

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (“AGM”)  
of Music in West Kilbride  
 (“the Club” and “MiWK”) held as a zoom meeting on 09 November 2020 at 6.30pm**

**Chair: Margaret McCrorie  
Treasurer: Paul Selman  
Secretary: Sheila McCosh**

**Apologies:** Alison Turner (see Appendix 1: List of attendees at AGM held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

**1. Approval of Minutes of the 2019 AGM of the Club**

Some of the members attending the zoom meeting indicated that they did not have copies of the attachments that had been sent out by email, inviting members to attend the AGM. However, it was explained that these had been made available, and were also able to be seen on the Club’s website. It was noted that the majority of those attending had received the attachments. No one raised any objection to the AGM proceeding.

Matters arising: Treasurer Paul Selman, in relation to Item 3, no. 1 of the Minutes of the 2019 AGM, advised that in respect of the query raised by member David Hutchison regarding the significant surplus, £3,500 has since been designated as a piano fund.

Proposer: Jennifer Fitzgibbon  
Secunder: Brian McCrorie  
Minutes duly approved

**2. Chair’s Report: Margaret McCrorie**

Season 2019 -2020: a season like no other!

We started our 2019-2020 concert series in October 2019 full of optimism as we knew we had put together a high quality and varied programme for our members and visitors to enjoy. We were looking forward to increasing our audience numbers further,

building on the excellent work done to promote Music in West Kilbride in the previous year as shown by an ever-increasing number of visitors both to our concerts and to our website.

In October 2019 we welcomed Alistair Savage (violin) and Alice Allen (cello) who delighted us with an evening of traditional Scottish music.

In November 2019, we welcomed back the Tim Kliphuis Trio who thrilled us again with their virtuoso playing and fusion of classical music and jazz.

In January 2020 we had Brass Tracks, a quintet of brass musicians, who blew the January blues away!

February 2020 saw the return of a true Music in West Kilbride favourite, the pianist Arta Arnicane, this time performing with her husband the cellist, Florian Arnicans as the Duo Arnicans.

And then it all stopped!

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, we had to cancel the remaining two concerts of the season involving, in March, Opera Alba and a much anticipated performance by The Ayoub Sisters which should have taken place in April 2020.

We also could not have our AGM either, as it traditionally follows the final concert of the season and our Education Outreach Programme involving local schools was also sadly curtailed. The trustees are mindful that members paid for 6 concerts in season 2019-2020 but could only attend four. We have contacted all members about this and we remind you that if you wish a refund, you should contact us by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November as outlined in our letter.

As things stand, we have now also taken the decision to cancel all concerts in the 2020-2021 season scheduled between October 2020 and April 2021.

I must offer my thanks, however, to those who helped make Music in West Kilbride Season 2019-2020 a success until Covid struck.

I must thank my fellow trustees, Sheila, Paul, Pauleen, Chris and Jill for their commitment and diligence and the encouragement and support they have been to me personally this last year.

I also give my heartfelt thanks to you, our members, for your continued and continuing support.

I should also like to thank the trustees and staff of West Kilbride Village Hall for their assistance and flexibility. We really appreciate having West Kilbride Village Hall as our concert venue. The musicians thoroughly enjoy performing there too.

I should also like to thank those who volunteered to help out with our concerts following my appeal on the website. Hopefully, you will still be prepared to offer that help when we start back again.

As you will appreciate, it has been impossible to plan for future concerts in the normal way due to the extraordinary times we are living in. The health and safety of everyone is our main concern and we will return to West Kilbride Village Hall for more wonderful musical experiences only when we can ensure that safety. We hope to resume our concerts in October 2021. We are working to reschedule some of the concerts that were cancelled. I can confirm that we have already rescheduled the concerts of Daniel Ciobanu (pianist) and The Duo Blz'art (piano duo) for Saturday 20 November 2021 and Friday 21 January 2022 respectively. We hope to bring Opera Alba and The Ayoub Sisters to you in that season too.

In addition, we have today accepted a Tunnell Trust offer of a concert by Kwon Lim Duo (piano and cello) on 11th November 2022.

Cancelling our concerts due to Covid-19 has, I am sure, made us all realise how much we need live music in our lives and I hope consider the extremely hard times musicians have had to endure recently. They are longing to be back performing and I hope that we will be able to enjoy the kind of quality performance we have been accustomed to in the not too distant future in West Kilbride Village Hall.

I now hand over to my fellow trustee, Paul Selman, to give his treasurer's Report.

### **3. Finance Report** Paul Selman (see Appendix 2 Finance notes: AGM 09 November 2020)

#### Treasurer's report:

Reference was made to the Income and Expenditure Summary, the Receipts and Payments Account and the Independent Examiner's report on the accounts of Music in West Kilbride: (copies had been sent to members by email, and for those not using email, by post)

#### Members' questions:

Member Angus Kerr commented that he was pleased that the Committee had bought risers.

He asked how many members had requested a refund in respect of the two concerts in 2019-2020 that had had to be cancelled because of Covid 19.

Pauleen Hutchison, Committee member, replied that, to date, approximately 30 members had indicated that they were happy for their monies to be kept towards the cost of their respective membership for the year 2021-2022.

Angus Kerr asked if his money could be donated to the Club instead. Member Gib Fitzgibbon agreed that he too would be willing to donate his money to the Club.

