

Chester Caledonian Association

Committee Meeting on 16th December 2014 at 8.00 pm

Minutes

Present

David Murdoch (President), Jim Lester, Angus MacSween, Scott Lindsay, Fraser Fowle, Barrie Lawson, Paul Gordon

1 Apologies

Harry Crook, Rob Marrs, Sandy McLennan, Ed Inglis, Mike Martin, Iain McAulay, Murray Brown

2 Minutes of the last meeting, 6th November, 2014

These were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the President.

Matters arising;

-still awaiting new bank mandate.

-JL said that the Federation of Scottish Societies had requested payment of our annual subscription.

3 Review of St. Andrew's Dinner and Ball

Paul said that the Ball had made a loss of £100 including the income from the raffle. Costs were slightly down and the income from the raffle was slightly up. There were some concerns about changes made to the menu by the hotel and it was felt that the dance floor could have been bigger. The entrance arrangements were better this year and the bar was well staffed. The band was, once again, excellent.

The committee noted their thanks to the President's wife for the table decorations which were much appreciated and the standing decorations arranged by Angus. The President thanked Angus for all his hard work in arranging the event.

The president said that he thought it would be useful to send out a questionnaire to members asking their preferences for the event and this would help future arrangements. This was agreed.

Jim and Angus to arrange to meet with the Hilton as soon as possible and to discuss prices for next year based on an attendance of 80. Also consider option of the racecourse.

Discussion about option of downgrading raffle to selling tickets and draw on the night. This would be cheaper and not require a license. Agreed to

keep the options open discuss again when finalising arrangements for next year's ball.

4 Burn's Dinner

The President congratulated Scott on the invitation letter for the Burn's dinner which gave a lot of information to would encourage members to apply for tickets. Closing date for ticket applications with payment is Friday 23rd January.

Scott confirmed that the following top table guests were attending; Prof Tim Wheeler (Principal and Vice- Chancellor, Chester University), Nick Jenkins (Chairman, City Club), Cllr Herbert Manley(Sheriff of Chester) . Invited but not yet accepted, Lt Col Gilby, CO, 2nd Mercian Regiment, Richard Else, Operations Director, Jaguar/Landrover Halewood.

It was agreed to assign one member to each guest as a 'greeter'. Jim and Angus said they would do this and Murray Brown has also volunteered. Need two more volunteers.

Sandy will act as Toastmaster, Fraser is the piper.

The programme is;

Grace,	Angus Duncan
Address to the Haggis,	Ian Gill
Immortal Memory,	Robert Lovie
Land We Live In,	Iain McAulay
Response,	High Sheriff of Chester
The Land of Cakes,	still to be agreed
Response and Thanks,	The President
Recitation	Dugald Gemmill

Paul Anderson, Richard Morrison and Ian Hastie will provide the musical entertainment.

Scott will prepare the timing of each section . The event should finish at 11.45 pm

The President agreed to make enquiries about software to assist with production of the table plans and name cards. Fraser has previously used software called Party Planner.

5 Summer Event

The President had contacted Harry re the possible use if the White Horse at the racecourse as a venue for the event. Harry will follow up but not sure of its suitability.

Murray Brown has offered to help organise the event and has suggested that the safari BBQs at the Zoo might be a good option and provided a link <http://www.chesterzoo.org/global/events/safari-bbq-evenings>.

Agreed to discuss further at next meeting

6 Web Site

It was agreed that only the contact details and photos of the officers of the committee would appear on the website. Jim to provide an email address for the Association for general use.

Paul said he was taking up golf again and would be willing to act as golf convener

Barrie again emphasised the need for stories and photos which would be of interest to anyone visiting the site. The President confirmed that he would continue to act as webmaster.

7 AOCB

-Scott asked for early confirmation as to whether Callum McLeod would be invited back to the Ceilidh. The committee agreed to this.

-Jim to book the venue for the AGM

- Rob had emailed to say that he was concerned about membership numbers and thought there should be a push on recruitment with possible a flyer at the Burns night

Date of next meeting Thursday 8th January at 8.00pm