



**FADS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at Spinners Well**  
**commencing at 7:30pm**

**MINUTES**

**In the Chair:** Cindy Gray.

**Present:** Ellen Ross, Sarah Walker, Rowena Laing, Jane Stephenson, Laura Cranstoun, Paul Anderson.

**In attendance:** David Smith.

**1. Welcome – no apologies**

**2. Minutes of last Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July & Matters Arising**

*2.1. PAT testing*

Sarah confirmed the hall is booked for this to take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Paul, Martin & Sarah to lead it. Sarah sent out request for help to members but only two offers were returned, from Rowena and Anna. Ellen confirmed she's available on both days to clean and Laura possibly Sunday – TBC.

**@Sarah** to contact David re. putting out a request for help from local people on Fintry Buddies.

Paul reported blacks are down at the moment, so ideal for cleaning, but pelmets will probably need taking down as they're very dirty. Paul also reported lightweight rails that are hardly ever used had been taken down and are currently in the box with silver/gold curtain. It was agreed they should be stored there.

*2.2. Cupboard & locks for/in Green Room*

**@Paul** confirmed he can fix the cupboard where the bar stock is stored, putting in supporting blocks to take the weight.

Paul thinks the entire door jamb could do with replacing. As per Agenda point 5.5, he will work on this and locks once Cindy has spoken to Tony & Lorna about tidy & sorting of everything currently stored in Green Room.

*2.3. Silver/gold curtain & box*

Ellen has spoken to Helen about the box being stored in the Lesser Hall. Helen spoke to Sheila, who didn't think there would be any objections but said it would be discussed at the next Hall Committee meeting. **@Paul** will make a lid for the box.

Young Farmers have confirmed to Ellen they're happy to pay half the cost of the new curtain. The cheque is 'in the post', although Ellen hasn't received it yet. **@Ellen** to provide an update at next meeting.

*2.4. Back wall*

Paul confirmed it's nearly finished, bar the arch top. **@Paul** to give the wood a coat of primer.

#### 2.5. *Costume store lights*

Paul confirmed new light bulbs should be coming in this week. He also reported that he's spoken to Brenda about the lights in the squash courts that need replacing & said if she gets them, he'll fit them for her – being helpful in the name of maintaining good relations!

#### 2.6. *Abbeyfield, Killearn*

Laura & Sarah reported on their visit to the house on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. It was agreed that performing some songs from the panto and Calamity Jane would be good, as well as performing drama as/when suitable. **@Sarah** to contact Angela at Abbeyfield to see if they have any particular requests after speaking to the residents.

Paul mentioned the dementia group of 30-40 (carers and patients) in Killearn that he and May had performed for in the past, which also has a group in Stirling. It was agreed by everyone that we should endeavor to do this kind of community work moving forward. **@Cindy** to add as a standing item to the agenda.

2.7. Jane has not heard any more about the army uniforms for the costumer store. **@Jane** to update at the next meeting she attends.

2.8. Paul noted that his point about the SCDA full-length scoring system had not been noted in the previous minutes. (See point 5.6.2.)

### 3. **Treasurer's report**

Ellen reported there is £1,354 in the current account & £6,200 in the deposit account.

Ellen also reported that she is having issues with installation of the accounts software package (purchased for £58, including one month's support) and it is hard to contact the support team as they're based in California. Paul suggested trying to install using a different browser.

#### 3.1. *Membership numbers and requirements*

To date: 33 adults, 7 juniors and 5 primary members paid up.

In terms of Sarah's list of roles for which there is a requirement to join FADS, Laura suggested that Choreographer and Singing Coaches should be members, as they are actively involved in most of the rehearsals. Cindy suggested Child Protection Liaison does not need to be a member as it's a kind of external consultant role. Both changes agreed by everyone. **@Sarah** to amend.

#### 3.2. *Membership form – online & accounting*

Some concerns about elements of the form not being fully completed and Ellen said that one member had reported being unable to make a payment online. We will continue to monitor reported problems.

#### 3.3. *Sports Club*

Ellen reported that many members had received membership forms directly from the Sports Club. **@Sarah** to send email telling members not to pay anything directly, as FADS is making the payment for them. **@Cindy & @Ellen** to arrange meeting with Brenda in March, at which they'll ask her to put another option box on the form specifically for FADS members to tick, to alleviate the confusion over payment.

