

Newmachar Community Centre Association

Registered Scottish Charity no: SCO37342

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Thursday 24th August 2017 at 7.30pm

Held in the Axis Centre

Record of Documents:

- Previous AGM Minutes dated 22nd November 2016 c/w record of attendance (36) ***
- Record of attendance for current AGM meeting (25)
- 24th August AGM Meeting Agenda***
- Trustees reports and abbreviated audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2016***

Trustees in attendance: Graham Geddes (GG), Gordon Murray (GM), Sheila Reid (SR), Jen Mills (JM); Brian Dundas (BD)

Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Nik Robinson-Who requested that the minutes be put on the website after the AGM and the Agenda be put on prior to the AGM 2018

- GG called the meeting to order and indicated that on this occasion the quorate had been reached
- The Trustees ensures that copies of the prepared documents had been distributed
- GG called upon the attendees to take sufficient time to review the documents ahead of proceeding.
- GG indicated that the materials could be carried away and that a full report of the accounts were available to those who required further detail.
- GG further invited questions from the floor at any time during proceeding and afterwards as required
- GG introduced the Trustees for those who were un-familiar

Minutes of AGM 2016

The previous year AGM minutes were accepted as presented

Proposer: Caroline Geddes

Seconder: Steve Raine

Chairman's Report for the period April 2016 until March 2017

GG submitted the report to the attendees and presented a summary of the Axis Centre's activities and proceedings – report follows

Chairman's report

My report covers the period April 2016 to March 2017, our 3rd year of operating the Axis Centre.

It is now 3-1/2 years since we opened The Axis Centre and as a board, we take great satisfaction in seeing the centre being used by so many people, both residents and visitors to the community.

We don't get time to meet users of the centre, so the meeting tonight however is an opportunity for you to hear about what we have been doing over the last year and a chance to share your views, ideas and comments.

The centre runs with 4 members of staff, (not including the Café). Our manager Scott Moir; Leisure Attendants, Svetla and Declan who many of you may know and Ruth who joined us 6 months ago. They are all PVG certified by disclosure Scotland and trained in First Aid, with 3 of them qualified in Gym Induction. We also hire some occasional staff when necessary to provide cover for holiday and illness.

The Axis Centre provides a fairly comprehensive range of events and activities for the community including Netball, Badminton, Football and Judo; to the very popular Youth Club; Kids classes, Bumps, Babies and Beyond, Dance Instruction, Fitness Classes and Community Groups such as Over 50's and the WRI. The centre has been used for shows, boxing nights, birthday celebrations, concerts and funerals. The Party Packages are great value for families, very popular (and you don't have to clean the house afterwards).

Thanks to a number of parents, Jill Cooper, Kerry Donald, Kelly Caird and Sara Murray and others, volunteering their time and energy to help with the Youth Club, it continues to go from strength to strength. Supported by our staff, they continue to introduce new activities to entertain and teach the 60-70 children who clearly enjoy their Friday night sessions. We welcome new members, volunteers and visitors, so come along and join in.

The Axis Centre has also benefited from income from the Coop through the community schemes and the money raised last year went towards supporting the Youth Club.

The landscape around the centre is looking really good, thanks to Sid Reid for his work. Thanks also go to Duncan Cumming for volunteering his assistance. We also thank the Brownies, the Coop staff volunteers and of course the local Gardening Club, all very much appreciated. More volunteers are welcome and needed from time to time.

The First Responders in Newmachar do a great job at a time when people need them most. Through their fundraising a new defibrillator has been fitted at the Axis Centre and we now have two of our staff trained in the use of the equipment.

We are happy to say that the problems experienced with the flooring appear to be completely resolved, so we do not expect any further disruption. Also the main contractor has now completed all the snagging works associated with the construction works, so all of the maintenance of the building is now our responsibility. While that will be an ongoing cost, some of that cost could be mitigated by support from the community.

We reported last year that following complaints from neighbours to environmental health, measures were being introduced to address the noise issues during concerts and events. The planned works including a floating floor on the stage and a soundproof door fitted at the rear access steps are now complete. While the work has improved the sound proofing, it has not completely resolved the issue, but with sound control measures we believe we are able to achieve acceptable limits and continue to work with environmental health.

In an effort to improve user's experiences and hopefully attract more members and visitors to the centre, we commissioned work on a new website which will be responsive and linked by

Facebook. We expect the new website to be up and running in the next two weeks and we hope you like it. Thanks to Stuart Cheyne of O6 Media for his work.

As you will all be aware, we are in the midst of a serious oil industry recession, which has drastically impacted the Aberdeenshire economy. Newmachar has not been immune to the effects of that and as a result, we have seen a decline in "income from activities" at the centre over the last year. We have however, been quite fortunate within this financial period to have received a very generous bequest from a Will and also a generous donation, which as you will see in the accounts has allowed us once again to report a positive income. It is extremely unlikely that we will experience that level of donations again so we expect 2017/18 to be a challenging time financially for The Axis Centre and we are taking steps to mitigate this.

