

Dunedin Folk Club (NEFC Inc)

Minutes of AGM held on 4th July 2021 6pm, 50 Dundas

Present: Bernadette Berry (President), Sam Patrick, Carole Stewart (Secretary), Mike Moroney, Keri Smith, Kathryn Olcott, Chris Ingle (Treasurer), Lindsey Shields, Ronel Hunter, Richard Dingwall, Anne Tacon, Iain Mitchell, Gordon McKay, Robbie Stevens, Vic McDonald, Steve Guthrie, Monica Barkman, Miguel Weaver, Jenny Madill, Paul Nelson, Siobhan Dillon, Mike Dillon, Jane Campbell, Bill & Karen McArthur, Sam Patrick, Christine Keller, Imogen Coxhead, Dorothy Browne, Russell Philips, Neil Copeland, Phil Corfield, Laurie Young, Steve Barkman, Kirk Hamilton, Judy Rodda, Liz & Murray Petrie, Margaret Garland

Apologies: Stephanie du Fresne, Jonathan Robinson, Geoff Barkman

Minutes from 2020 AGM were circulated and accepted as true and correct

Moved by Iain Mitchell / Seconded by Kathryn Olcott / carried

Matters Arising - none

President's Report – as read by Bernadette Berry

The huge issue for the committee to deal with this year has been the organising of a new place to meet. At the AGM last year, the membership gave us the directive to look for other options, as 50 Dundas appeared to be being priced beyond our reach. We were asked to look into all options which included buying premises; hiring another venue; sharing with another club as well as retaining the current venue.

At the beginning of January, the committee started this process in earnest, initially trying to find another venue we could operate ourselves and accommodate the dance clubs who have worked with us for the six years we have been here. As you will know, we put an article in the local paper, we contacted real estate agents and asked the DCC for help. We had no response to the newspaper article and real estate agents were less than helpful. Simon Vare put a great deal of effort on our behalf in working with the DCC to find a venue and there were a number of times when we thought we had the ideal venue but were stymied at the last post. (I would like to take this time to formally thank Simon on behalf of the club for his efforts).

After some months we decided we were best to stay where we are currently, but at that point the landlady sold the building and although she asked the new owners to let us stay on, this was not a possibility as the building is being gutted and turned into flats.

At that point we started to look into the other options of sharing with another club or using a restaurant. Although we realised that this meant losing the association with the dance groups, we wanted to ensure that we retained the open mic night on a Thursday as well as the Sunday club night if at all possible.

Finally, we came up with what appears to be a good result. Many of you know by now that our

intention is to move to share the clubrooms of the Opoho Bowling Club. We are currently discussing the ins and outs of an agreement with them but at this point it looks like it will provide for our needs. We will have the exclusive use of the rooms on Sunday evenings (hopefully all of Sunday) and Thursday night. We will be able to leave the stage and sound set up so that we do not have to deal with moving gear in and out every time we use it. They are very enthusiastic to have us join them, and I think this could be a great option for us. The dramatically reduced costs compared to what we have been paying for this venue will hopefully allow us to pay more for artists and book people for a guaranteed fee, rather than just a percentage of income, which we have been unable to do in this venue. This has meant that we have had to pass up on some acts that require a guaranteed fee. I am happy to answer any questions you have about the bowling club at the end of my report.

That work has taken a huge amount of effort and I thank all the committee members who went off hunting for places and looking into what was available.

Finally, it is with sadness that we say goodbye to a few of our committee members. Jonathan has only been with us a short time and we have valued his input, but he has found that his other life commitments have meant that he is unable to continue on the committee at this time. Thank you Jonathan and we look forward to having you back when you can manage it.

As you know Anna Bowen run the festival for us for three years and since that time has stayed on the committee working with us to improve this place. She is standing down but continues to offer herself (and Andrew) for any tasks that are needed in the future. Thank you, Anna for your past work and in anticipation of all we will still ask you to do.

Miguel has been the coordinator of the Waimate festival for many years. He indicated a few years ago that he was looking for someone to take over the running of this festival and he finally managed to find someone willing from the Christchurch Folk Club. He will be able to answer any questions you have about that when he gives his report. Thank you for all your hard work Miguel.

We look forward to the next year with anticipation and will give our new venture our best efforts to make it work for everyone.



Bernadette Berry.
President

Bernadette answered a few questions from the floor about our new premises e.g. parking and general facilities.

Moved to accept President's Report: Mike Dillon / Seconded by Richard Dingwall
carried

Financial Report – presented by Chris Ingle (full report filed)

Total bank balances reported at 31 March 2021 - \$92,794 Operating surplus to end of March 2021 is \$4972.75. Profit continues to be as a result of successful festivals.

It was noted that our Club still has one of the lowest annual subscriptions that we have maintained low door charges for several years. This has been subsidised by our cash reserves in the name of fostering music and dance within the community.

Chris thanked Kathryn for compiling the Financial Statements.

Chris also thanked Bill Morris and Miguel Weaver for the financial work they have done for the festivals.

Moved to accept Finance Report: Bernadette Berry / seconded by Iain Mitchell
carried

Festival Updates

Whare Flat – no report. Bill Morris stood down as director after the close of the festival and Stephen Stedman is the new director. He is working with the committees and Scouts NZ to make this year work. He is also looking at options for future festival venues.

Anne Tacon – it would be nice to know artist line up well in advance for those looking to attend only 1 or 2 days. Could advertise acts as they are confirmed.

Waimate (Miguel Weaver) – 2020 festival was cancelled due to Covid-19. No money was lost. 2021 festival was held in June and was a good success (around 100 people) making a profit of \$1,578. Miguel has now stood down as festival director and has passed the “White Stone” on to Rachel Bayliss (Christchurch FC) who has been a regular contributor to the festival.

Vic McDonald – there have been rumblings about Dunedin Folk Club getting the festival profits when not many of our members attend the festival. It was pointed out the DFC are the underwriters who will also absorb any loss the festival makes. Any change to this (e.g., transferring to Christchurch Folk Club) would have to be made formally.

Festival Reports adopted: Carole Stewart / seconded: Iain Mitchell

Election of Office Bearers and Committee

There were no contested positions, so the following applies:

President	-	Bernadette Berry	(standing)
Treasurer	-	Chris Ingle	(standing)
Secretary	-	Carole Stewart	(standing)

Committee (standing)	-	Mike Dillon
	-	Lindsey Shields
	-	Alison Wallace
	-	Sam Patrick
	-	Keri Smith
(new election)	-	Kirk Hamilton
	-	Stephen Stedman (Whare Flat)
	-	Ronel Hunter
	-	Gordon McKay

General Business

Life Memberships – are awarded to long term supporters of the Club and/or for dedicated service. This year Bernadette, as President, awarded 1 of these.

Recipient is Lindsey Shields

Dorothy Browne – has found some old DFC minutes at home from when she was on Committee. Dorothy will take them to the Hocken Library to ask if they want them.

Meeting Closed 6.55pm

Signed _____

Date _____