## Scottish Society Abu Dhabi – Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 13 April
**Time:** 7:00 PM
**Location:** Online (Zoom/Teams)

Present: Jane, JP, Sean, Amy, David, Kerry

Apologies: Kelly

## 1. Welcome

The meeting was opened by Jane and brief conversation followed about how everyone was doing in our current situation.

## 2. Approval of Previous Minutes

Previous minutes were approved with no amendments.

## 3. Financial Update

- The statement of accounts was shared prior to the meeting.
- There is a **stable account balance** which puts the society in a good position for future events.
- No income or expenditure since the boat party
- **March showed no activity**.
- Upcoming May/June events will impact cash flow through deposits for events and ticket sales.
- Estimated event shortfall for the boat party was only 50 dhs to be covered by the society

## 4. Membership Update

- Membership remains steady at **98 members**.
- No recent changes in membership.
- Schedule distribution of any new cards to members.

## 6. The Chieftain's Ceilidh

### 6.1 Current Status and Band

- Hotel unavailable for our choice of dates and event will be moved to the Club
- Original band unavailable for the 6th June; but open for future events.
- Committee agreed to proceed **without a band**. With David running the ceilidh music supported by the committee so that he is not solely responsible on the night
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**6.2 Event Decisions**

- **Date confirmed:** 6 June (moved from 16 May to allow preparation time and avoid conflicts with other events).
- Event to remain a **traditional Scottish night**.
- **AGM to be held on the same evening**.
- **Capacity capped at 110 attendees**.
- No whisky majilis needed

**6.3 Format & Logistics**

- **Tickets:** include Food-only, cash bar for drinks
    - Members: 200
    - Non-members: 250
    - Buffet area will be reconfigured to improve circulation space
- **Menu** has been revised and Sean will communicate the ammendments to the Club – **confirm menu by next meeting**
- Menu items already on offer: haggis bonbons, pork sausage rolls, chicken pakora, onion bhajis, vegan mushroom potato pie, mac & cheese balls mini bacon bites, desserts: chocolate brownie and tablet.
- **Advertising** needs to be prepared -ask club to produce fresh poster/design
- Advantage of being able to use the same venue space for both AGM and event.

**6.4 Raffle & Sponsorship**

- Raffle to proceed as per usual with required permit which the Club will be asked to prepare and the usual municipality oversight visit is expected
- Raffle tickets to be printed by the Club
- Club and external partners to provide prizes (e.g., vouchers).
- Potential Sponsorship to be sought from local businesses by the next meeting (JP) suggestions were made by the committee such as Malbar, sporting contacts such as golf clubs, local venues such as the Keg Room and our sponsorship partners
- Confirm which prizes we still have on file, compile list of available raffle prizes from previous emails. No physical prizes are still in hand
- Procurement: donated vouchers/prizes; Club is likely to donate vouchers (e.g., dinner for two, family passes) like last event
- Suggested giveaway items: **bottle openers**

**6.5 Actions**

- Finalise menu, ticketing, and advertising.
- Secure sponsors and raffle prizes.
- Publish to social media the event when finalised and ensure Club advertises too
- Confirm roles for event delivery (MC, volunteers, logistics).
- Finalise timings of AGM start (suggested 6.30 pm) and start time of ceilidh
- Arrange the AGM for the same evening including informing members about re-election intentions and committee vacancies.

## 7. Societies Quiz

- Postponement to **mid/late June** (12–13 June).
- Awaiting confirmation.

## 8. World Cup Viewing Needs minutes amendment as missing information here

- Collaboration opportunities to be explored and confirmed
- Further updates to follow.

## 9. AGM

- To be held on **6 June**, prior to the event.
- Plan to keep the meeting concise.
- Members to be informed regarding elections and nominations.

## 10. St Andrew's Ball (November)

- Return to the Marriott Al Forsan as we know what we are getting with them.
- The expectations for service level will be communicated
- Follow up needed with Jana at the Marriott
- Topic to be revisited in future meetings.

## 11. Any Other Business (AOB)

## 12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 4th May in person at the Club

## Key Actions for next meeting

- Progress Chieftain's event planning (6 June)
- Confirm sponsorships and raffle logistics
- Publish ticket pricing and open sales
- Coordinate AGM arrangements
- Follow up on World Cup collaboration