

Mearns FM monthly meeting minutes –

14th June 2012

Present – George Brebner, Stewart Campbell, Doug McKelvie, Steve Holt, Ian Hunter, Carolyn Venters, Ken Venters, Peter Greig, Raymond Christie, Louisa Greenwell.

Apologies – Alan Sanderson, Chris Ann Holt.

Meeting chaired by Peter Greig, last month's minutes amended and approved.

Chairman/Events

St Cyrus Gala

We have committed to this event and are charging £200. To date I have a couple of volunteers who have come forward to help, but could use a couple more to help split the workload.

Party in the Park

This event is taking place on Sunday 29nd July and profit will be split between Mearns FM, Befriend A Child and Stonehaven Town Hall. Looking for volunteers to help on the day, various roles including running fundraising / info stand, stewarding, bar, ticket collectors etc.

Portlethen Gala

Mearns FM have been approached to run the sound stage for Portlethen Gala on Saturday 25th August. Can the board make a decision on whether they want to do the event and if so what the charge would be? Again volunteers would be required.

Training

I am personally disappointed on the take up of the offer for the HR policy training, as agreed at the last meeting this training is compulsory for all active volunteers. The board need to make a decision on deadlines and sanctions for non-completion.

Email Received from Open Air Pool, needs discussion and an in principal decision.

I'm writing to put out some feelers really about a possible link up between the open air pool and Mearns FM which if it worked would be useful for both the radio station (listeners, exposure at the pool) and the pool (exposure on the radio, an ongoing activity as added value for a swimmer).

My proposal is that there could be a regular 1 hour slot on the radio which was devoted to playing requests from the pool - or if no requests then it would just play "pool/summer" type current music. The idea being that if this hour was played over the tannoy at the pool then swimmers could text in requests for friends/family at home could text in requests for swimmers at the pool) and then we would play them. If it was an unused hour then MFM would be playing just music anyway so this would not be a chat show just really music requests.

I thought that if there was a space on Saturday afternoon this might be a good slot to use - it would only run when the pool is open so July and August really.

What would be needed?

At the pool: Perhaps some posters to remind people that the show is on (maybe only displayed on Saturdays) and the tannoy tuned to Mearns FM for an hour

At MFM: A free hour and some volunteers to do an hour (I'm willing to volunteer and coordinate volunteers if needed)

Obviously this is only an idea and it would have to go through the two committees but I think it could be a good joint initiative

*What do you think? - **The Board felt it was a good idea and should be pursued.***

Email Received from Fettercairn Show, needs discussion and a decision.

*Apologies for not replying sooner. Please find attached an entry form for a stand. If you would be willing to advertise the Show through the week prior to the day of the Show we would be happy to allow you to have a stand foc. - **The Board decided to accept the offer.***

Other –

Johnshaven Fish Festival – was felt to be a lot of work and too expensive to get the extra equipment required.

Hi Jinks - not happening this year.

Jazz cafe – Sun 24th June

Fireballs – mid Aug to meet committee to start planning

Fireworks – meet mid July with Round Table to confirm arrangements.

Secretary – requested a computer file copy of the articles of association, Steve to provide it.

Treasurer – Projected bank balance to end of June is £3426, with July direct debits amounting to £507 & the Ofcom licence of £750 is also due.

Please give me a note of your expenses and I can get a cheque to you while we still have the cash!!!

We have received the £2000 from Nexen and the Feein market raised £208 also I have recently issued invoices amounting to £245 in relation to adverts which Doug has secured.

I can also advise that the bank signatories should be updated within the week!!!! At last

Ian estimated that the farmers electricity bill would be about £110 each. Chris Ann to send cheques to the farmers.

Discussions on other sources of funds.

Meikle Carewe will be giving money to the community. Doug to approach company to see if they would like to guest on his show.

Leader funds – must be for projects outside Stonehaven and money has to be matched.

Planning gain funds – unsure what their guidelines for applications are.

Training

Discussions about the training on the procedures. Decision was made that if presenters did not attend they would not go on air. Deadline proposed of 1st August by Steve Holt and seconded by Ian Hunter. 4 for 5 against. Second proposal of 30th June by Peter Greig, 5 for 3 against 1 abstention. Deadline of 30th June accepted. Ken will offer training dates.

Mearns FM Transmitter Report 14/06/2012

The aerial ordered from Aareff arrived damaged. The package was marked damaged by Parcelforce as received by them. One of the poles was bent.

After considerable discussion with the suppliers they have agreed to send a replacement pole and it has been dispatched but I assume it is coming from the Dominican Republic where the previous package came from.

When it arrives Tony and I are ready to install it subject to the availability of the “lift device”.

Otherwise the transmitters have operating satisfactory. There is a need however to do a key inventory for Collardo.

Just a reminder that the power payments to the farmers are now due although in other years we have paid them in August. The meters in Sillyflatt and Bogarty will require to be read.

New aerial now on its way. Stewart offered to help with flooring at Collardo.

Scheduling

A one off show was trialled but had swearing and drinking during the show so unlikely to be approved again.

John Forrester – returning on Sunday

Dan Brannan – Sunday night

Connor McNeil – taken off air due to inconsistency in appearance for show.

Sales

Adverts from North Offshore, Ship Inn and Specsavers.

5th July – Hook and Eye

6th July – Dougs birthday

Movember – Adelines and Scream Demons playing, money to MFM/THT/Findlays fund

Doug asked if thank you letters had been sent to BAA and Nexen – Carolyn to check. Also asked for their logos to go on website.

AOB

Need new Sky box – two offers of boxes made.

Thanks to Peter and Ken for Torch entertainment. Positive feedback had been received.

Mentors needed for new presenters.

IH – Remind everyone that microphone distance is important for good quality sound.

AGM 13th Sept.

PG asked that the board consider introducing a membership fee as MFM is the only community radio not doing so.

Next meeting Monday 23rd July at 7.30pm