

Music in West Kilbride

Minute of the Annual General Meeting of Music in West Kilbride (“the Club”) held on Friday 11th April 2025 in the Village Hall, 1 Arthur Street, West Kilbride, KA23 9EN

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Attendees

Committee: Margaret McCrorie, Helen Cook, Pauleen Hutchison, Jill Selman, Paul Selman, Alan Ward

Members: Paula Maughan, Linda McPherson, Margaret Brogan, Kenneth Bell, Sheena Bell, Lorna Meltish, Liz Kent, Eileen Lamb, David Hutchison, Ken McBride, Margaret Murray.

Apologies for absence

Committee: Alison Turner

Members: Alison Ward, John Lamb, Pat Anslow, Mr & Mrs Finn

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (“the AGM”) of the Club, which was held on 19th April 2024

Adoption of the minute as a true record of the meeting was proposed by Linda McPherson and seconded by Jill Selman. Agreed.

3. Chair’s review of the year

MiWK has enjoyed another successful season. Despite rising costs and uncertainty about the continuation of our grant funding, MiWK remains resilient and is still able to provide “great music at the heart of the village”. In these difficult financial times, we are fortunate to have a basic income from our membership (currently standing at 101) which is boosted by ticket sales to non-members at each concert. This season we received the full amount requested as a grant from Chamber Music Scotland and we benefitted from two subsidised concerts, the first of these was subsidised by The Margaret Whitomme Memorial Trust (Nikita Lukinov in October 2024) and the second subsidised by The Tunnell Trust (Trio Arisonto in November 2024). This season we have continued our tradition of offering a varied selection of classical music, jazz, instrumental and vocal with programmes offering favourite works by well-known composers, works by composers who are under-represented and some new works by composers unfamiliar to our audience.

This has also been a season of firsts for MiWK : for the first time we welcomed a clarinet quartet, The Silver Keys, in March 2025 and for the first time a full piano concerto was played as part of a concert in West Kilbride Village Hall, when Nikita Lukinov played Beethoven 4 with a quartet from RCS.

We are pleased to have been able to continue our music outreach programme this season. The Silver Keys gave an excellent interactive workshop in WKPS on Friday 21 March and it is intended that Zara Wardrop will continue this programme for pupils from P4 to P7 between Easter and the summer holidays.

All the musicians who have performed here this season have thanked us for the welcome and hospitality they received and they have expressed the pleasure they experienced at playing in WKVH. They appreciated the intimacy of the staging and the building’s acoustics and they have been extremely impressed by our audience numbers. It should be noted that we are one of only five music clubs in the country which regularly have audience numbers in excess of 100. It is also highly encouraging that all performers wish to come back!

MiWK exists because of the efforts of a relatively small group of people who give freely of their time and expertise and who deserve thanks.

Firstly, I should like to thank Susan Groves, her fellow trustees and the staff of WKVH, especially Emma and Kirsteen, for their flexibility and assistance in arranging the hall for us and for allowing us access as required.

I thank Roy O’Neill, our piano restorer and tuner, who ensures that our Steinway sounds good and meets the expectations of the musicians who use it.

For their work in publicising MiWK and its concerts, thanks go to Paula Maughan for her wonderful posters and our brochure, to Pauleen Hutchison for distributing the posters around the local area, to Alan Jones for submitting copy about each concert to the local press, to Jill Selman for putting concert details on local social media sites and last but not least, thanks go to Paul Selman for his tireless efforts in maintaining an updating the MiWK website.

Visiting musicians are wowed by our hospitality and so thanks go to Alison Turner and Pauleen Hutchison for meeting and greeting the artistes and supplying food and drinks in the VH green room. Thanks also go to Paula Maughan, Fiona Martin and Alison Turner for providing delicious meals as required, taking into account the many dietary requirements and preferences that our visitors have. MiWK is also grateful to Paula Maughan and Alison Turner for offering accommodation to musicians as and when required.

MiWK would not function without the input and efforts of my fellow trustees and committee members: Helen Cook, treasurer, Alan Ward, secretary, Jill Selman, membership secretary, Paul Selman who completes all our funding requests and OSCR reports in addition to his work on the website, and of course the previously mentioned Pauleen Hutchison and Alison Turner.

Lastly, I thank you, our loyal members. Without your ongoing support, there would be no MiWK.

In conclusion, I encourage you to look at our website to see what delights we have planned for next season. Thank you for listening and I look forward to seeing you all here at the opening concert of our 25-26 season on Friday 24 October.

4. Treasurer's report

Music in West Kilbride has three bank accounts

- Treasurer's Account: opening balance £ 8,304
closing balance £20,813
- Business Account: opening balance £10,915
closing balance £ 2,911
- Business current account (Benedetti Youth Fund)
opening balance £ 463
closing balance £ 63

Overall there is a surplus of £4,104 (2023 – 2024: £4,230) and finances continue to be in a healthy state, although costs are rising.

Total income for 2024 – 2025 was £12,622 (2023 – 2024: £11,221)

Comprised of: 48% from membership subscriptions
25% from grants
24% from box office sales on the night
3% from Interest

Total expenditure for 2024 – 2025 was £8,519 (2023- 2024: £6,991)

Comprised of: 56% direct payments to artistes for concerts
29% miscellaneous (piano, hospitality, insurance, marketing, etc)
15% for Village Hall lets

The accounts for the year 2024 – 2025 had been finalised and approved by Lynne Bailey, the appointed Independent Examiner.

Approval of the Accounts for 2024 – 2025 March 2025 was proposed by Alan Ward and seconded by Paula Maughan. Agreed.

Approval of the appointment of the Independent Examiner: Lynne Bailey had indicated that she is willing to continue as Independent Examiner. Proposed by Margaret Murray and

seconded by Eileen Lamb. Agreed.

The Chair expressed the Club's thanks to the Independent Examiner.

5. Election of the office bearers and executive committee

Chair Margaret McCrorie, Treasurer Helen Cook and Secretary Alan Ward and four other members of the executive committee, namely Pauleen Hutchison, Paul Selman, Jill Selman, and Alison Turner, had all indicated that they were willing to continue to serve on the committee and had agreed to put themselves up for re-election. No one else was nominated. The continuation of the existing members on the committee was proposed by Linda McPherson and seconded by Paula Maughan. Agreed.

6. Any other competent business.

There was none.

The Chair thanked all those who attended and wished them a safe journey home.

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

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of the same high quality as those in Glasgow.***

Music in West Kilbride is a Registered Charity: SCO37517.

Supported by Chamber Music Scotland and North Ayrshire Council.