

Scottish Society of Abu Dhabi Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 11 May 2026

Location: Virtual Meeting

Welcome

The meeting was opened and committee members were welcomed. Opening discussions focused on decision making for upcoming events particularly the Ceilidh

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were acknowledged with one amendment to add Kelly Potter to the Committee members present. The minutes were proposed by Kelly and seconded by Sean and accepted as an accurate record.

Ceilidh

The committee discussed the cancellation of the planned Ceilidh due to low ticket uptake, timing pressures, and current community circumstances. Concerns were also raised regarding event costs and multiple upcoming paid events later in the year.

Key points discussed included:

- Low ticket uptake
- Timing pressures
- Geopolitical current situation in the community
- Financial losses already incurred through raffle licensing and event application fees.
- Concerns about scheduling another large paid event too close to the St Andrew's Ball.
- The importance of giving members more notice and stronger promotion for future events.
- Suggestion was for a lower-cost, informal social gathering instead of a formal Ceilidh.
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Agreed Actions:

- **The Ceilidh was formally cancelled for this session.**
- The committee agreed to investigate a revised, lower-cost "Welcome Back" Ceilidh-style event for September 2026.
- The proposed format would potentially include:
 - Informal Ceilidh dancing only.
 - No formal dinner.
 - Approximate ticket cost of AED 50.
 - Possible family-friendly afternoon format.
- A tentative date of **12 September 2026** was discussed.
- The committee will investigate whether the existing event licence can be amended rather than resubmitted.
- It was agreed that no raffle would be included if the event became family focused.
- Calling dances for the event in the usual format.
- A cancellation message will be drafted and shared with members via social media
- The Club will be contacted to ensure that they are aware of the cancellation
- Refunds for ticket holders will be coordinated by Sean.

Date of AGM

The committee confirmed the AGM date as **Monday 8 June 2026**.

The venue was confirmed as **Victors, Millennium Hotel, Abu Dhabi**.

AGM

The committee discussed quorum requirements and preparations for the AGM.

Key points:

- A quorum of 20% of paid members is required.
- Current membership numbers indicate 18 members are needed for quorum.
- The committee agreed to circulate a poll to gauge attendance in advance.
- Committee members were asked to confirm whether they intended to stand again for their existing roles.
- Kerry confirmed that the Honorary Secretary position will need to be formally voted on, as the role was assumed mid-term.
- Jane intimated that all committee positions are advertised and formally voted upon
- AGM paperwork and notices will be prepared and circulated to members before the required deadline of 14 days notice (31st May).

World Cup Update

The committee reviewed promotional materials previously sent via WhatsApp and arrangements for upcoming World Cup fixtures.

Key discussion points:

- Feedback on the event posters had been largely positive.
- Discussion took place regarding venue options, including Irish Vickers and Victors for the future games.
- The committee agreed the third match would remain at Victors.
- Plans are being explored for a Q&A event before the Morocco match featuring former football players including Roy Aitken and potentially Colin Hendry.
- A poll will be issued to gauge member interest before final commitments are made.

Actions:

- JP to prepare wording for the World Cup interest poll.
- Amy to circulate the same wording across WhatsApp and football groups.

Future Events Updates

The committee discussed the importance of balancing quality over quantity of events.

Future considerations included:

- More family-friendly activities.
- Outdoor and social events following the summer period.
- Potential afternoon Ceilidh sessions for families and children.
- Possible age guidance for children attending family events.

The committee agreed there was value in developing events that encourage wider family participation and community engagement.

AOB

- JP to send logo files to Kerry for AGM and society documentation.
- Members acknowledged the current busy school and work commitments impacting planning timelines.

Date of Next Meeting

The next committee meeting date will be confirmed following circulation of AGM documentation.