

Minutes of the Penicuik Community Arts Association (PCAA) AGM

Date 15th MAY 2023

Time 7.30PM

Venue The Arts Centre, 4 West Street, Penicuik, EH26 9HY

PRESENT

Sue Owen (Chair), Jackie McDonald (Secretary), Carol Mann (Treasurer), David Owen (Committee), Anne Kincaid (coopted), Lynda Smith, Ulla Hipkin, Stan Wilson, Andrew Gillie (coopted), Anne Beveridge, Jacqueline Bouchard, Brian Miller (Committee), Di Davies (retiring Membership Secretary), Ken Davies, Rebekah Dyer (coopted), Jane Kelly, Rick Smith, Jenni Thomson (Committee), Barbara Hegarty, Anthony Edge, Jennifer Edge, Maureen Kerr, Stephen Beaumont, James Garry, Christina Suter, Gordon Kerr

DISCUSSION

1 APOLOGIES

David Stephenson, Joanne Cannon, Cathy Ritchie, Sheena Stewart, Florance Kennedy, Alister McDonald, Gordon Mann

2 MINUTES OF AGM 2022

The minutes of the last AGM were adopted as a true record, proposed by Brian Miller and seconded by Jacqueline Bouchard.

3 MATTERS ARISING

The Constitution amendments as agreed at the AGM 2022 were submitted to OSCR and approved. The most recent constitution can be downloaded from the PCAA website, or can be emailed, or a printed copy supplied on request.

4 CHAIR'S REPORT (Sue Owen - SO)

Full report is appended (appendix 1).

SO gave the report in the middle of her fourth year in the chair.

She thanked the committee. Carol Mann, who has now completed 7 years as Treasurer, and Jenni Thomson, who has resigned as Exhibition Coordinator from August after many years in the post, were both thanked for their considerable contribution to PCAA.

Annemarie Grant resigned from the committee in July 2022 and was thanked for her support. Di Davies was thanked for another year as Membership Secretary in an ex-officio capacity since she started in January 2014. SO also thanked several organisations and individuals who have given grant funding to the PCAA this year.

SO reported a particularly busy year, with continuing exhibitions in the café-gallery, classical concerts, folk concerts, community projects, Penfest 2022 in May 2022, and the PCAA's 45th birthday celebration in October 2022. In general, there have been good audiences and participation.

The PCAA's 45th birthday was celebrated with the annual Open Exhibition for the Turner and People's Choice prizes, a "Meet the Artist" event, a traditional ceilidh with the Turner and people's choice prize-giving by Citizen of the Year Mark Wells and Open Studios.

An exhibition showing the history of the PCAA was put on at the Cowan Institute Saturday Coffee Morning during the last two weekends of October 2022.

SO reported that the café coop runs as a separate entity from the PCAA committee. This year the PCAA has helped and supported the cafe coop in several ways, particularly in setting up new finance procedures. The cafe coop helps the PCAA committee by selling events tickets and exhibition art.

The Penicuik Regeneration Project for external refurbishment work on the roof, walls, gutters and down pipes, windows and external painting is almost finished. During the Christmas break, the roof suffered multiple major leaks into all of the upstairs rooms and cafe. The contractors will make good the internal damage to paintwork and ceilings. SO thanked the bands of volunteers who cleared up the resulting wet chaos in time for re-opening the cafe and running events in the middle of January. Scaffolding should come down soon.

Publicity, promotion and website maintenance and editing take much time and effort. SO thanked Rebekah Dyer (RD) and Brian Miller for help with poster design, and for the teams of volunteers that have done house to house leaflet drops.

SO and RD are revising the PCAA Organisation documents, policies and procedures.

PCAA members were thanked for their support. SO concluded that the PCAA is in a stronger position than last year & will continue to offer the community a wide range of arts and music events and exhibitions in the year ahead.

5 SECRETARY'S REPORT (Jackie McDonald - JM)

The written report had been circulated prior to the meeting (appendix 2).

The PCAA committee welcomed Anne Kincaid, Rebekah Dyer and Andrew Gillie as observers at meetings, and then as co-opted committee members. They now stand for election at the AGM.

