

Minutes of MFM Meeting on 6th December 2012

Present – Andy Mead, Doug McKelvie, Ken Venters, Peter Greig, Steve Holt, Ian Hunter, Raymond Christie, Chris Ann Holt, Carolyn Venters, Alan Sanderson

Apologies – Mike Smith, Greg Hansen

Secretary – Carolyn Venters

New membership form and volunteer form now in Dropbox.

In response to newsletter put out, John Forrester had suggested a cabaret evening; he can sing and play piano. Board agreed this was a good idea. Carolyn to contact John.

Treasurer - Chris Ann Holt

23 members have paid their fees :-)

The bank balance is approx £1200. Given £240 from K&D Arts Forum who have closed and dispersed their funds generously. Money still due from Top Up fund and Safe Drive. Also moneys from Round Table - £500 and £600 from Fuzz off for Findlay.

Admin fees to be paid once a year instead of quarterly, £800 a year.

Sales – Doug McKelvie

Fuzz Off raised about £2000, £600 approx for MFM. Joint fundraising is the best way to go. Too many events in the Town Hall, should do one a month perhaps with the Town Hall Trust. Bands would come back if expenses were paid. Discussions on difficulties in getting bookings from Aberdeenshire Council as they are now booking into 2014. The town hall has no cancellation penalty so many events are cancelled at the very last minute. A joint approach with the STHT to the council highlighting this problem was suggested, Steve to raise with STHT.

Doug would also like to take on and promote the Jazz Cafe. Proposing a joint venture with THT. Doug to make enquiries and feed back.

Doug stated that there was bad feeling over the membership fee and should be abandoned and money refunded. Discussions ensued until the Chairman stated that the arguments were the same and as the membership at the AGM had voted for it, it must stand. Payment deadline was set at 31st Jan 13. Presenters not paid up would not be able to broadcast.

An issue about a member was raised. It was stated that anyone who had an issue with a member must go through the correct procedures and raise a complaint.

Studio – Steve Holt

Off air studio is being used for broadcasting until Monday 10th December, due to Ury Players Panto.

George Brebner has given us a second hand Dyson Hoover for the Studio, works great. No excuse for not having a clean studio now.

New computer is installed and running as Off Air Computer. The original Off Air computer is now running the logging programme, all working well so far.

We still need to purchase another Basic computer for Auto play Set up, as this is slow and unreliable. Cost of new one would be £299.99 from PC World. – Board approved purchase.

I applied to Aberdeenshire Council's top up budget a while back for 2 new computers and IT Broadcasting equipment, It was granted and we have purchased 1 so far, and need to purchase this other one to get the £600 from Council.

Off Air mixer is broken, needs to be looked at. – Alan will strip and clean.

Board was asked to reimburse train tickets that had been purchased for an Ofcom talk but had been cancelled – Board agreed.

Hard drive is missing.

Folder of passwords is needed so those that need access to systems can get in.

HR Report – Ken Venters

Billy Styles new show training is going well. Show proposal form completed. He should be presenting on his own within two weeks.

Callum Homer training ongoing will report at next meeting.

Students Lauren Kane and Sarah Middleton are looking for work experience and will come into the studio in January to discuss.

Gavin Mair who contacted the studio some time ago about a pre recorded show as he works abroad will be home mid December and I have asked him to get in touch to see if he still wishes to be involved with MFM.

Technical Training manual on-going but not yet complete. It will be presented at the January 2013 board meeting.

Events – Greg Hansen

The Busy Beasties / Wee Stars event at Dobbies went off without a hitch. Organizer was very pleased with the show put on and will book us again.

I still have the cash she paid for the event. Could someone please come down to the studio on Sunday to collect it from me, or let me know where I can drop it off. I will have a more detailed report next month.

As for mentoring of Jonathan Penman, things are going great so far. His first two shows have gone off smoothly with good song choices. His stories that he tells to link songs together are interesting and well thought out, all based on personal experiences. I think he's doing a great job so far with only minor assistance needed from me so far.

Transmitter Report - Ian Hunter

During the month the transmitter links appear to have been reasonably reliable. There was a power outage for one afternoon at Boggarty due to Hydro Board work.

