

RICHMOND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY

MINUTES

of AGM held on Tuesday 9th June 2020

by Zoom

Members attended: Annette Hughes (Chairman), Katrina Osborne (Secretary), Andrew Osborne (Treasurer), Jean Guano (Committee Member), Jean Simpson (Committee Member), Simon Stewart (Committee Member), Chris Tomlinson, Marshall Christie, Sue Marshall, Cathy Stewart, Evelyn Norman, James Wilson, Maureen Campbell, Frances Campbell Colquhoun, Jane Hansell, Iris Ronayne

Apologies were received from: Mary Pritchard, Michael Corcoran, Katy Kendall, Bruce McLaren, Fiona McLaren, Tommy Cooper

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone who was able to attend by Zoom to the AGM.

2. Chairman's Report 2018/2019

“What a Year!

The fun and games started when I was informed in September, two days before we were due to have our first meeting, that Oddfellows Hall was not available due to overrunning building works. Most of you will be well aware of the shenanigans that followed as we wandered from venue to venue at short notice. RHACC theatre is a lovely dancing venue but not reliably available: RHACC requirements take precedence. It is also rather expensive – even at the reduced rate that we got. I'll leave the Treasurer to comment on the financial effect of this.

Thanks are due to the committee and to Chris who lugged all the RCS accessories to each weekly venue and thank you to all of you who came along to the different places. We have had a lot of really enjoyable dancing pursuing our policy of doing interesting, possibly complex, dances. Thanks to our teachers, Jim Cook, Gaynor Curtis, Catriona

Bennett, Jenny Kendrick, Deborah Draffin, Luke Bradley, Brian Pierson, Katy Kendall and Pat Davoll for their patience in teaching us different dances, even dances new to them which they have learnt specially in order to teach us. They have also introduced us to dances that we might not otherwise have known about. All our teachers are volunteers, some of whom travel a considerable distance to be with us. We are extremely grateful.

We have continued with "Club" evenings which give members a chance to experience calling/teaching without having to take a whole evening. These have been great fun. Many people have said how much they have enjoyed an evening at Richmond.

As we said last year, we did not arrange dances at Richmond which clashed with the half term Wednesday dances at Pont Street. I am sorry a few members were disappointed at this but it did help keep up our average attendance level. This year we normally had 18-22 except those weeks when we were in the little church hall at Sheen. Our average attendance was slightly up on last season.

I was informed on 9th March that Oddfellows Hall was finally ready for us but as I had already booked and publicised the RHACC for that night, we went there. As fate would have it, that meant we did not get back to Oddfellows this season as lock down took over. It is provisionally booked for next season and they have agreed to make sure that there are no ballet bars down the side in future so I am looking forward to being back there – whenever that is.

Our Annual Dance was a non-event in all senses of the word. I was particularly disappointed as I managed, after 3 years trying to book Strathallan and we had a great programme and hall with a super semi-sprung floor.

I'd like to thank all the Committee for their support and work over the season. Andrew has not only kept the books but has put together the music for each evening. Simon, Katrina and Jean have kept us supplied with food and drink every Wednesday and Jean does the thankless task of manning the door.

Under the constitution, this is my last year as Chairman and I am sad to be handing over the Chairmanship with so much doubt as to when and how we shall be able to dance at Richmond again. I am, however, pleased to say that the current committee has agreed to take the Society forward acting jointly as Chairman (subject of course to the agreement of the membership at the AGM). I am confident that they will get us dancing again as soon as possible and will pursue the policy of doing "interesting" dances and I wish them well."

There were no points or issues raised subsequent to the Chairman's Report.

3. Report from the Treasurer

Copies of the statement of Receipts and Payments for Year ended 30th April 2020 had been previously distributed by email. (see attachment to these minutes)

There was a loss in the day to day running of the society due to the increased expenditure on hall hire.

The annual dance made a slight profit due to the generosity of the members donating their ticket money to the society. Additionally, the society got a full refund on the hall hire and band etc so the associated expenses were minimal (£65.98). The donated ticket monies were put towards the running of the club.

The society also received a legacy of £200. Taking everything into consideration, and excluding the Lyson legacy, the society made a slight loss of approximately £60 over the year. However, our bank balance remains healthy at £4751.84.

The treasurer confirmed that the expenditure figures etc for the annual dance appeared large as this included all the ticket and hall hire refund monies.

The accounts have not yet been checked and signed by an independent person due to the current restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adoption of Accounts

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Simon Stewart, seconded by Marshall Christie, and carried unanimously.

4. Re-Election of retiring committee members and appointment of officers

The following agreed to stand for re-election as officers of the society for the next year:

Katrina Osborne - Secretary

Andrew Osborne – Treasurer

Committee members:

Jean Simpson, Jean Guano and Simon Stewart agreed to stand for re-election as committee members.

There were no other nominations/ volunteers for the committee.

All committee members are going to work as co-chairman until the next AGM.

This was carried unanimously.

5. Annual Subscriptions and Weekly Charges

It was agreed that the annual membership subscription would remain unchanged at £10. The weekly meeting charges would remain at £5 for members and £6 for non-members.

This was carried unanimously.

6. AOB

There was no other business.

Annette thanked everyone for attending the meeting and looked forward to meeting everybody again once the Covid-19 situation has eased enough to allow us to return to dancing.

Jean Simpson led a vote of thanks to the Chairman for all her hard work during the difficult and challenging previous 12 months in running the club.