Sue Owen, Dave Owen, Jackie McDonald are entitled to stand down from the committee this year and are eligible for re-election. All agree to continue as committee members. Di Davies has continued as membership secretary despite resigning from the committee several years ago. Rebekah Dyer will take over this role. Many thanks to Di for keeping this role on for so long.

Jenni Thomson has worked as a committee member and key member of the café co-operative and craft co-operative for many years. She coordinated the café exhibitions and active help with the annual open exhibition. She is standing back from these roles as she takes on new challenges. The PCAA thanks Jenni for her past help and continuing support for the PCAA.

Thanks to all volunteers, and especial thanks are due to Sue & Dave Owen who work tirelessly to keep the PCAA going.

(SO thanked JM for her work and support over many years.)

6 EXHIBITION COORDINATOR'S REPORT (Jackie McDonald - JM)

The written report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 3)

Following the resignation of Jenni Thomson (JT), this task has been taken on by Jackie McDonald assisted by Andrew Gillie, Anne Kincaid and David Owen. This has been

another year of successful exhibitions, particularly Jan Miller's "Friends in November". There were two Open Exhibitions, one in May as part of PENFEST and one in September as part of our 45th Birthday celebrations with the Turner and People's Choice prizes won by Nancy Bryce and Michel Catto, respectively.

(SO thanked JM & JT for their work with exhibitions.)

7 MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Di Davies - DD)

The written report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 4)

This was our first renewal period for our recent move to the April-April membership year. Many thanks to Members who renewed their membership very promptly.

So far, we have received 72 membership fees and welcomed 15 new members since December 2022. We appreciate the loyal support of renewing members.

DD said "It has been a privilege working with everyone at the Arts Centre over the years and I am delighted to hand over the role to Rebekah Dyer, and thank her for choosing to give her time to PCAA."

(SO thanked DD for her hard work over many years.)

8 ROOM BOOKINGS (Sue Owen on behalf of Sheena Stewart)

A successful year with a variety of room bookings from the PCAA Art group on Mondays, the Embroidery group on Tuesdays for part of the year, the PCAA Yarn group on Wednesday mornings, the Penicuik Community Choir on Wednesday evenings, the Penicuik Community Theatre group on Thursday evenings, and Sandra Vick's Art classes on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings for the summer period.

More recently a private singing group started on Monday nights as well as the monthly Leadburn Community Woodland group meetings in the cafe on a Monday evening, Monthly storytelling workshops (Saturdays) and clubs (Friday evenings) have been successful and future monthly craft fairs are going to take place on Saturday mornings from the summer till December.

9 TREASURER'S REPORT (Carol Mann - CM)

CM presented the audited accounts for 2022-2023 (Appendix 5). We are closing the financial year in a healthier position than last year. The recorded spend is sometimes based on grant income from the previous year.

It's positive to see increase in room rental income, and extremely generous donations at events. We also received generous grants from Councillors for the PCAA's contribution to the regeneration project. Other initiatives brought in extra income - the proceeds of the sale of glass butterflies made by Cathy Ritchie all went to PCAA funds. Proceeds from Nancy Bryce's plant stall sales at Penicuik in the Park on May 2022 also went to PCAA funds.

But there is need for caution. Monthly bills are now approx £1000, 25% higher than a year ago. More internal refurbishment to the Arts centre building is needed and the back garden needs re-paving. We still need income and commitment.

10 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

Brian Miller proposed approval of the accounts, Andrew Gillie seconded the proposal, and the the approval was unanimously accepted by the meeting.

11 ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE

Jackie McDonald, Dave Owen and Sue Owen are due to stand down, all are willing to be re-elected. Jane Kelly proposed that these three should be reelected, seconded by Ulla Hipkin, with no objections from the meeting.

Anne Kincaid, Andrew Gillie and Rebekah Dyer were coopted to the committee in the last few months and are willing to be elected. Jenni Thomson proposed their election, seconded by Anthony Edge, with no objections from the meeting.

Stan Wilson offered to be co-opted to the committee, and was accepted by the meeting.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none

The meeting closed at 8:05pm