware that I needed to build a first half for them and show the diverse repertoire that DCB performs. In the end I was really pleased with what we played and I think it kept us all busy and feeling that there was enough to do.

It would have been a long way to go and feel we didn't play enough! A special mention to our soloists, Fraser and Cameron for showing such courage and demonstrating superb musicianship.

After Landeck I do remember very well looking at Monika and saying..... Oh no.....the summer concert! The trip had certainly taken a good deal of focus.

Having said that I thought the playing in the summer concert was outstanding and the wonderful CD recording that Jan organised is a mark of the occasion and the musicianship shown.

Other highlights during the season will be your stoicism in the pouring rain at Mugdock and seeing you all in lovely pink...thanks Kerry!

As ever I thank Michelle McCabe for all her hard work, especially during rehearsals and I was very pleased that she was in Bearsden Academy for the concert so that we could publicly recognise her efforts and support for the band.

There was, as ever another good committee meeting a few weeks ago and I shared some ideas of mine for possible future projects and I know that you have all been thinking about plans too. I look forward to trying to make some of these come to fruition in the coming seasons.

Thanks to Harriet and Jane for collecting in much of last season's music and you see that we have already handed out a number of new works, there will be much more new repertoire in the coming months.

I am also aware that despite rotating much of the Christmas repertoire we are in need of freshening some in this area. I enjoy as always listening to sound samples of Christmas arrangements in August!!!!!!!!!!

Can I close by saying thank you to everyone on the committee for all the brilliant work done to make DCB tick so effortlessly and if you don't mind I'd like to make my remarks about Monika in person when I am back next.....all good I promise!

Thank you again for a musically rewarding and a truly fulfilling season of music making.

Michelle McCabe:

Can you pass on my apologies for not being there today and I'll agree with whatever Robert puts in his report!

I'd like to say that the band have had a very successful year with great concerts, competitions and a tour. I also don't know many ensembles that start their new season with 2 performances!

This success is due to the commitment of band members and the hard work of the committee members. I'd like to thank the band for such well attended and focussed rehearsals, especially the committee members who have brought so much to the band with great organisation behind the scenes.

I hope to continue to support Robert and the DCB in the coming season.

6. 2016-2017 Accounts

See summary documents copied below

7. Treasurer report and 2017-2018 subscriptions

Bottom line appears to be loss of nearly £2000, but nearly £1400 of that was payment for the garage upgrade which was essential to prevent our percussion deteriorating further.

Taking part in the Scottish concert band festival is always a bit of an expense but it pays us in improved musicality so we expected this to be a difficult year.

The big difference this year was the loss of the Kelvingrove art gallery concert which used to make us a healthy profit, and the very poor attendance at the summer concert. We discussed the reasons for that a couple of weeks ago so the committee will try to take note of the things that they can do. But we need everyone to make a real effort to get more people to come to our ticketed concerts. We have a hard core of dedicated supporters but far too much of our finances are dependent on them at the moment.

It is clear that on the current level of subscriptions we will continue to make at least a small loss unless we get better concert income. However, as our reserves are still reasonably healthy I am not requesting an increase in the sub. If you want to keep the same level of subs in the future we must get better audiences!

You can see that gift aid is an essential part of our income. There are still a few of you who have promised to fill out a gift aid form but not handed it in yet. Please do so as soon as possible. Could all new members also please get the gift aid form from the website, fill it in and return it to me as soon as

possible if you are a tax payer. If you are under 18 and a parent pays your sub for you, please can you get your parent to fill it in. Also anyone who has moved since they filled in the form, please can you let me have a note of your new address as we need that to claim gift aid.

We didn't get the budgeting for the Austria trip quite right because of the extra professional musician, and therefore, depended on the funds left over from the last trip. However, thanks to the generosity of so many of you who donated extra funds (on which we were able to claim gift aid, which is a bonus), and finally being able to access the money that has been lying dormant in the no 2 account, we have almost the complete amount from the No 2 account left over to kick start our next tour.

The treasurer concluded by reminding band members of the subscriptions due now, £90 for salaried band members, £55 for retired band members and £45 for unsalaried (including students) band members.

Post scriptum in relation to accounts:

Please note that a KLM refund of £31 was received after the AGM, thus 'use of tour reserves' was £447.54, and 'Tour reserves left in the account' are amended to £318.90.

8. Election of the Committee

The following band members were duly proposed and seconded to become Chair or committee members, respectively (see full committee membership copied below). This was accepted by an almost unanimous vote with only one band member abstaining from the vote.

David Broad – Chair

Proposed by Monika Mihm Carmichael

Seconded by Andrew McCafferty

Nicola McConnell

Proposed by George Gourlay

Seconded by Andrew McCafferty

David Brown

Proposed by Karen Clayton

Seconded by Alan Cooper

9. Election of the Honorary Independent Financial Examiner Mr Robert Thomson was elected to continue in this position for the next session. (proposed Alan Cooper, seconded Julian Fosh).

10. Election/Re-election of Band Trustees

No change in elected DCB trustees: Alan Cooper, Jill Bolling, Colin Suckling, John Waller and David Welsh.

11. Resolutions:

No further resolutions were submitted in advance of the meeting by band members.

12. AOCB

Sue requested that an all band contact list be updated and circulated to allow members to reach each other outside of rehearsal times. As this would contravene the Data Collection Act, it was agreed that members would instead be given the choice to opt in or out of sharing their details via a private list held by the committee. Fiona Ross volunteered to hold this list. Requests for information should be made via a committee member or to Fiona directly.

Alan Hunter queried the band's legal obligation regarding number of charity/not-for-profit concerts performed per year while retaining our charitable status. The response came from Alan Cooper, Monika and Anne that there are no legal obligations binding us to meet a particular quota of charity performances per year.

Notes:

(a) Minutes of previous general meetings are available on the website at:

<http://dunbartonshireconcertband.co.uk/minutes/>

(b) The DCB constitution, as adopted in June 2015, and with the required OSCR charitable objective amendment, can be viewed at:

<http://dunbartonshireconcertband.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/DCB-constitution-2016-2017-OSCR-objectives.pdf>