

Levin Folk Music Club AGM 24th September 2021,

Held at HSS, 155 Bartholomew Road, Levin

Note: As a result of Covid lockdown situation in NZ this year, the AGM had to be postponed, and the meeting held under Level 2 conditions

Meeting Chairperson: Dianne Morris -Madill /John Jenkins

Welcome: Dianne welcomed all members present. She also asked the laird of the Horowhenua Scottish Society, Chris Hartwell to update all of the club members with progress on the hall repairs. He was thanked for his report.

Present: Dianne Madill, Jean Hollis, John Jenkins, Val Jenkins, Bruce Withell, Don Stratton, Peter Madill, Dale Webb, Katy Horwood. Geoff Toa, Kate Lang, Danny Healy, John Laurensen, Rona Cooper, Jeremy Cooper, Charlie Boyce, Andrew Salter, Anne Campbell, Cavan Haines, Keith Heginbotham, Paul Webster, Rick Swan, **Non-members**-Denise and Al Woodmass, Chris Hartwell, Kevin Watson

Chairperson Dianne Madill announced that visitors could have speaking rights, but could not vote on the election of officers or the motions.

Apologies: Alastair Pain, Rod and Jenny Cavaye, Steve and Robyn Tolley

Previous Minutes: Taken as read. Moved Dale Webb/seconded John Jenkins

Matters Arising: Jean Hollis pointed out that the last minutes had reflected her intention to resign at this current meeting and the issue would be brought up when it came to elections in this meeting.

Correspondence:

1. Email from Dale Webb resigning from role as booking agent and committee member. Reasons for resignation clearly stated "due to the concerted and unfair criticisms against our Chairperson from a certain group of members, and in support of her hard work behind the scenes and major contributions to the club and committee." This email also gives a detailed outline of the booking agent's role and thanks, in particular, the other committee members who have also worked hard throughout the year.
2. Email from Rod Cavaye suggesting (a) that the Friday 4th club night should be abandoned due to very limited attendance
(b) that the club should continue to look for an alternative less expensive venue.
3. Danny Healy – suggestions for improvement of club.
4. Kate Lang – suggestions for improvement of club
5. Keith Heginbotham – analysis of economic viability of club and ways to improve this
6. Paul Webster – Sound report.

All of numbers 3 – 6 will be tabled at the next club committee meeting for ongoing discussion and planning.

Following the Correspondence Katy Horwood expressed her extreme thanks for all the work put in by both Dale and Dianne throughout the year. Cavan Haines thanked Dale for all the work she had

done for his production of the newsletters. Rick Swan thanked Dale especially for all her work in organising house concerts .

Treasurer's Report. Val Jenkins delivered her Treasurer's report. She gave a detailed account of the difficulties faced with changing to internet banking and thanked Dianne for being willing to take on many of the lengthy meetings needed by Westpac for this all to be authorised. The attached detailed notes will be filed with these minutes. Val was thanked by Cavan Haines for the very detailed account of Club's finances.

Val was questioned about whether other banks in the area could provide a better service, but had received advice from several people to suggest that Westpac was doing more than other banks offered. Relating to a question about why not pay artists via internet banking, Val made it clear that in particular for groups it was easier to share the payments made in cash. Individual artists or small groups could request internet payment if they wished.

The Profit and Loss statement shows:

Income: \$7,973.50

Expenses: \$ 8,325.60 (a loss of \$352.10)

The unaudited Financial Statement of the LFMC, shows total funds as at 30th June 2021 to be \$15,295.06

Anne Campbell congratulated Val on all the work she put in to her report. Val moved her report be accepted/seconded Anne Campbell.

Chairperson's report.

Dianne Madill presented her chairperson's report. Copy filed with these minutes. Dianne moved that her report be accepted/seconded by Jean Hollis

At the end of her report, Dianne announced her resignation as Chairperson and withdrew her nomination for the role in the next year. John Jenkins stepped in to the role of chair at this point.

In discussion of the Chairperson's report, Val pointed out that while the report suggested that raffles should perhaps be discontinued, in fact they do not actually lose money, and as her Treasurer's report shows, they made a net profit \$195.36 in the last year. Cavan Haines appreciated the meat prize in the raffles.

Denise Woodmass reported that the Horowhenua Scottish Society have respected the contact they have had with Dianne during her time as Chairperson. She congratulated Dianne on the level of communication achieved in respect of the lease in particular.

