

Selkirk Colonial Society

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 18th February 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Conservative Club

1. Welcome and apologies

Chairman welcomed the 21 members present at the meeting and any apologies were duly recorded.

The death of Grace Horsburgh, NZ, in October 2015 was reported.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

These were approved and seconded by Christine Brydon and Peter Henderson respectively.

3. Matters arising from previous minutes

Educational Award - currently underway. Secretary provided an update to members referring to the sessions held at the school and the work being carried out by the 13 pupils involved. The School have agreed to present the medal at the Bussin' and the local press would like to publish the winning article.

Casting Flag - Falconer Grieve brought the newly completed flag/pole for members to view and then provided an interesting story of the history of the actual pole (originating from Canada, a piece of Oregon pine, it's use as a pew in the former St Mary's West Church and now our casting flag pole - a full life of about 300 years). He then announced that he was donating the pole to the Society, a generous donation warmly welcomed by the members. Jim Bunyan will shortly undertake some practice runs with the flag before the common riding casting practice gets underway. Chairman again thanked Falconer for his kind donation.

Medals - Secretary informed members that medals for the school award and Society chairman had been sourced and ordered.

4. Appointment of CSB 2016

At the meeting on 22 October 2015 the members approved the selection of Ernie Lamza, Monaco as the CSB 2016. In line with the procedural guidelines the members present were asked to formally ratify the appointment. This was duly done and Secretary will now contact the new CSB. A public announcement will follow in March.

5. Treasurer's report followed by any remarks from Auditor

The accounts were previously distributed to all members via email and also by hand to those without IT access. Treasurer explained the Society's financial position and reported on a surplus of almost £400 in the general fund and a balance of just under £5000 in the heritage fund.

The Auditor remarked that the Society is in a very healthy financial position. Functions are "washing their face" in the main and the subscriptions pretty much cover our miscellaneous expenditure. We have made a surplus for the year in the general fund and have an excellent balance in our heritage fund. The Society is now well placed for the future. He stated that the accounts were well maintained and he had no issues on that score.

Members sought some further clarification in ticket prices, cost of ribbons and level of surplus with some functions, and this was provided. There was general agreement that although the funds were "at first glance" healthy, we must remain vigilant. Expenditure was creeping upward while income/surplus tended to be more static.

Members approved the accounts and Chairman thanked Treasurer and Auditor for their efforts.

6. Donations for 2016

The existing, approved annual donations are as follows -

High School £60, Flute Band £50, Pipe Band £50, Silver Band £50, CR Trust £100

Members agreed that these should remain unchanged.

Secretary reported on an appeal letter from the CR Executive which sought financial support to help pay for the cost of decorating the Victoria Hall at the CR. Members were not wholly convinced by the request and charged Secretary to contact the Executive to get sight of their accounts and at the same time seek the view of other casting associations.

7. Member subscriptions

Members agreed that no change be made this year.

8. Common Riding 2016 arrangements

Secretary outlined the arrangements so far. The following matters were resolved -

- it was agreed that a presentation should be made to Dave MacKay in his 20th year on the piano
- Falconer will lead the community singing
- Andrew/Jean will handle the ticket and place name production

- ticket prices will remain unchanged for this year but may have to be reviewed for 2017
- another programme selling outlet will have to be sourced

No other issues were raised by members and Secretary will proceed with the planning.

9. Appointment of office bearers, as necessary

Chairman reported that in line with the procedural guidelines the secretary, treasurer and Trust representative have all served in post for less than three years and accordingly do not require to seek re-election. They all indicated that they were content to continue in post.

Chairman advised that he had now been in post for nine years and indicated that he wished to stand down. He then proposed that Ian Clapperton should succeed him as Chairman. Members accepted the desire of the Chairman to vacate the post and thanked Lindsay for all his hard work and commitment over the years. Ian was asked if he would be prepared, not only to take over as Chairman, but also to continue as Secretary. He indicated that he would juggle both posts initially but would strive to identify a new Secretary asap.

Members then unanimously accepted the proposal that Ian be the new Chairman and he in turn thanked members for the great honour they had placed on him. He referred to the 100 year plus association of the Lintons (mother's maiden name) with the Society.

10. Any other competent business

1. Web hosting

Because our existing host is no longer continuing in that business, we have had to make alternative arrangements. There will be a cost involved for the transfer but thereafter our costs should be similar to what we have been spending each year. In addition we have taken the opportunity to acquire an anti-hacking programme. Members duly noted the position.

2. New member applications

We have received four applications for membership from Lorna Hume, Frances Finlayson, James Hughes and Alan Hulme. Secretary provided details to members and all were approved.

3. Andy Moyes provided those present with feedback from Trust meetings. He also informed members that the CR Executive were keen to enlist more manpower support from casting associations. Summary of report -

- Election of Office Bearers completed in January and already published
- Election of RBSB and Attendants being carried out this week.
- Presentation of a new sash for the RBSB at the Appointment Night Concert by Edinburgh Souters.

- Trust Executive Meeting: Letter sent to all Casting Associations seeking financial support and/or ideas to help reduce the financial expenditure incurred in providing the numerous events over the Common Riding period. (See also item 6).

4. Following a question from Jean Grieve it was agreed that Secretary would hold a reserve list of requests for Reception tickets which would be allocated should spare seats be available. This would ensure that the Society was not paying for empty seats and surplus food.

5. Coffee Morning - scheduled for 19 March. Arrangements were duly made.

6. Lewis Brydon updated members to the current position re ribbons and flag. By March it is planned to have the ribbon display complete and also the original flag will be safely sealed in a display cabinet (9 foot by 6 foot). Members acknowledged the huge amount of work being undertaken in this regard.

7. A request by SBC for a representative from the Society to attend meetings of the stakeholder group looking at changes to the Market Place was approved and Peter Henderson agreed to be our nomination.

7. Date of next meeting - Thursday 21st April.

Chairman thanked all for their attendance and hoped to see everyone at the coffee morning on 19 March.