



Minutes of the AGM of the Traditional Music and Song Association of Scotland held at the A. K. Bell Library, Perth on 7th November 2004

The AGM was Convened by Anne Neilson

Members Present

Geordie Murison, Maria Johansen, Robin Dempsey, Scott Murray, Tracy Boyle, Sheena Wellington, Patrick Newman, Nancy Donnelly, Hilary Cusker, Liz Clark, Sheila Douglas, Sheila Stewart, Lorna Alexander, John Alexander, Peter Christie, Sandy Watson, Mhairi Murison, Susie Malcolm, Scott Gardiner, Joyce Murison, Elizabeth Malcolm.

Non-members Present

Carolyn Patterson, John Morran, Caroline Hewat, Caroline Scott

Item	
1. Apologies	Doris Rougvie, Fiona Campbell, Jean Fleetwood, Citty Finlayson, Alison MacKinnon, Isla Duncan, Corrina Hewat, Karen Hannah
2. Minutes of previous AGM held on 16th November 2003	<p>The minutes of the previous AGM were distributed and read. Amendments to the attendance list for last year were made, as those present recalled others who were there.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a record of the last AGM by Sheena Wellington and seconded by Liz Clark.</p>
3. Reports to the AGM	<p>a) Convener's Report</p> <p>Anne Neilson recounted the musical events she had been able to attend over the course of the year since the last AGM, including her representation of the TMSA at the first Young Trad Music Awards Ceremony.</p> <p>The Convener then listed the six committee meetings held in Perth over the course of the year, the two Executive meetings in Edinburgh, the 8 staff support meetings and meetings to deal with the appointment of a new staff member at national office.</p> <p>She gratefully acknowledged the help of Caroline Pugh in the interim period between Caroline Smith's departure from the post and the appointment of Caroline Scott.</p> <p>AN also acknowledged the support of Carolyn Patterson from the Scottish Arts Council in securing continuing Arts' Council funding for the TMSA.</p> <p>She emphasised that the TMSA was doing a great deal of forward thinking and planning at the moment and that, along with activities that the TMSA was obliged to carry out as a matter of course, we were also hoping to continue working on projects such as the McEwan's Sessions and the Young Trad Tour 2005 - as the events this year had been so successful. It was also hoped that we might be able to do something with the recordings made during the Young Trad Tour. Many of these activities were, of course, funding dependant.</p> <p>AN also acknowledged that the TMSA needed to build a larger and more active membership base. AN then asked Carolyn Patterson to speak briefly on what she felt would make the TMSA more attractive to potential funders and invited Sheena Wellington to speak on the impact the Cultural Commission might make.</p> <p>Carolyn Patterson made it clear that funding is never guaranteed and that the Cultural Commission is currently looking at possible new ways of structuring funding for culture. This is likely to have an effect on the money distributed by the Scottish Arts Council and the Arts Council already has set target areas for funding which it has to cover with the resources available. In this climate, it is impossible for the Scottish Arts Council to guarantee funding for projects such as the Young Trad Tour.</p> <p>Sheena Wellington spoke briefly about the role of the Cultural Commission and noted that the response from within the sector so far had been encouraging. There will be a series of public</p>

	<p>consultations (list available from TMSA website or National Office). Sheena indicated that it was important the TMSA was prepared in advance to act on any recommendations from the Cultural Commission. We need a concrete strategy in place before the Commission submits its report.</p> <p>b) Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts</p> <p>Joyce and Mhairi Murison indicated that the Auditors had shown a great deal of forbearance with the TMSA this year. The books were due to be handed over to them in July in order for them to audit them in time for this AGM in November. Unfortunately, due to the tardiness of some branches not submitting branch accounts until comparatively recently, Scott Moncrieff had not received our accounts until right at the last minute.</p> <p>Mhairi reminded the AGM that it was imperative that branch accounts were handed into the TMSA treasurer no later than the 31st of May in any given year. Branch accounts formed an integral part of the published accounts as a whole and it was a legal requirement that the TMSA presented published accounts at the AGM every year. She urged those present to take this message back to their branch committees.</p> <p>The accounts were read through by Mhairi who pointed out that while there was a substantial reserve of £23,300 in the bank, the recommended target we should have achieved was £29,000.</p> <p>It was also noted that that income from membership was up on last year but this was more likely to reflect the increase in the membership rates than an actual significant increase in membership numbers.</p> <p>Next year's accounts will look significantly different from this year's as they will reflect the cash injection from the Young Trad Tour and the McEwans Sessions.</p> <p>There being no questions or objections from the floor, the accounts were approved and accepted.</p>
4. Elections to the Board	<p>Anne Neilson intimated the resignations of Susie Kelly, Carol Anderson and Joyce Murison from the Board.</p> <p>Fiona Campbell was put forward by the other members of the board as a replacement for Joyce Murison in the post of treasurer.</p> <p>Fiona Campbell was accepted and approved as Treasurer.</p> <p>Anne Neilson noted that the board was still without a Vice-convener but noted that it was the hope of the Board to bring in someone with legal experience from the business sector to take on the role of Company Secretary. It was the Board's intention, under those circumstances to then offer the post of Vice-convener to Scott Murray, the current Company Secretary.</p> <p>The three nominees submitted by the membership to the Board were read out and approved:</p> <p>Tracy Boyle Alison Mackinnon Karen Hannah</p> <p>There being no need for an election and no objections from the floor, the three members listed above were duly elected to the TMSA Board.</p>
5. Appointment of Auditors	<p>There being no objections from the floor, Scott Moncrieff were re-appointed as Auditors.</p>
6. Motion to add Young Person/Student Category to Articles of Association.	<p>A motion was read out to add a new category of Young Person/Student to the Articles of Association under Section 3 – Membership Categories. The text to read: 'Young Person/Student – any young person aged 17 or under, or a student aged 18-24 in full-time education.'</p> <p>There being no objections from the floor, the motion was carried.</p>
7. Award of Honorary Membership	<p>An honorary life membership was then awarded to Gordon Easton.</p>
	THE AGM CONCLUDED AT 5.00PM