



SKYE AND LOCHALSH ORCHESTRA

Chair: Chris Manvell, Tigh na Pairc, 25 Lower Breakish
Breakish IV42 8QA, Skye

Secretary: Ilona Morison, An Goirtan, Letterfearn IV40 8HT

All correspondence to be sent to the Breakish address
on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/skyeandlochalschorchestra>

on the web: <http://www.slo-skye.org.uk>

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Minutes of the AGM held in Broadford Hall on Saturday 21 February 2015 at 12.15 pm.

Present:

Alan Donald, Bar Purser, Catriona Bullivant, Chris Manvell, Chris Chrichton, David Kellas, Douglas Strachan, Duncan Watt, Elizabeth Watt, Hugh Morison, Iain Roden, Ilona Morison, Janice Taylor, John Hockett, Judith Bullivant, Kirsty Watt, Laura Grisi, Maggie Manvell, Meg Rosher, Nic Bullivant, Polly MacInnes, Satsuki Azuma-Barnes, Wendy Riva.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Chairman's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Elections
6. AOCB

Apologies:

Maryon Gardiner, Sam Nicholson, Margaret and Mike Cormack

Minutes of the previous AGM

These were approved.

Chairman's Report — The Year in Brief

Brian Dodds

Last April, we received the sad news of the passing of Brian Dodds following a period of illness. SLO was represented at a memorial service held at St Donnan's Episcopalian Church in Nostie. Brian had been a long time member of the orchestra and full of, sometimes eccentric, enthusiasm.

The Current Committee

Elected members: Bar Purser, John Hockett, Chris Manvell, Ilona Morison and Sam Nicolson

Ex officio: Iain Roden and Wendy Riva (not members but able to attend and vote at meetings).

Approved: Chairman.
Date

The committee met on 29th March 2014 and offices were elected as follows. Chairman: Chris Manvell, Vice chair: John Hockett, Secretary: Ilona Morison and Treasurer: Ilona Morison.

Meetings

There were only two formal meetings with further consultation being undertaken by email.

- § Transparency. Most material is already on the website but more is to be done.
- § Mostly weekly rehearsals seem to have become the norm and appear to be working with no complaints.
- § The idea of an open day was abandoned as it was felt that, in effect, every rehearsal was open to new players.
- § End of term social gatherings (in the Claymore and in Breakish Hall) were very successful. It is hoped to carry on with them.
- § Chris and Maggie Manvell were able to present Rick with the farewell card Card (signed by all) and a bottle of whisky.
- § We are still short on strings, especially violins, in spite having had three advertisements in WHFP in August.
- § On November 30th, we had a stand at an event organised by the Broadford Patient Participation Group, in Broadford Hall, to raise money for defibrilators.

The spring concert suffered from a number of problems and left some members somewhat unhappy.

- Planning for Laurence Perkins to play with SLO was the result of his offering to perform with us and went back over a year. His offer was accepted and finally an offer amounting to his normal rate for amateur orchestras was made and accepted (free of expenses).
- Due to a misunderstanding, the entry price was set too high, which led to a drop in audience numbers in spite of featuring a high class soloist. However the concert did make a profit of £250 after SEALL took its fee.
- As a result of this experience, it was decided that the entry fee be reduced for future concerts and that SLO members could volunteer/be encouraged to do solos with the orchestra. Chris Manvell commented that he was hoping to do the first Strauss Horn Concerto.

Acquisitions

We now have Dennis Briggs' Double bass and piano, gifted to us in his will, away from Aros, which is a relief. The double bass is with the Manvell's and the piano with Chris Watkiss. The double bass required modification to be made suitable for orchestral work.

The intention is eventually to sell the piano and put the money raised towards a quality keyboard and audio system.

This brings the orchestra's assets up to:

Percussion 2 timps (with the Bullivants),
 Drum kit (from Shona Bird currently in the Manvell's garden shed)

Approved: Chairman.
Date

Sundry Batterie (at the Manvell's) as follows:

Glockenspiel (recovered in mysterious circumstances), Cymbals (purchased from Maryon Gardiner), Tambourine, Hand drum (like a tambourine without jingles), Tam-tam (at the Bullivant's), and Triangle (location unknown, currently we have James Merryweather's on loan).

Other Instruments Double bass (at the Manvell's) and Piano (with Chris Watkiss)

Other orchestra related items are:

4 boxes of music (still needing to be sorted), a conuctor's stand (donated by Chris Manvell and with Iain Roden), the SLO banner (kept at the Manvell's)

Sundries Boiler (and 4 vacuum jugs (at at the Manvell's) the latter of which appeared to be redundant. [Douglas Strachan confirmed that the vacuum flasks were required for concerts as so that several people could serve hot drinks concurrently during concert intervals. Electricity tokens (currently held by Chris Manvell) 5 bottles of wine (currently with Ilona Morison).

Outstanding work

Procedures and Job descriptions.

Ongoing tasks

- o Website: live updating
- o Programmes: creation and printing
- o Music Library: general administration
- o Membership Records
- o Printing music and purchasing ditto
- o Hall rental & heating tickets.

Treasurer's Report

As Ilona Morison did not have all the elements available at the time to complete a full report, she gave some rough figures:

At end of 2013-4 there was £3589 in bank

In 2014-5 Expenditure £1675 (includes amounts for Double Bass) and Income £1205 (included SMO-14 £640 income).

Shortfall is £470.

Bank Account should have around £3000.

The enhanced membership for 2015 fee allowed us to recover from a poorly attended autumn term.

Action: Ilona to obtain missing bank statements and complete a formal accounts statement.

Elections

Chris Manvell had served on the committee for 5 years and, therefore, has to retire (in accordance with the SLO constitution, paragraph 7).

Sam Nicolson had served 3 years and has said that she does not wish to be re-elected.

Approved: Chairman.
Date

During Sam's time on the committee, she looked after the library, designed the membership form (on which today's forms are based), acted as liaison for SLSO, designed a membership spreadsheet (since developed for present needs), acted as photographer, arranged for photographer, recorded four concerts, and edited and sent photographs to both Oban Times and WHFP. She also was the first to suggest a Facebook page.

Chris mentioned that a larger than five member committee was now needed.

All current committee members agreed to stay (except CM and SN – see above).

Elected new committee members:

Laura Grisi, Satsusi Barnes and Meg Rosher were elected onto the committee.

Although Chris will have stepped down as chairman, he said that he is still happy to do some tasks, if required (for instance, the website) on behalf of the committee.

It was decided that roles would be allocated at the first meeting of the new committee on Saturday 7 March at 12.45.

Judith Bullivant gave a vote of thanks to Chris which was echoed by all present.

Any Other Business

Hugh Morison mentioned that we might need to have a minors protection policy as members of the schools' orchestra might be joining us. At present, minors in the orchestra are accompanied by their parents and do not need that protection.

Action (committee): to appoint a named person to act as responsible person for children and vulnerable adults.

Ilona M suggested that A4 posters should be displayed in as many shops/venues as possible to try to get more members, especially strings.

Nic B asked if we wanted to keep the same level of subscription. Those present agreed that we did. Families benefit from family memberships anyway.

Laura G said that people were happy with weekly rehearsals.

Iain R requested that people should let him know when they were not available, to maximise the benefits of particular rehearsals. Chris M mentioned that he created an attendance check system, which is a live document, a few weeks before.

Iain said it was vital to have an idea of attendance and perhaps an attendance sheet at the beginning of term should be done.

There was another vote of thanks for the chairman.

The AGM closed at 1pm.