



Registered Charity N No: SC029502  
Company No: 343670

## **BOARD MEETING**

### **Minutes of GFW Board Meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 Meeting held at 6:00 p.m., John Wheatley Building, Kevin College Glasgow**

Present: Fenella Rennie (Chair) Mike Turner  
Doreen Semple Rita Warrilow  
John Hill Finlay Allison  
Nigel Gatherer  
Craig MacDonald (Co-ordinator)  
Caroline Watson (Administrator) – Minutes

Apologies: Cliff Uney, Ronnie Melrose, Daniel Thorpe

1. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes  
Creative Scotland Grant – Ongoing.

Accordion Showcase on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015. The event was successful. Doreen attended the stand and handed out flyer/cards, and reports lots of interest in GFW, and a good night.

PVG for new Tutors

Cliff has processed PVGs for new tutors.

Board Presence on Workshop Nights

It was noted that the same Board members are helping out on class nights particularly at 6pm for Junior classes. The responsibility needs to be better shared.

2. 25th Anniversary Celebrations

Rita fed back that the sub-group had met the previous week. Sub-group is Rita, Cliff and Jeremy Raison. John Hill will also now join the group.

T-shirt design created by Nigel was presented to the Board and approved.

Agreed that ladies & men's t-shirts be ordered in sizes as required, rather than bulk buy.

A meeting is to be held with Sara Shaw of Mitchell Theatre Auditorium to discuss the arrangements for a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert looking at the end of July/August as a potential date.

3. Celtic Connections - Doreen

Doreen met with Christopher Barr on 2<sup>nd</sup> November to discuss Celtic Connections which takes place 16-31 January 2016. GFW can again have a stand for information and instruments. Christopher agreed to keep an eye on the stand when no one is available. A stand will also be available during CC at Mitchell Library.

Due to a miscommunication, an announcement was made to members about the Flash Mob but C Barr confirmed that a Flash Mob could not take place at Celtic Connections. Nigel has already prepared music for this event and it was decided to put Flash Mob on hold and there may be another occasion to use Nigel's work.

4. Co-ordinator's Report - Craig

Craig announced that the annual GFW Christmas Dinner will take place Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December with 60 tickets available. Board agreed a price of £18 per ticket to cover costs and allow for a small profit. Tickets to be sold on class nights.

Karen McGavock who makes the tea/coffee has asked the Board to consider an increase to her fee to cover time taken for travel, banking and shopping for supplies. Board agreed to increase fee.

Karen will not be available w/c 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov – Fenella and John will prepare tea/coffee

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov – Mike and Doreen will prepare tea/coffee for 6pm ( to also accommodate junior classes)

5. Finance Report - Ronnie

Ronnie was unable to attend the meeting but provided an updated report . (Attachment to email.)

6. Communication – Doreen

It was agreed that individual board members are effectively taking forward their areas of commitment, using initiative and enterprise. However the process of making sure that all the board know everything that is happening between meetings, needs to be more effective, to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings.

3.

7. Senior Tutors' Report - Finlay

**Very Slow Session:** good response over last 2 meetings. Numbers at 30+, though collecting money is presenting a challenge. Most people pay the £4 to cover Finlay's leadership but he suggested that if someone else was available to help it might be easier to collect from all attending. John offered to help when he is present.

**Prepare for the Pub:** Attendance is patchy.

**Fiddle 2015:** Tutor is being sought by Dan. GFW will have to pay hours + train ticket as we have no tutor performers this year.

**Ukulele Classes:** From tonight there will be 5 classes. With the total of ukulele signups we have enough to justify 5 classes although some classes are large, members are reluctant to move. We will attempt to cover from within rather than bring tutors in to cover absences. (eg Marianne Fraser away a good part of Feb. Finlay will probably take ABS Beginners or Fin at Term 3) Finlay Napier has returned to Ukulele class.

**Wednesday Warm Up:** There are issues around location, class involvement and tutors.

**Fiddle Classes:** Finlay has tried to build curriculum that measures development and progress but Tutors not adhering to curriculum and criteria. Tutor training was meant to address some of these issues but many Wednesday tutors did not come but can be reiterated at next training session.

There was an incident between 2 children at a Junior class.

**Flash Mob:** Dan and Finlay were organising fiddle players and Nigel overseeing other instruments. Finlay has been co-ordinating with Rita and Jeremy.

**Member Enquiry about Syrian Refugees:** Member approached Finlay about potential for organising music session for Syrian refugees. Member has links with Scottish Refugee Council so will be discussing idea with them. Can GFW support this type of initiative in some way – cost of venue, instruments, tutors. Board reminded of previous experience and challenge of refugees living in city centre with difficulties getting to college to join workshop. More recently a refugee organisation meeting at the college made contact with GFW during Come and Play Day at the college. Would members be involved?

#### **Open discussion on challenges around curriculum of classes**

There is sometimes a discrepancy between class descriptions and member expectations. Board is in favour of offering clarity on class levels, however interpretation of levels by different tutors can vary and does present challenges.

4.

There has been a complaint from a member that ABS Beginner Guitar was too advanced – 2 people have left. Also that the Ceilidh Band class is now introducing many tunes quickly, which can be overwhelming for students.

**Outstanding tutor invoices:** Currently Caroline emails individuals when invoices become outstanding. If there is no response, Senior Tutors are willing to follow up to encourage payment.

#### 8. Timing of Meetings - Doreen

Doreen explained that due to the finish time and location of her workplace, she is unable to attend at 6pm. Given her commitment to GFW and as organiser for Celtic Connections, it

is important that she is able to attend meetings. Doreen asked the Board to reconsider its decision to start meetings at 6pm and suggested that the start time could be more flexible with some meetings starting at 6:30pm. Senior Tutors report could be introduced earlier at those meetings to allow them to get to class without delay. (I think the next meeting could start the main agenda at 6.30, as there is a lot going on around CC, involving Doreen. However, we should convene at 6pm for senior tutors' reports as tutor involvement is very important to us, and they have classes to go to.) Fenella.

9. Doreen advised that a former Board member, has completed some treatment, and some members would like to send a gift and card. Doreen proposed a contribution be included on behalf of GFW. It was agreed.
  
10. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, Time to be advised (See 8 above. Fenella)