On a more positive note, we were fortunate to have received a grant from Aberdeenshire Council to cover the cost of installing the acoustic panels in the mail hall. We are grateful for their support.

Jen Mills and Jennifer Murray organised another successful Fashion Show evening, which was well attended and a very enjoyable night. The board will be focusing on planning some more fundraising events within the current financial year and we hope you will all continue to support your centre. If anyone has ideas for fundraising or new activities we could introduce at the centre, please let us know.

The purpose of building the centre was to help bring the community together and to provide the necessary infrastructure, to cater for the growing population. The centre is owned by the community and managed by volunteers from the community, but it is also the responsibility of the community. All of the activities contribute to the financial sustainability of the centre and we hope that continues for years to come. Each of us by continuing to use the Axis Centre will help to support the local economy and jobs, while maintaining and improving this great facility for your benefit.

On behalf of the community I would like to thank my fellow trustees Gordon Murray, Brian Dundas, Sheila Reid and Jen Mills for their efforts during the year. For everyone who has done something to assist with the centre or contribute to its success over the year – well done and thank you.

The board plays a crucial role in the management of the Axis Centre and given that the Axis centre is 100% community owned, it requires people from the community to help.

The Chairman invited questions from the floor.

*A discussion was held on the gardening area and a proposal to have a rota of volunteers to look after the shrub areas.

*What were volunteers required for and GG indicated the Youth Club as an example. The member was informed the Youth Club was on a Friday night and was directed towards Jill Cooper who would give the times they require assistance.

*Volunteers for the board. A question was how often does the board meet and BD indicated 9/10 times per year. It was pointed out to the meeting the board at present is made up of people of mature years and we

need some young people to join to be able to carry the Axis centre forward in years to come. GG indicated this being the ideal time to join as the present board is still there for guidance, advice and their experience.

Extension of Gym Opening Times

Gary Coutts enquired if there had been any progress with the Gym opening times as he indicated that we were losing membership to facilities in Aberdeen. After discussion it was proposed that a 6.30 am opening time Monday to Friday would be desirable and GG indicated we would look at staff rotas to try to facilitate this. A trial period of anything up to 6 months was desirable to gauge usage and for word to spread

Accounts and Treasurers Report 2015/2016

GG present a summary of the financial statements.

The centre as indicated in the Chairman's report has had a decline in income from "Activities for generating funds" (which constitutes hires, classes, gym memberships etc.) and the board are looking at ways to address this.

NOTE: The accounts have been prepared in a format required by the Charities regulator. A full copy of the accounts was available at the meeting, further copies could be provided on written request via the Axis centre providing an email name or mailing address details

GG invited questions from the floor

Various points were raised from the floor-

- *Have we analysed the people who attend classes
- *Texting is important to indicate if classes were on or not
- *Les Mills is repetitive and expensive
- *Email members to ask question about services – survey the membership or community
- *Review prices of classes especially for pensioners
- *Questionnaires could be provided at reception desk and by email
- *Look at times of classes throughout the day
- *Charge more for business/commercial hires, functions or events, which the meeting was informed we do
- *Hold functions – a Burns supper was proposed and a cinema night
- *Small groups to be formed to drive specific functions/events forward
- *Too much contact on Facebook can put people off, but not enough will result in people not being aware
- *Better marketing-New website in the next 2 weeks approx.
- *Charge for classes per session up front
- * Content of the website is important and GG indicated we are working on that

The board appreciated all the points made and will work along with the centre staff to progress these over the coming months.

GG Called for the accounts to be proposed and seconded.

Proposer: Pam Young Seconder: Jill Cooper

Election of Trustees

Required Standard: One third of the board of Trustees has to stand down each year.

GG announced that Brian Dundas has tendered his resignation from the board and thanked him for his service and valuable contribution. He further advised that reduced the board to 4 members and urged anyone interested in joining to get in touch.

Volunteers were asked for and with no names coming forward the present board were re-elected.

Proposed: Kelly Barclay

Seconded: Walter Baxter

Any Other Business (AOB)

Meeting Closure

Gordon Murray led a vote of thanks to the Chairman

Signed as approved by the trustees

Graham Geddes

Gordon Murray

Brian Dundas

Sheila Reid

Jen Mills

Newmachar Community Centre Association
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 15th August 2018

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies 2018
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 24th August 2017
3. Chairman's Report on The Axis Centre during 2017/2018
4. Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report 2017/2018
5. Questions and Answers
6. Election of Trustees, nominations welcome.
7. A O B