There is now mobile phone mains reset switch installed at Boggarty. It worked OK on initial test but Steve reported it failed to respond when he tried it at a later date. It may be because it is mounted inside the metal cabinet which will reduce the mobile reception. This should be easily fixed by mounting the switch outside the box with the supply fed in.

Tony has completed a similar switch installation for Collardo but it will be operated via the landline phone system which should be more reliable and avoid any call charges. It is hoped that we get a weather window to visit the installation to install it.

IH asked if both transmitter and Barrix should be reset, it was agreed it should be both.

As requested that a folder of information should be written so anyone could read up on how to troubleshoot these sorts of problems.

Scheduling Report – Mike Smith

The schedule will need to be updated once again with the matters raised at the last meeting along with this month's 'issues'.

It will come as no surprise to most that we are losing presenters I received another email today 2.12.12 that as from Friday the 28th of December David Fotheringham will also be leaving the station due to work commitments starting in the new year, as most will also be aware Sam Ross who did a show on a Friday and co-hosted with David the Wednesday Drivetime slot finished his final show on Friday. So on a Friday night from 6 till 10 we again have no shows going out live.

This raises a question to me, if a member is discontinuing his show and membership, who should the persons be sending emails to because although I need to know I assume I am not the only one who needs to know?

This week John Forrester also informed me, he can longer do his slot on a Thursday night but proposes that his show on Tuesday will become the show that was on a Thursday with his original Tuesday show ceasing to exist. I replied so I don't see a problem with this, do I send him a show proposal form and get him to fill it out and does this need to go to the rest of the board for further discussion and acceptance if so please advise and I will forward the emails.

FORMS; The new show proposal form has been edited and is available by emailing me and asking for a copy or from Dropbox in scheduling in the folder marked show proposal.

EMAILS; I bang on about this every time but it is in the policies and procedures training, there is a handwritten note in the studio and it was out in last month's newsletter, however I went to the studio this week to find several hosts had written in with sending an email at the same time or in

advance, the need for emails to be sent through to me is essential as I am not always in the studio to look at the diary, normally I am in the studio to either host or to sort a scheduling or a music issue or complaint.

FACEBOOK; this was mentioned last time and I managed to get it mentioned in the newsletter, currently I'm looking after the facebook side of things but ideally would be looking for someone or persons to take on posting day to day and making sure messages are read and dealt with. I'm happy to add anybody to face book but they must make themselves aware of the rules on what to post and what not to post, please email me with the email address you use for facebook should you want access.

SLOTS; the Wednesday drive time slot is still available and I am looking for someone to take it on even in the short term, Greg Hanson presented the show last week (without any problems as far as I aware anyway). So even if you could do a one of special show it would be great please just drop me an email. Wednesday morning still looking for someone to do something during the day as currently with no drive time going live then there is no live show until Kens Beat the Drum at six. As discussed with Mackie radio being temporarily removed I have asked Ian Hunter to carry on till 1pm and I hope to catch up with Ray tomorrow (Monday) to ask if she can carry on as well.

AOCB; I know this isn't strictly my domain however it is essential for people to sign in and out of the studio for health and safety purposes please bear this in mind, even if you just intend on popping in for ten minutes please sign the book!

On a fundraising idea note, would we be in a position to possibly organise a disco/karaoke as we have the music, the dj's and most of the equipment at our fingertips to be able to pull that off, just an idea!

Any problems or questions please feel free to email me and I will get back to you.

AOB

RC – Top Up fund starts again in April.

AS – Fireballs committee were told the equipment would be £560 to hire. They declined our services.

AM – would like to take his slot on permanently, this was agreed. He reported that Bervie transmitter not working yesterday.

RC – has asked the council for permission to broadcast their meetings, waiting for them to come back to him.

IH – A person in Gourdon is interested in recording an arts show, would a slot be available. It was agreed that there was space but raised the issue of the licence restricting the amount of recorded material going out. IH wishes to complain about this to Ofcom for this type of show, everyone agreed.

SH – Louisa wishes to record shows over Christmas, advised to liase with Mikey.

Next meeting **8th January 2013 at 7.30 pm**