### 4. **Productions 2019-20**

(David only at the meeting for this item)

#### 4.1. *One-act plays*

Sarah gave update on 'The Biscuit'; Cindy on 'The Worst Day...', both going well. Sarah & Paul

reported that Housebound seems to be going well too. Cindy reported that Gavin had told her things were 'outstanding'.

Paul reported that Martin & Gavin have asked him to Stage Manage, but he hasn't heard from Tony. Technical requirements (set, lighting, sound) to be discussed between the three directors asap - **@Cindy** to facilitate.

Jane confirmed she has already bought the bar stock, as she won't be here in September.

Sarah reported that Martin is keen to get publicity underway, so:

- It was agreed that tickets would be £5
- Banners: Jane will be away so someone else will need to do the banner in Killlearn; **@Cindy** to arrange volunteers, **@Paul** will do Kippen Station. Banners currently in Green Room, bar one which Jane has.
- It was agreed that we need professional-looking posters and are prepared to pay a designer. **@Cindy** going to ask Tony about one-act posters
- **@Sarah** to do 'save the dates' mailshot and publicise on FB, Whats On in Stirling, etc. It was noted that we are not included in the Aug/Sept Parklife – **@Sarah** to check why.

#### 4.2. *Mother Goose*

Ellen & David will 'dry run' all the documents relating to children, to see what works and what we might need to change.

David reported he's confident in lots of areas already:

- Heather Stewart will lead choreography & her daughter Kirsty will be a dance captain. Cindy expressed concern at bringing in new people who are not yet members to lead roles, when there may be other existing and longer-standing members who have skills, and suggested we need to take care to be fair and considerate.
- Margo & Fiona are already working on the songs for voice coaching.
- Auditions will be conducted in sections, with groups being called for various types of role. Dancing and singing will be auditioned as well as acting/reading, Audition panel will be David, Margo, Heather & Ellen.
- Costumes: David has spoken to Sheila & Helen to say their expertise will be very valuable, but he would like to bring on some new people for the practical elements.
- Lighting: Martin & Tony have been asked to design and Cindy will operate for the performances. Paul highlighted that Martin is keen to ensure enough time is set aside for preparation.
- Sound: David is meeting Sam Yoffe and Ian Kidd this week to discuss sound.

David also reported that Heather's husband Roddy has a sound & lighting equipment hire company, so could be useful. Cindy said we should definitely try to use him if we can.

Ticket prices agreed at £8, £4 for under-16s and a £20 family ticket for two adults and up to three children. Due to issues with keeping track of how many are in the family online, people will be required to contact Jane directly to book family tickets. Jane suggested having different colours for hard-copy tickets, so outlets don't accidentally sell wrong type.

#### 4.3. *Spring musical: Calamity Jane*

Rowena reported:

- Adult cast only
- May is keen to coach singing
- Ian Kidd has been approached about being Musical Director and it was agreed that if he put a band together, they could be paid. Ellen mentioned Iain Howie had offered his musical skills and said that his sons could put a band together.
- The full orchestra score is £250, so **@Rowena** is going to ask if there's a cheaper pared-down

version.

- Dates for the production were decided: Tues 24<sup>th</sup> to Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – evening performances with the possibility of a matinee on the 28<sup>th</sup> (TBC).

#### 4.4. *Oklahoma, Spring 2021*

We perhaps don't want to do it so close to CJ, but if CJ is a success, we'll look at Oklahoma for the future.

#### 4.5. *Paddington, Christmas 2020*

Kevin and Jonny moving ahead with initial investigations into costume etc.

## 5. General news / planning

### 5.1. *Children in performances*

5.1.1. Cindy confirmed the Stirling Council 'Body of Persons' process is the same as the one Mairi has given us.

#### 5.1.2. *PVG*

Working from Cindy's list of FADS members with PVG, it was agreed that, bar Allan Watson and Liz Brown, everyone else would be asked to renew. Members to be added to PVG register for FADS: May, Laura, Gail, Margo & Heather. **@Cindy** to liaise with Mairi. Parents who are supervising children during the panto will also need to be registered. **@David & @Ellen** to co-ordinate this.

#### 5.1.3. *Child liaison during panto*

The 'responsible adult' is the parent of the child, however, we need a PVG-registered person to be the responsible adult for FADS. Jane agreed to take on this role during rehearsals. **@Cindy** to liaise with David to find out what he would like.

The issue of children being distracted by their phones in rehearsals was discussed but it was felt anything required of children would also have to apply to adults.