Paul Selman, Treasurer, responded by explaining that the Club could not simply keep such monies, and had to account to the members as a whole, regarding the use of such monies. It was explained that members had until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to request a refund, if they wished to do so, failing which, the monies would be put towards their respective membership fees in 2021-2022.

Angus Kerr asked about the deficit of approximately £100 per concert that Paul Selman, Treasurer, had commented on in his report. Angus thought that in the past, there had usually been a profit. Paul advised that he was not sure whether such an exact investigation had been undertaken in the past, itemising all the expenditure, including refreshments and outlays, incurred at each concert, and this was acknowledged by Angus. Paul added that the cost of membership and individual tickets had remained the same for a considerable time, (the cost being £50 for the six concerts and individual tickets, £10), but this might have to be reviewed in due course.

Angus Kerr asked whether there had been a lot of visitors to the concerts in the past season, and it was confirmed that this was the case.

Member David Hutchison raised a query about the format of the accounts. He commented that the OSCR format does not provide members with detailed information such as the purchase of the risers, donations, the deficit etc, and asked whether in future, members could be provided with accounts in the style previously used, which showed such items. Paul Selman replied that there is a further spread sheet that is prepared for OSCR but the query will be considered by Committee in due course.

Member Gib Fitzgibbon agreed with David Hutchison about the style and format of the OSCR forms and thought that more information would offer the members better knowledge about the state of the Club's finances.

Member Moira Mackinnon suggested that at the next concert of the Club, a bucket for donations to the musicians' benevolent fund be provided at the door. Margaret McCrorie agreed that this was a good idea.

There were no further questions regarding the Club's finances.

**(i) Approval of the Accounts for year 2019/2020:**

Proposer: Angus Kerr  
Seconded: Gib Fitzgibbon  
Approved

**(ii) Appointment of the Independent Examiner,:**

Approval to appoint Lynne Bailey as independent examiner, for another year

Proposer: Angus Kerr  
Seconded: Anne Cairnduff  
Approved

**4. Election of Office-bearers and Council**

Chair Margaret McCrorie, Treasurer Paul Selman and Secretary Sheila McCosh indicated that they were willing to stand again. Further the Committee members, i.e. Pauleen Hutchison, Jill Selman and Chris Maughan were also willing to continue to serve on the committee.

No other nominations having been received, the above Office Bearers and Committee members were duly re-elected.

**5. Any Other Competent Business**

(i) None

(ii) There being no other business, the AGM was brought to a close.

*Committed to providing Professional Music Concerts in North Ayrshire of the same high quality as those in Glasgow.*

*Music in West Kilbride is a Registered Charity: SCO37517.*

*Supported by CMS (through funding from Creative Scotland) and NAC*

### **Appendix 1: List of attendees at AGM held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

#### Committee:

Margaret McCrorie  
Paul Selman  
Jill Selman  
Chris Maughan  
Pauleen Hutchison  
Sheila McCosh

#### Members:

Pat Anslow  
Anne Cairnduff  
Gib Fitzgibbon  
Jennifer Fitzgibbon  
David Hutchison  
Angus Kerr  
Moir Mackinnon  
Paula Maughan  
Brian McCrorie  
Margaret Murray  
John Tedd  
Wendy Tedd

## Appendix 2. Finance notes: AGM 09 November 2020

Paul Selman presented the accounts for 2019-20, noting that:

- they were simple 'Receipts and Payments' accounts that required an independent examination, not accrued accounts that require a full audit (as would apply to larger charities);
- they comprised three bank accounts – current account, reserve account (to cover the cost of at least two concerts) and the Benedetti Fund;
- they covered five concerts, including the last in the 2018-19 series.

Income streams comprised mainly: member subscriptions, Chamber Music Scotland (CMS) grant, and door receipts.

Expenditure streams were dominated by performers' fees and associated concert costs, plus storage and maintenance of pianos. In a normal year, there would also have been expenditure on educational outreach.

In view of the high level of reserves, a sum of £3,500 had been designated as a 'piano fund', to start saving for potential refurbishment or replacement of the Steinway.

Attention was drawn to the R&P Accounts Summary, previously circulated and posted on the website. It was advised that the accounts should not be over-analysed in view of the exceptional circumstances in 2019-20.

Overall, the Society was reporting a loss. Total receipts were £9707 whilst total expenditure was £11056, leaving a shortfall of £1349.

Overall, the end-of-year bank balance is very healthy, at £13146. It was noted that many small charities were in a precarious financial position as a result of Covid-19 but, thankfully, MiWK was in a robust position to commence a new season of concerts.

Expenditure exceeded income for various reasons:

- the reserves held by the Society had possibly been too high, and it had previously been agreed to make use of them in accordance with our charitable objectives;
- custom-made risers had been purchased for an extended performance area, and a new piano stool had been purchased;
- a donation of £100 had been made to CMS to support a musicians' hardship fund;
- a substantial deposit had been paid to the Ayoub Sisters in anticipation of an April 2020 concert.

However, it was also noted that concerts on average appeared to be running at a net loss of around £100 and this may need to be addressed when setting future subscriptions and door prices.

Income figures also gave a slightly misleading impression as they included, for example, underspent CMS grant and annual subscriptions which may need to be reimbursed or rolled forward to the following season.

Whilst the annual accounts were clearly affected by exceptional circumstances, nevertheless it was clear that the Society was in a healthy budgetary position.