Dale Webb spoke of the very positive personal contacts Dianne has in the Levin community and the folk music world in general. Her experience in other folk clubs in NZ and in the annual running of Wellyfest meant she had lot of knowledge to share with the club. She had used her negotiating skills well in dealing with outside groups and in particular the Horowhenua Scottish Society and the Westpac bank.

John Jenkins pointed out that Dianne had received full support from the committee during her time as chairperson. While several club members had been upset by some of the changes made of the past two years, it had been a difficult time and in particular he itemised points in the Club Constitution which supported most of these changes. (See Constitution Objectives: 3)

Election of Officers

1. **Chairperson:** Only one nomination received (following Dianne Madill's declining nomination) Nominated by Jeremy Cooper /Seconded by Bruce Withell
Geoff Toa was elected as chair. Geoff was then requested to take over the chair from John Jenkins.
2. **Secretary:** Only one nomination received, for Jean Hollis.
Nominated by Dianne Morris-Madill/ seconded by Val Jenkins
Jean stated that she was prepared to take on this role only until the end of December 2021, as she has a very intensive role in planning the NZ Annual Tree Croppers' Conference to be held in Otaki in March 2022. Planning for this conference is already impacting seriously on time she has available. Rona Cooper indicated that she would be prepared to take over in 2022, and Jean thanks her heartily. Jean elected under this condition.
3. **Treasurer:** Nomination for Val Jenkins
Nominated by Dianne Morris-Madill/seconded by Jean Hollis
Val Jenkins elected unanimously
4. **Committee:**

Nominees – Paul Webster

Nominated by Rona Cooper/seconded by Rick Swan

Danny Healy

Nominated by Kate Lang/seconded by Geoff Toa

Keith Heginbotham

Nominated by Dianne Morris-Madill/seconded by John Jenkins

John Jenkins

Nominated by Jean Hollis/seconded by Dianne Morris-Madill

All of the above four nominations were voted in.

Motions

1. That the Committee move that the entry costs for guest concerts after the AGM should be increased from \$5 to \$10 for members and from \$10 to \$15 for non-members, school aged children to remain at \$3. Proposed Dianne Madill/ seconded Dale Webb

After full discussion of this motion it was put to the vote using secret ballot. Scrutineers were the non-members, Denise and Al Woodmass. Motion was rejected 13 to 9

2. That the Blackboard Concert remains preceding the Guest Concert and does not change from month to month. (Proposed: Kate Lang /Seconded: Geoff Toa)
This motion was amended to add the words “except in exceptional circumstances”.
Motion including the additional amendment passed by show of hands.
3. That Blackboard Concert entertainers not be moved from the time slots they have chosen without being consulted. (Proposed; Kate Lang/ Seconded: Geoff Toa)

Several members spoke to this motion, arguing that it was a matter of basic courtesy and not something that should need to be voted on in an AGM. Motion was withdrawn.

4. That a committee member selects (from the membership) a different compere for each concert night and that person is entirely responsible for organising the blackboard as well as compering the night (as has happened successfully in the past.)
Proposed Geoff Toa/seconded Kate Lang

Members were largely in favour of the idea of giving a wider variety of members the chance to be compere. It was suggested that the role of compere being tied in to the blackboard organisation was too much for one person to do. This did not need as formal vote and could be actioned under the new committee. The motion was withdrawn.

5. That the Levin Folk club guests, from out of town, are first offered a meal and accommodation from club members at no cost to the club. Proposed Rona Cooper/seconded Kate Lang

Val Jenkins confirmed that no-one has been offered compensation for hosting guests in the past year, as in all cases the guests were either personal friends of the hosts, or lived in the region and did not need assistance of this kind. Most members agreed that they enjoyed the opportunity to host visiting guests, and the offer of accommodation when needed in future would be open to any interested club members. Motion passed by show of hands.

6. That until the 2022 AGM of the Levin Folk Music club, the entry fee to the concert night (held mostly on the second Friday of each month) for members of the club shall remain at \$5; other than when there are very exceptional circumstances.
Proposed Jeremy Cooper/seconded Danny Healy

This motion was withdrawn as the need for it has been shown to be unnecessary following the loss of motion 1.

The meeting ended with a presentation of small gifts to both Dianne Madill and Dale Webb. Both were thanked for all the hours they have put in for our club, and for their commitment to improving both the music we hear and the environment we are in for our events.

Meeting ended 9.45 pm