

THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY GLASGOW BRANCH

Charity Registered in Scotland SC008002

Annual General Meeting to be held at **19.00** on Thursday 18 May 2023 in

the Kirk Lounge of The Renfield Training and Conference Centre,

260 Bath St, Glasgow, G2 4JP

The Minutes of the 2022 AGM are to be found on the website: www.rscdsglasgow.org/agm

– Please contact the Secretary if you would like a paper copy of those Minutes.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chair's Remarks
3. Minutes of AGM held on 19 May 2022
4. Matters Arising
5. Branch Report
6. Financial Report including the Trustees' Report
7. Appointment of the External Examiner of the account
8. Motion to Set the Glasgow Branch Membership Subscription for 2023 – 2024 *
9. Confirmation of President and Vice President and Election of Committee for 2023 – 2024
(Vacancies: see below)
10. Election of Delegates to RSCDS AGM in November 2023
11. Appointment of the Archivist
12. Any Other Business
13. Date of the next AGM - 16 May 2024

Presidents

Hon President Ruth Beattie

Hon Vice President John Johnston

Committee	Current	Nominations received or eligible for re-election
Chair	Sebastian Wanless	Sebastian Wanless
Chair-Elect	Ian Johnson	Ian Johnson
Secretary	Debra McAlees	Debra McAlees
Treasurer	Marilyn Mowbray	Marilyn Mowbray
Social Events Convenor	Aileen Warwick	Aileen Warwick
Class Convenor	Marion Cusick	Marion Cusick
Outreach Convenor	Susan Ewington (retiring)	Anne Murray
Communications Convenor	Alexandra Larion (demitted office)	Harry Dooley
Membership Secretary	Sandra McAllister	Sandra McAllister
Committee Members	Connor Civatte (demitted office)	James Miller
	Anne Murray (proposed)	Gale McCallum
	Caitlin Abbott	Caitlin Abbott
	Marion Cole (retired early)	Hilary Wood
		Lyndsey Brown

*Comments on this motion here

05/04/2023

Dear Sebastian, Ian, Debbie and Marilyn

There are rumblings regarding an increase of Branch sub to £7. In itself not a large amount but more the principle.

I agree Branch sub was £5 before we reduced for a 'one off' to £3 to cushion the HQ increase of £5.

As background there is much concern, even complaint, that HQ continues to produce their plans then look to the branches to fund it – as opposed to tailor their plans to what can be afforded.

This proposed increase by the Branch does give a similar feel, which made me look carefully at the justification. I do appreciate that the Committee will have debated the issue.

Our branch costs/income fall into 3 categories:

events and classes - we aim for these to break even (but do have reserves)

membership - see below

projects (e.g. teacher training which was excellent to enable us to have enough teachers!)

These involve an approved decision on a budget prior to taking place.

Membership

The membership fees should cover membership costs: namely

Newsletter & stamps; website & mobile; committee meetings hall hire

with income from Members (less HQ), Linked groups and Associate, including donations with subs - some members pay extra £'s. (I have omitted any legacies.)

See attached table below (taken from branch accounts) which shows a healthy profit for most year's except 2019-20 (sometimes printing costs for March newsletter can be in 'wrong year', with our financial year to 31 March?).

Taking an average we are in profit, even if being aware of the variable 'donations'.

I understand the cost of Newsletters has decreased to £420 with postage also decreasing, since we have fewer members and more are turning to electronic copies.

As a Branch we do have considerable reserves and we are NOT a fund-raising charity, as such. Our aim is promote SCD (see constitution).

How were our reserves obtained? By the prudent management of past Treasurers who were aware of the increasing age of our dancers. It is past and present dancers who have built up our reserves and many would argue they should benefit, not be penalised, by this cushion. Some comment that our reserves are too high! Our losses last year were to be expected as we started classes and events at a time of reluctance by some to 'mix' again, so numbers attending were low. This was a one off and could have been worse.

The table below shows our reserves (affectively our total monies, less working capital in our main account of around £6 - £7.5 k) We do not have figures for 2022-2023 since the financial year ended at 31 March 2023.

Year	RSCDS Glasgow Branch membership income/expenditure				
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Newsletter +stamps	-£1,127.00	-£1,238.00	-£324.00	-£518.00	
website / mobile	-£74.00	-£74.00	-£83.00	-£102.00	
Subs (net)	£1,848.00	£1,092.00	£962.00	£625.00	
donations	£388.00	£253.00	£448.00	£1,647.00	
meetings	-£270.00	-£269.00	-£30.00	-£30.00	
Total	£765.00	-£236.00	£973.00	£1,622.00	£0.00
Branch sub	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	£5.00	£3 (£5)
Reserves at 31 March		£44.5 k	£44.5 k	£36 k	~ £35 k
Total funds including working capital	£54 k	£50.5 k	£50.5 k	£43 k	

Apart from 2019-2020 our subs covered our member costs

Comments:

In 19-20 - maybe costs in neighbouring years?

a.) I would like to propose the Branch sub is increased to £4 (or back to the previous £5 as a maximum) as a recognition of the still large reserves. It can be reviewed in May 2024.
The motion is required to be announced prior to 2022-23 accounts being available, since figures for this 22-23 year are relevant, but that does not affect my main argument re reserves.

b.) It is unfortunate that we often do not have the accounts in advance of the AGM, so I would further propose that accounts are made available on the website two weeks prior to the AGM so we can see the financial picture in advance of the meeting.

I understand that the branch sub will be the same for primary members (members of RSCDS via Glasgow branch) and associate members (members of RSCDS through a different branch), as in the past.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work – our events and classes are well organised and provide much enjoyment. I appreciate the efforts that take place behind the scenes for branch organisation and management, well done to all.

With best wishes

Mary

Mary Webster