Registered Charity N No: SC029502
Company No: 343670

BOARD MEETING

Minutes of GFW Board Meeting Thursday 05 March 2026
Meeting held at 6.30pmpm using Zoom Meeting App

Item	**Minute**	**Action**
1	**Present** H Merriman (Chair); R Melrose (Treasurer); R Warrilow (left at 7.12pm); J Glynn; E Malloy; F Miller (left at 7pm). **In attendance** F Allison (Senior Tutor); and D Higgins – Durnan *for recording purposes.* **Apologies** Apologies were received from K Muirhead.	
2	**Guest Speaker, Eilidh Bryant – Community Music Research**	
3	**Minutes of the Meeting held on 03 February 2026** Members approved the minutes from the meeting held on 03 February 2026.	
4	**Matters Arising from the Meeting Held on 03 February 2026** • **Item 04 – Update Potential Fiddle Progression 4A class implemented in Term 3** This item was carried forward to the next meeting. • **Item 04 – Explore savings account options for GFW** R Melrose confirmed this item was outstanding due to other priorities, such as, annual accounts. Members agreed to carry forward this item to the next meeting. • **Item 04 – Update on Support for Companies House ID verification** R Melrose reminded members that Board members were required to complete registration by the May deadline. • **Item 06 – Upcoming events information to be shared with membership – International Fiddle Community and NG Gathering Event** R Melrose confirmed that both events were published on the website.	**RM** **ALL**

	• **Item 06 – Update – Sexual Violence in the Trad Music Scene** This item was carried forward in the absence of K Fryer.	**KF**
5	**GFW** i. **Senior Tutors Update** F Allison reported that the Glasgow University Union (GUU) has been secured for the Family Ceilidh on 8th May. The band, consisting of John, Catherine, and Finlay, is booked and the hall hire fee has been settled. The venue capacity is 160, with seating arranged in tables of ten, and it is anticipated that there will be at least 100 adult attendees. It was noted that holding the event in May is a departure from the traditional End of Term 4 slot, and the committee expressed interest in seeing how this affects turnout. F Allison moved on to discuss the proposal to host a Portuguese music group for a cultural exchange event this August. While the Board agreed that such an association provided significant value and connects GFW to the wider musical world, F Allison raised concerns regarding the substantial workload involved. F Allison explicitly requested that others take the lead on this project due to existing commitments on Mondays and Wednesdays. Discussion turned to potential venues, with Kelvinside Hillhead Church noted for its capacity. The Dram was suggested as a more social alternative. J Glynn suggested the group be invited to a warm up session to ease the burden of organising a specific event. The Board discussed the growing administrative strain as student numbers approach 500. R Melrose noted that while the new college building offers more room, the organisation is "fraying at the edges" due to the volume of attendees. F Allison highlighted the pre-class pressure at 7.30pm, where staff are overwhelmed by immediate issues like broken strings and Zoom setups etc, leading to significant stress. In response, R Melrose proposed capping class numbers for the first time. It was noted that certain classes, such as guitar now at five "bulging" classes had reached capacity. Members agreed to review the option of capping class numbers prior to the new session. ii. **Finance Update** R Melorse provided members with a finance update noting that GFW was in its strongest position to date, with a balance of approximately £90k at the end of February. He noted that this was a result of the high enrolment numbers. In relation to expenses/outgoings he informed members of a few refunds requested (members unable to attend) and the purchase of two 5-string banjos, hall hire for the Family Ceilidh, and a £1k accountant fee.	

	He reported that year-on-year, the accounts sit £7k higher than this time last year. Although the expenditure "blue line" on the graph is beginning to trend downward, a full comparison will be clearer once February tutor invoices are processed in March. He highlighted that the primary focus remains on delivering high-quality tuition to justify the significant enrolment income received. iii. **Draft Term Dates 2026/27** Members reviewed the draft term dates and approved with no changes. iv. **GFW Ceilidh – Friday 08 May 2026** Members discussed this item under Item 04 – Senior Tutors Update. Members agreed a £10 ticket price and event advertising on socials etc. should commence asap.	
6	**AOCB** **<u>Grupo de Música Popular da Universidade do Minho – Folk music tour in Glasgow</u>** Members discussed this item under Item 04 – Senior Tutors Update	
	Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 14 April 2026 at 6pm	