

Sunday 6th December 2020 at 4.30 pm

Present: Shirley Leek, Peter Clough, Fiona Mclean (Chair), James Murray-Brown (Treasurer) Katy Lamb (Secretary), Maggie Smith, Fergus Wood, Natashya Sheppard, Ann Boyd, Colin Boyd, Catherine Love, Bernard Love, Mark Hamilton, Morag Phillips, James Kennedy, Joyce Kelly, Jane Jackson

Welcome:

Fiona welcomed all to the first Zoom AGM for KVH and thanked all for coming. She noted that that Committee meetings had been successfully held on Zoom and hopefully the AGM would be equally successful

Apologies:

Had been received from Gregor Wood, Nigel Bonnett, Sandy Boyle

Minutes of Meeting held on 15th September 2019

The minutes were agreed, proposed by Maggie and seconded by James M-B

Matters arising:

Fiona had been in contact with James Kennedy to say that the matter of a permanent screen in the small hall had been discussed by the Committee. Although it may enhance some presentations, it was felt that most presentations were ably served by the blank wall or blinds in other areas. There was also the fact that it would add to "Fixed" equipment in the hall, something we tried to minimise for hall lets so that a) damage was limited and also b) "Blank canvas" maximised. Fiona assured James that the matter could be discussed again should there be representations received from a number of speakers

The hall sign giving the web site address had been purchased and erected as per agreed at the last AGM

Chair's Report

Fiona remarked that it was difficult, in these very strange times, to remember that we had in fact been taking part in a lot of events and groups in our very own village hall prior to Covid! She ran through all the excellent local groups that met in the hall as well as meetings for the Life Plan and meetings held by the National Park and others. There were also many happy days, Manders Cider making day, local Birthday celebrations and parties, Christmas Tree lighting evening with songs from the choir, not to mention The Ne'er Day Ceilidh! Fiona informed the meeting that we now had an entertainment sub-committee with Sandy as the head and also joining the KVH Committee. Pete, Sal, Mike & Sophie had organised some great Pub nights and all were looking forward to an end of restrictions to get going on these again! There was also a very special exhibition in the hall, 20 years of the local history group and 160 years of Water to Glasgow

James will speak of further but Fiona would like to thank all involved for an incredibly enjoyable and informative day

The hall had been well maintained both inside & out throughout the year. Special thanks to Maria who was a great Caretaker and a great asset to the Hall. Thanks as ever to Stuart Oakey who has kept the grounds pristine not just last year but also throughout Coronavirus

Thanks to Colin Boyd, Shirley and Pete who all help with maintenance, we could not do it without you. Thanks also to Kevin Jackson for continued support of web site

Thanks to the whole Committee, we are lucky to have such a good Committee who support and help with ins/outs of lets as well as in matters of policy etc

Fiona also thanked James for keeping our finances in order and also Katy for doing secretarial and bookings and remarked that the time put in was appreciated

It was then with great sadness that Fiona mentioned the passing of some members of our community. Having lost the wonderful Saffrey last year we then lost David this year. Both were great supporters of the hall and village activity and will be more missed than we can say. Fiona also mentioned Kate Joynson and now sadly in the last few days, Peter too. They were great supporters of our Hall and Village Life

Sorry to end on a sad note but we must not forget that we are very lucky to have these people in the past and we continue to have so many people supporting the hall and ensuring it continues to be the great Community space it has become

Katy then displayed the booking stats which had been showing improvement in the number of groups until the March Covid issues. The proportion of local lets vs outside remained very high whereas the proportion of revenue from local let against outwith, remained very low

We were thus very fortunate to be able to continue to thrive financially from a very limited number of outside lets on what is considered a very reasonable fee for our lovely venue

Number of groups expanding with Dog owner training and circuit training being added. The outside lets allowed us to fund the Monoblocks which have been a great success

We must say sorry to those poor people who were due to have their weddings this year. Most have moved their bookings by a year and next year we have allowed 2 per month to allow for this. We have repaid to 3 bookings so far. Most have moved on a year

James Kennedy then spoke of Local History . He remarked that the Hall was an ideal venue and we had had Marjory and her cousin Ann Wallace, Simon Miller and others. The group was lucky as they only had to cancel one speaker

Since March there had been Zoom Committee meetings but all else cancelled

The exhibition in October had been a great success with over 300 attending to see Roger and Colin's Aqueduct as well as material from Strathard Community Trust, LALHG, and many other sources curated by James and Katy

The day was finished with a very successful dinner for members & spouses in the hall which had been very generously sponsored by the late David Miller

David & Saffrey, Peter and Kate had had a major influence on the LALHG and the group would have to look at ways of broadening the age range of members for future sustainability

Book group was meeting till Covid onset but were continuing to meet on Zoom – longing for the day that they could meet in person!

