

DALGETY BAY ART CLUB
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 28TH AUGUST 2009

Opening and Apologies

The President, Alan Ross, welcomed the members who were present: G Spence, D Makin, K Young, R Couper, D Jones, P Kerr, H Jardine, D O'Neill, M Cummins, J Patterson, P Roughton, D Aikman, L Lennox, J Campbell, M Brown, G Young, J Pender, N Muir, W Cowan, O Evans and L Barclay – 21 members in total). Apologies were given by G Blair, K Parry, A Bain, O Sturgess, M Simons, J Branagan, R Johnson, K Styles, M Watt, A Calder, E Sandison and D Jamieson.

Acceptance of Last Year's Minutes

The 2008 AGM Minutes were proposed by R Couper, seconded by G Spence and accepted.

President's Report

Good evening and thanks for attending this AGM 2009. Reviewing our past performance is sometimes quite difficult – because as a leisure club what can we use as a yardstick? Painting sales? Paintings produced? Membership? No! We must return to the main purpose of our Art Club which is to inform, encourage and inspire all artists and craftspeople from beginners to experts in every way they wish to express their talents. How well we achieve this is the criterion we must use to judge our performance. So, taking a snapshot of the Club at this juncture, Friday 28th August 2009, what do we find?

Our membership is still growing but we are a well organised, financially strong, active organisation of 122 members with a website and Internet access, ensconced in our own warm, dry, well maintained premises, with printing, computing, copying, painting, framing and mount cutting facilities on hand -even a small shop in-house for those important little essentials which we all forget but really need. We hold 4 sessions per week to paint, socialise with friends, catch up on news, organise outings, social events, demonstrations, workshops, etc. The craft section holds a well-attended get-together every month. Our tuition classes are popular and full. The 2 annual Exhibitions are performed with a high quality of presentation, displaying good-quality, original art and crafts, well attended by the public.

We also participate by running a stall in the local community gala and we have good standing in the community. We participate in the neighbouring Aberdour Art Group and their Gala with both painting and craft stalls. We have plans in place to liaise with the Dunfermline Art Club to share resources and possibly host joint exhibitions. The summation of this information points to the positive view that we are continuing to perform as a very successful, well-knit, enthusiastic, forward-looking club. So, well done all of us!

We can only do this with the enthusiasm of members participating and supporting the Club functions. There is a hidden army of unsung, unrewarded helpers who work behind the scenes doing those essential tasks that make everything a success. To list them would be a mistake because I will almost certainly miss one or more of you out. You know who you are - we also know who you are. So thanks to every one of you - please keep on doing your

absolutely essential work. You really are the mainstay of this Club. Last but by no means least, my thanks to our hardworking Committee for your common sense decisions, hard work and dedication to the Club, also for supporting and helping me in my role as President.

You will have noticed we have increased the membership fee by £5 which now makes it £25 per annum. This has been forced upon us by the rising costs of insurance, electricity and rates plus maintenance of the building and hall hiring fees. I still feel that £25 per year is a good deal for the facilities we offer.

I have enjoyed being your President for the past two years — I'm standing down now but will continue to take an active role in the Club's future. I know you'll extend your support and goodwill to my successor. Thank you.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Geoff Spence, referred to the Income/Expenditure Balance Sheet for the Club's business year 1st July 2008 to 30th June 2009. He described the finances as healthy, but pointed out that 2008/9 had entailed heavy expenditure on such items as maintenance and repairs, insurance, utilities and hall hire. For this reason the Committee had decided to raise the annual membership fee from £20 to £25, starting with the year now beginning. He indicated that the Club was currently costing £30 per annum per member and fees might therefore have to rise again in the future, but hoped the year ahead would be less costly.

D Aikman proposed acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. This was seconded by P Kerr. The meeting thereby accepted the Report.

Election of Office Bearers

The President, Alan Ross, and the Secretary, Don Makin, stood down. New Office Bearers were nominated, voted for and accepted:

President: Davina Aikman
Secretary: Ken Young.

There being no nominations for Vice President and Assistant Secretary, these offices are vacant for the time being. Geoff Spence and Helen Jardine continue as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, respectively.

2 new Committee members were nominated, voted for and accepted:

Margaret Cummins
Joan Patterson.

The 2009/2010 Committee now stands as:

Davina Aikman	President
Geoff Spence	Treasurer
Ken Young	Secretary

Alan Ross
Clare Egglshaw
Deirdre O'Neill
Jack Pender
Joan Patterson
Liz Barclay
Margaret Cummins
Margaret Watt
Wallace Cowan

Any Other Business

1) Jack Pender asked for an explanation of the Club's plans for the future. The President outlined proposals (only just being developed) for an extension to the premises, in which the exhibition screens and trailer would be stored. Space for members' bicycles and a small office might be possible, in turn allowing us to take down the current storeroom and give members extra working room. Obstacles included the need for planning permission and the uncertain ownership of the ground. Helen Jardine queried the costs of an extension. Geoff Spence and Wallace Cowan explained that while costs could be considerable, these could be offset by grant funding. Dorothy Jones advised that care should be taken with the ventilation and lighting of the new office area.

2) Gwynith Young raised the issue of parking at the junctions of Inchmickery Avenue and Dalgety Gardens. She knew local residents who were unhappy about Club members' cars being parked close to the junctions. It was agreed that the Committee should revive the practice of placing parking cones at the roadside near the junctions.

3) There was discussion about problems associated with the grass strip in front of the premises, including persistent rainwater puddles and illegal dog fouling. These were noted for future attention.

The President closed the meeting at 7:40 p.m.