



Registered Charity N No: SC029502

Company No: 343670

GFW Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Minutes of the GFW AGM held on Tuesday 15 June 2021 Meeting held at 6.15pm using Zoom Meeting App

Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Present MT Allison (Chair), S Brady, K Lane, R Melrose (Treasurer), H Merriman, J Purvis (Vice Chair), J Retson, T Robertson, R Warrilow, D Brown, M Burger, C Clark, J Desmond, P Heppell, I Hill, R Hopkins, L Hunter, L Kemp, I Lawson, V Lawson, I MacArthur, J Mallinson, P McIntosh, F Miller, L Morpurgo, K Muirhead, J Parfitt, J Parsons, E Rack, D Surgeoner and J Dynes.</p> <p>In attendance F Allison, N Gatherer and D Thorpe – Senior Tutors; J Smith and T Strain – GFW Tutors; and D Higgins – Durnan <i>for recording purposes</i>.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed members to the AGM and explained the format for the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies</p> <p>There were no apologies received in advance of the meeting.</p>	
2	<p>Approval of Minutes from the Previous Annual General Meeting held on 22 June 2020 Members approved the minutes of the previous AGM, proposed by Jim Purvis and seconded by Kim Lane.</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising from the Meeting Held on 22 June 2020</p>	

MTA/DHD

June 2021

There were no matters arising that were not covered by the AGM agenda.

4 GFW Annual Report 2020-21

The Chair provided members with an overview of the GFW Annual Report 2020-21, highlighting the salient points:

- Closure of physical classes due to Covid-19 and set-up of a full online suite of classes for GFW members;
- Delivery of workshops as part of 'online' Celtic Connections Festival, which attracted over 800 attendees worldwide;
- A noticeable increase in membership in Term 3 outwith the Glasgow area, following Celtic Connections workshops;
- The relaunch of junior classes in February 2021, subsidised by GFW with the additional revenue generated from Celtic Connections;
- Drew members attention to the membership numbers for the year;
- The continuation of sessions prior to classes by the senior tutors and events such as the Alasdair Fraser; Natalie Hass concert, and a GFW workshop with Natalie Hass, made possible with the hard work of GFW tutor Patricia Strain;
- A donation of £150 given to the Lodging House Mission, a homeless charity based in the East End of Glasgow; and
- Creation of a Board Sub-group to liaise with web developers to upgrade the GFW website, using comments gleaned from a membership survey.

Following a summary of her report, the Chair gave a vote of thanks to the GFW Administrator, Board Members, Senior Tutors, Tutors and the GFW membership. The Chair informed members that GFW had a fantastic year in which, GFW not only survived through the pandemic but also thrived.

The Chair advised that discussion would take place with the Board as to arrangements for the new session over the summer period, however, it was likely that the first term would take place online. MT Allison confirmed that face to face classes would resume as soon as it was safe to do so on a gradual basis.

Lastly, the Chair shared some member feedback that GFW had helped through lockdown and the anxiety associated with it and how GFW had allowed them the chance to enjoy and learn music, improve skills, chat with new members and the positive impact on members mental wellbeing. The Chair was heartened to hear this and welcomed the feedback received.

5 GFW Treasurers Report 2020-21

R Melrose provided an overview of the GFW finances drawing members attention to the graph on page two of the report. He highlighted that over the last six years the bank balance had followed the same pattern, income from subscriptions and expenses paid out such as tutor invoices. He informed members that the considerable increase this year was partly due to the additional revenue generated from hosting online workshops for Celtic Connections and secondly the additional membership numbers (higher class numbers) with reduced tutor costs.

R Melrose continued to report the income and expenditure detailed within the report, informing members that subscriptions now being paid online had resulted in some savings in administration costs; income generated from Celtic Connections and additional members/class numbers with a decrease in tutor fees all resulting in a favourable balance. He also reported that GFW had saved on rental costs for the College.

To conclude his report, R Melrose confirmed that overall income was £97k, expenses for the year totalled £73k and the GFW bank balance now £77k, a £22k increase on the previous year.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for his report and welcomed questions or comments from members.

Discussion followed in response to a question from P Strain and the use of a blended model for session 2021-22. R Melrose advised that the Board are keen to host a blended model when able to do so, accommodating members from outside Glasgow and overseas and indeed members within Glasgow who would find online classes more convenient. The Chair added that discussion amongst the Board had taken place, regarding blended learning and had planned to hold a workshop with senior tutors to discuss logistics.

6 Election of Trustees to the GFW Board

All current members of the GFW Board were re-elected as a whole. The Chair invited members who wished to join the Board to get in touch with herself by emailing gfwoffice@gfw.scot. The Chair highlighted that it would be beneficial if a parent of a junior member considered being part of the GFW Board.

7 Question and Answer Session

The Chair opened up the meeting to questions or comments from members.

Members discussed the options for online learning, commenting that classes should ideally be interactive and accessible. A number of software platforms were suggested such as:

- YouTube – members opined that this would be beneficial for juniors for practicing purposes;
- Microsoft Meet;
- Dropbox – recording a session and upload for member access; and
- Vimeo;

D Thorpe, Senior Tutor commented that a distinction would be needed for material being provided and a recording of a session with consideration given to these being published in the public domain.

The Chair thanked members for their suggestions and agreed to discuss at the next Board meeting.

P Strain raised a question of how other tutors are running classes and suggested a standardised structure for delivery. The Chair agreed and requested Senior Tutors to follow up with tutors offline.

A member highlighted a gap in the levels of accordion classes and the Chair advised that she would discuss the possibility of another tutor further with N Gatherer.

8 Vote of Thanks

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and comments received.

9 Meeting Closure

The meeting closed at 7pm.