As mentioned at the start, Ann Boyd then left the meeting as another Zoom commitment was scheduled

Katy took the opportunity to explain that she was in constant touch with Stirling Council and they in turn had arranged several meetings for Stirling Village Halls. KVH was not alone in remaining closed and where some had opened for eg food distribution or Toddlers when allowed, they were in the minority and most had since had to close again. KVH keeps up to date with local groups and so far there is no drive to open, all just want to stay safe and most group members feel the best way to do that meantime is to stay at home! Katy also informed the meeting that Maria was undertaking Caretaker duties and keeping all the stringent Insurance conditions in order for the Committee. This had been a great relief and took a great burden off the Secretary.

Fergus reported that it had been reported at AAPA AGM that the Loch's acidity was caused by septic tank leakage at the Kinlochard end of the loch. Fergus commented that all bodies including the Hall should take this up with Scottish Water ie that we need a pumped sewage system into the current works. Fiona pointed out that it was also a matter for the SCC and whilst it may be important for all, it should be put the agenda for the next meeting so it would be clear what the issues were for KVH. Fergus agreed this was correct course of action and he had raised the issue so that KVH would be aware of the situation and not hit cold when SCC asked for their support

Treasurers Report

James screen shared the year to April 2020 and explained the capital was the external block work. March & April was the start of Covid so did not show much. £18.5 K in bank at year end, pretty good for a hall of our size

More interesting was the YTD 2021 which he now shared. Showed total drop off in revenue to a negative due to paying back those that had to cancel weddings. Also showed the Stirling Council National Grant of £25K to cover covid costs and closures. The normal revenue grant was also increased to £900 so the combination should see us well into next year and the next to ensure our ongoing viability even if all bookings had to cancel

Many of the operating expenses had also diminished to counter the drop in revenue but still some fixed costs. Including the grant, we have £40k in the bank which is very solid and strong position

The office bearers explained that the grant was a National grant going to most business properties not just village Halls. It was an all or nothing grant which was either £10K or £25K depending on rateable value. Our rateable value takes into £25K where a lot of smaller halls will have got £10k. James K asked what the arrangements were for lease of field. Katy explained that we do have a formal lease which carries on a year to year basis. Katy explained that she had spoken to Michael in the summer to ensure that we paid the rent to the correct place. Fergus also asked if now was the time to offer to buy the field so it would be totally under our control. Fiona explained that the meeting with Michael had made it plain that the field was very important to the hall and Community. Fiona explained that the lease was held by the hall. Katy pointed out that "totally under our control" was often not down to the owner, but down to the world we lived in and as such, very little was in our control. If it was on the agenda in January and this resulted in the Committee asking for the secretary to write to Michael, this would open up a dialogue going forward

The accounts were approved proposed by Fergus seconded by Jane

Office bearers and Committee

Jane stood in for Fiona and sought nominations for Chair

As Fiona was willing to stand and there were no nominations from the floor, Fiona was duly re-elected, proposed by Katy and seconded by James K

Fiona returned to the chair and having ascertained that both James and Katy were willing to stand and that there were no nominations from the floor, they were both re-elected Proposed by Fergus and seconded by Shirley

Having ascertained that there were no further new committee nominations and that the old committee were all standing for re-election the new committee was duly elected

NB Mark Hamilton from French farm emailed after the meeting to put his name forward for the committee – he will thus receive all correspondence and his membership will be put forward to be ratified at the next committee meeting end Jan Thanks very much Mark, great to have you on board and somebody further to the West of our SCIO boundaries!

AOCB

Katy remarked that she was looking forward to the advent Hall Window being done – Morag was doing the Hall and suggested that we keep it going in the future and the hall window could be done by the community

Jane Jackson, suggested that it should be the young folk in the future for the hall window. All agreed that would be a great idea Fergus suggested a Community event round mid-summer if all was allowed. Katy said there was already a big head of steam for a community event as soon as we were allowed. This would help new people to see what all was available in the hall

It was agreed that all should be encouraged. Jane J wished Fiona a big thank you for being Chair and all agreed she did a great job The attendees were thanked on behalf of the Committee for their support and hoping it would be not far away when we may meet up person

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.35 pm