

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Midlothian Community media Association held online on Tuesday 7 March 2023

Present: Steven Horsburgh (SH); Addie Thomson (AT); Kim Thomson (KT); Tony Conlin(TC); Chris Mackrell (CM); Bob Miller (BM); Alan Thomson (AlanT); Russell Aitken (RA)

James Fregin (BrunoJ) joined meeting for 1st agenda point

Minutes of meeting 24 January 2023; Motion to approve moved by SH seconded by AlanT

Event Donation Amount

BrunoJ joined meeting as event coordinator. Looking for board to make a decision on charge for events. Current donation amount is £100 or £50 if BDFM is prominently advertised at the event

TC and [Larry Donaldson](#) asked to provide equipment and entertainment at Poltonhall/Bonnyrigg and TC passed donation of £150 to BDFM. BDFM are to have this event ongoing.

Board discussed and confirmed the donation for this year to be £150 with a £25 discount if prominent advertising

Bruno also informed board he was having to step back from volunteering with BDFM due to ill health

Bruno is event coordinator, puts together community news and presents a 3 hour show each week.

The Board said they were sorry to hear his news but health comes first and he should do what he could and just keep the board updated.

Finance Update

Current Bank Balance £14606.67. Cheques for purchase of Synergy Kit (including travel expenses) £773.76 and PPL/PRS to be deducted.

AT reminded Board that we have not received Midlothian Council grant of £3000 so he is concerned about this shortfall

This time last year we have approx £15000 in the bank

SH thanks AT for finance update

AT confirmed [Carrie Campbell](#) has contacted RBS to amend Bank signatories so in the hands of RBS

Technical Update

CM advised no change from last meeting.

MPU is still faulty.

CM confirmed new (second hand) Equipment AT and Geoff Ruderham collected from Devon was a good buy. CM has checked it over and 1st mic channel is faulty, however only using 2 mic channels at the moment so not an issue.

AT also has a further MPU so will have a key cut for the hub and store it there.

Listen Again - CM to look into alternatives. No further update at the moment

Presenter Rant on Air

SH received calls to complain about rant on air by presenter on 16 February 2023

KT listened back to recording and confirmed the content was not acceptable

SH raised that this presenter was already covering for another presenter who was on suspension due to swearing on air and is extremely disappointed as presenter is also a Board member.

SH & KT had separate discussion and decided presenter should be taken off air until the next board meeting.

Presenter/Board Member is embarrassed and extremely sorry. Explained what happened but accepted that it was not acceptable and agreed with the decision to take him off air. He also has some personal issues to deal with so will be taking time away from presenting for the time being and will let SH know when he is available to go back to presenting shows.

Studio Redecorating/continue clearing out hub

SH and AT made a start and took unwanted items to the skip. Agreed we continue with the clear out before any cleaning/decorating is done. SH and BM will go through old paperwork and dispose of securely anything no longer required.

Fundraiser Update - Pig Racing

Pigs selling well. On track for fundraiser on 17 March. KT pointed out a lot of volunteers not able to attend but have purchased pigs and promised raffle prizes

Membership Renewal

New Membership to commence 1st April 2023. KT and SH will put together email to send out and post on facebook page. CM will create link to form for completion. Board agreed we would point out that although membership is £1 for the whole year, volunteers could donate more if they are able and wished to do so

Programming Sub Committee

TC raised it would help if there was a group, not necessarily all Board members, to facilitate training. This would be for new members and also existing members that may require a refresher or just have a question.

Board agreed this was a good idea. Also agreed we need to be recruiting new members so there were more presenters to step into a slot. Currently have some presenters who don't manage to cover shows but are not able to give sufficient notice so another presenter can be found.

Feeling is presenters don't worry as they think/know there is no other presenter available so they are not risking the slot being given to another presenter.

SH advised he knows of 2 young people that may be interested in volunteering

Co-opt Member to Board

AlanT raised at previous board meeting Ian Hunter being co-opted to Board. AlanT advised the Board that Ian looking to join Chamber of Commerce. Suggested this would benefit us through gaining contacts for advertising and sponsorship.

The Board discussed Ian being co-opted and a majority vote agreed that Ian be given a chance to work with COC; AlanT advised he would work with Ian.

Board agreed Co-opted members are invited to join until next AGM.

AT left meeting

Advertising & Sponsorship

TC raised he would be happy to look for advertising opportunities and would like to work with Graham Rigby to be able to make the right approach to potential clients.

TC going to speak with Graham and report back to the Board

AOCB

RA advised he knows of a potential new volunteer presenter. RA advised they should email scheduler@blackdiamondfm.com

TC advised Larry Donaldson looking to join the Board. Larry is a full member so just needs to full members to email secretary@blackdiamondfm.com to propose and second.

SH advised his work schedule is increasing so provisional change to Chair on the Board to KT will take place on 1 May 2023. SH will take position of Vice Chair. Also advised KT will not be able to hold Secretary position in addition to Chair so Board will be looking for another member to take the post.

The Board acknowledged the anniversary of the passing of John Richie on 8 March 2014.

Next Board Meeting

25 April 2023 @ 7pm - held online