### 5.2. *Constitution update*

Latest version now lodged with OSCR.

In terms of amendments, Paul suggested the section relating to appointments and length of time people can serve is made more flexible. Cindy suggested the section relating to what members can be financially compensated for is also made more flexible. It was generally agreed that if someone is providing 'professional services', they are entitled to be paid, but that this should be decided on a case-by-case basis.

### 5.3. *Committee roles & calendar*

Both of these are to be ongoing matters – the calendar to be revisited as a matter of course at each Committee Meeting.

### 5.4. *Stand at Fintry Fun Day*

Sarah reported that there had been no offers of help forthcoming from members. As many of the Committee are also otherwise engaged, it was decided we would not take a stand this year.

Sarah offered to have leaflets on her stand, publicising the next three productions. **@Rowena** to ask John about designing this.

### 5.5. *Green Room tidy*

For next agenda, after PAT and cleaning. **@Cindy & @Laura** to speak to Lorna & Tony.

### 5.6. *SCDA*

5.6.1. Sarah decided not to draft a further response regarding professional companies being

members, as there was little enthusiasm for it.

#### 5.6.2. *Full-length plays adjudication marks*

Paul highlighted again the apparent over-scoring in a lot of cases, resulting in some very good productions only finishing a few points higher than markedly less ones. FLP 2018: Journey's End came second overall but received just 5 points more than Agatha Crusty. And in the 2019 OAPs with 9 entries, there were just 8 points between first and last place. Cindy said she understood that SCDA feels it's important to encourage clubs, but Paul felt they should be asked to review their adjudications. Paul also highlighted that in Scotland we have a problem with there being no requirement for adjudicators to undergo training or critique.

Laura suggested canvassing opinions from other clubs to see if they feel the same. **@Paul** to have a discreet chat with Gavin Paterson, Stromness DC and Birsay DC and report back to the next meeting. Cindy suggested we should speak to Tony as well, once we have discussed this further and decided any next steps.

#### 5.6.3. 2020 photo calendar to be discussed at next meeting.

## 6. Growing capacity – future plans for the Club

### 6.1. *Refurb of stage area*

Laura has arranged for Mark Ritchie from Macrobert to visit to see the stage and make initial recommendations for refurb. This will be on Weds 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, before the panto auditions. **@Paul @Laura & @Cindy** to attend. Following the meeting, further discussions can be had with the wider membership.

Laura also reported that Mark helped Beaconhurst refurbish their drama dept & stage before the school went into administration and thinks there may be an opportunity to acquire some 'nearly new' equipment for a very good price.

### 6.2. *'Wee grants' from the Robertson Trust*

**@Cindy** to speak to Tony about possibly applying for a small grant to buy more lights.

## 7. Communications & publicity

### 7.1. *Mailchimp list and website mailing lists*

It was reported that several members have said they're not receiving mailings – particularly regarding the recent BBQ. Sarah confirmed that everyone on the Mailchimp list (everyone who had paid their membership this year and last year, 56 people) had been notified of the BBQ and there were no 'bounced' emails. **@Sarah** to double-check this. People to be told to check their junk folders. Sarah confirmed that everyone else whose email address had ever been on the various FADS systems had been contacted to see whether they wanted to remain on our database. Those who had responded had been added to the website contact list, which currently stands at 106 (including members). **@All** to ensure we note names of any people complaining about not receiving emails, so Sarah can follow up each case individually.

## 8. Social Committee

### 8.1. *Barbeque*

Great success, around 40 people attended.

### 8.2. *Play reading evenings*

Social committee (**@Rowena**) will arrange a reading of 'The Rising', which Jane has now got from

Jonny. Cindy currently has the book.

### 8.3. Film viewings

**@Jane** still chasing Jonny about 'The Matriarch' – he and Alan haven't yet had a chance to discuss it. She is happy to continue to do so.

Paul said that we have a DVD of our production of 'Journey's End' and suggested a viewing is organised. This was generally agreed and **@Rowena** to add to future plans list of Social Committee.

## 9. AOCB

### 9.1. Hall keyholders

Sarah has started putting together a list of FADS members who have keys for the main hall and Green Room. Paul pointed out there's also the lighting loft, Old Ladies' Toilet & Dunny. **@Sarah** to complete list over coming weeks as she sees people.

## 10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September, 7:30pm at Netherton Cottage, 40 Main Street (Rowena's)