**Minutes of GXSCDS Committee July 2nd 2019**

Present: Catriona

Ian

Roger

Rose

Joyce

Fiona

Suzanne

Absent: Moira

Jane

**Previous minutes**

1. Roger and Rose will progress replacing CDs with digital music over the Summer.. **Action Roger & Rose**
2. Roger will also pursue the website upgrade requirements. **Action: Roger**
3. Roger described his visit to the St Peter’s Day celebration and we agreed to book a slot next year.**Action: Roger**
4. Suzanne has yet to pursue the Denham contact **Action: Suzanne**

**January Tea Dance**

1. Joyce will now place ad in next edition of the Reel. **Action: Joyce**

**Review of Summer Tea Dance**

**Overview**

1. We sold 56 tickets, to a few less experienced dancers but mainly to established members of the local Scottish dancing community. This included 6 or 7 at the door. The feedback from those who attended was very positive.
2. There is clearly an appetite amongst this group for this sort of event at this time of year and we are well placed to take advantage of it.
3. We accept that it did not prove to be a vehicle for direct recruitment of new dancers but by raising the club’s profile, supporting the less experienced dancers who come and by introducing other dance styles in the guest spot we can promote recruitment indirectly. Also the additional revenue brought in makes the possibility of other initiatives more viable. Ideas such as targeting beginners from other clubs or local schools were discussed.
4. We accept that the experimental nature of the event resulted in some confusion of purpose and several changes to the programme.
5. The profit from the afternoon, including the raffle amounted to £163.
6. Providing a catered tea rather than a ‘bring and share’ inevitably involved more work for club and especially committee members on the day.

**Financial**

1. See attached.
2. Total receipts were £688 of which £565 were from ticket sales and £118 from raffle.
3. Total costs amounted to £524 of which £43 were for catering , while the remainder were fixed costs irrespective of number of attendees.

**Band**

1. While the band’s musicianship was not in question they were not sufficiently ‘au fait’ with the nature of Scottish country dancing and needed a lot of support in finding the music in advance and in playing it on the afternoon.
2. We used the band’s microphone which did not work as well for the spoken word as our usual.

**Dances**

1. The mix of dances was constrained by the requests from Marlow resulting in some more challenging dances than was perhaps ideal. The number of dances was right and scheduling broadly worked.
2. Some attendees would have appreciated more walkthroughs or recaps.

**Guest Slot**

1. The New Strathspey Highland dancing group were brilliant and most attendees really enjoyed the chance to watch them, as well as the chance to sit down for a bit. The Fake Pimms served during the second demo was also well received.

**Catering**

1. Scones, cakes and fresh fruit were all much appreciated with a lot of compliments being received.
2. The Pimms could have had a little less balsamic but was enjoyed by most.
3. Neither the band nor the Highland dancers ate anything like the allowance. We received more cake than originally expected bringing it to 2.5 pieces per person .
4. We had approximately 400g strawberries, 4 cartons of cream, 12 - 14 scones and 30 pieces of cakes over. We could have saved £10 on costs.

**Miscellaneous**

1. There was not much take-up on the Puzzle page – I calculate that only 7 were picked up. However those who did enjoyed the puzzles.

**Next Time**

1. The general consensus was that we should repeat the event next year with some tweaks.
2. Publish the programme in advance. Clarify what we mean by walkthrough.
3. Try a different band
4. Stick to 2 guest slots
5. Cap at 65 ? tickets (rather than 80 as in January)
6. Aim to replicate the unplanned flowers on picnic tables
7. Consider making the raffle for charity
8. Look to simplify /streamline the kitchen process without compromising the offering e.g.
   1. Don’t bother to plate scones individually
   2. Buy some cake platters of our own
   3. Discourage members from bringing cake unexpectedly. Aim to reduce cake allowance to 2 or even to 1.5 per person.
   4. Adhere to a stricter process, perhaps allocate specific tasks and timings in advance
   5. Cheese scones more popular than expected – increase numbers slightly. A number of people asked to mix cheese and strawberry scones
   6. Need more jugs if to increase numbers – we used all the centre had
   7. Other ideas?
9. **Action** required now – **Book Hall for June 28th 2020: Catriona**

**Update SE Diary : Suzanne**

**Suggestions on band, guest spot and catering process : All (to Suzanne please)**

**AOB**

1. Next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 8th October at 6.45**. **Action: All**