

Royal Four Towns Association

Minutes of the meeting held on

Monday 11 May 2015

Present: Nick Bass, Jenny Campbell, Margaret Byrne, Dick Byrne, Anne Fairn, Malcolm Wade, Lorna Bell, Jeanette Carmichael, Graham Anderson, Teresa McColm

Apologies: Ellen Hyslop, Peter Barlow, Gill Frazer

Minutes of previous meeting: Date of Craft Fair amended to 3-4 October. Acceptance of minutes proposed by DB, seconded by NB.

Matters arising: GA spoke about the RFT website which he updates. David Rogers had contacted him to arrange a one-off meeting. AF emphasised that the website directs all hall useage enquiries to her through her phone number, and that bookings **must not** be possible through the website. The Committee agreed. Agendas and minutes to be emailed to GA by JC in future, for inclusion on the website. MW asked for confirmation of information on Facebook. It was agreed that hall rental prices should not be given.

Election on vice-chairman: NB proposed Peter Barlow, GA seconded this.

Treasurer's report: MW queried why no payment from WRI has been received yet, and why each previous yearly session was for differing amounts. DB as previous treasurer explained that they pay at the end of the year, and that the number of sessions varies depending on trips away, etc.

The Water Board has proposed that the Hall should be fitted with a water meter as a non-domestic premises. An exemption can be applied for but it is unclear who to apply to. We will wait to see if any letter from the Water Board is forthcoming.

The password for Opus energy is unknown. MW to contact Phil to find out.

Fees for performing music contract paid.

MW queried that by changing supplier from Wallace Fuels to Brogans we could save almost 5pence per litre (£59 per fill). It was agreed that when oil is to be ordered, MW will advise GA which company from.

Closing balances at 5.05.2015

Net income	£4097.95 including £112.50 from Dance and donation from Lockerbie Rotary for the loan of sound system.
Current Account	£3997.00
Deposit Account	£14,081 (£2,200 from playgroup)
Cash	£ 175.89

NB asked that this information to be minuted each meeting.

Property convenor's report:

Front door security light reported not working. GA has now fixed (confirmed working now).

Fire alarm checked monthly.

No further mouse sightings in kitchen.

Bookings secretary: AF queried Mental Health useage and payment of Hall and kitchen. NB to follow up this and intended future bookings by them.

New bookings:	Child's party	23 May
	Under 5s	23 April Thurs am sessions indefinitely
	Mental Health, Annan	11 May for 4 weeks (future useage TBC)
	Show & Gala	19 May, 14 July, 7- 9 Aug
	Hall Dance	18 Sept

AF reported that Mrs Spence (outwith RFT) wishes to borrow tables, and willing to pay donation.

There is no clash of dates (3.07). Charges for non-RFT residents were discussed and £20 was agreed.

Dance report: DB reported that the Dance on 28 March had been enjoyed by all. Financially it had been good, however, he was disappointed by the committee's attendance, and considered that the 'staffing level' was not legal, 2 stewards being required. In future, DB asked for more support from the Committee.

Community Council/Minsca donation: In PB's absence, NB explained the situation. NB and PB to attended the CC meeting on Thursday 14 May, at which is expected that a donation from the CC will be made available for the Hall to be fitted with solar panels which will result in cheap electricity and an income. (It since transpired that the CC has now identified other uses for that donation; however they have identified a grant from Hairstanes wind farm that should provide enough to finance the project with some input from Hall budget). MB queried how effective the panels would be. 35 sq metres are needed for optimum return.

Under 5s: Sarah Cowan, a newcomer young mother to Hightae has been largely responsible for invigorating the Under 5s membership, to 20 with children coming from both Lochmaben and Lockerbie. GA will advertise on the website, cost being £2 for the first child in family and £1 for the

next.

Cleaner's summer timetable: During the summer, when the Hall is booked less, it was suggested that Brenda should undertake 'spring cleaning' with tasks such as curtain vacuuming, cupboard cleaning, etc. for at least one session per week.

Keyholders: JC checked who on the committee has a key for the Hall, and will draw up a document to be signed for by present keyholders, and anyone who is issued one in the future (ancountersigned by JC).

AOCB: MB brought up the issue of the Hall garden, suggesting a professional gardener come in to cut back and tidy in spring and autumn. Currently the garden is tended by Freda and a team of volunteers. DB suggested a gardener be brought in to advise. This issue to be discussed further at the next meeting. MB to action.

MB also brought up the ongoing Burns Supper planning; however it was suggested that this should be discussed at the next meeting, as an Agenda item, and not under AOCB. It was again stressed that members of the Committee must advise JC of any major items for the Agenda prior to each meeting, and not use AOCB for this.

GA reminded the committee of a football tournament on 19 June, for which the tables and urn will be required.

Date of next meeting: 22 June 2015.