

Scottish Society Abu Dhabi

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, 27 July 2026

Time: 7:00pm UAE / 4:00pm UK

Meeting: Committee Meeting

Present: Jane(Chieftain, Kerry L , Sean, Kelly, Kerry S, Alan, Heather

Apologies: JP, Amy

1. St Andrew's Ball

The Committee held an extensive discussion regarding the ongoing uncertainty and risks associated with holding the St Andrew's Ball. The current situation in the UAE continues to present a lingering level of risk, alongside uncertainty around travel and insurance arrangements.

The Committee considered the financial implications of proceeding, including the potential **AED 11,000 financial commitment to the Marriott** should the event go ahead.

It was agreed that:

- The St Andrew's Ball will be **postponed until May 2027**.
- The Marriott will be informed of the decision, with the Committee keen to maintain the relationship and reassure the venue that the Society intends to retain its business.
- The band will be contacted regarding the change of date and availability for the rescheduled event.
- Travel arrangements remain uncertain. Although flights from Edinburgh and flights operated by Emirates and Etihad may still be available, ongoing travel restrictions, recent alerts, reduced flight activity and insurance considerations remain factors for the Committee to monitor.

2. Events Calendar

The Committee agreed to revise the upcoming events calendar to provide members with opportunities to reconnect while responding appropriately to the current circumstances.

The proposed calendar is:

- **Family / Welcome Back Brunch:** Saturday, 26 September 2026 – The Club
- **Ceilidh:** Saturday, 14 November 2026 – The Club
- **Burns Night / Ceilidh:** January 2027
- **St Andrew's Ball:** May 2027

3. Burns Night

The Committee discussed the possibility of combining the January Burns Night event with the Scottish Society in Oman.

Although the Oman Society currently has its event scheduled for a different weekend, the Committee agreed that exploring a joint event could provide an opportunity to **share costs and resources**.

Further discussions will take place once potential dates and arrangements are clearer.

4. Sponsorship

Potential sponsors discussed included:

- **Red Kite Renovation** – potential sponsorship of AED 5,000
- **Caledonia Limousines** – potential sponsorship of AED 10,000

The Committee recognised that sponsorship could potentially cover the cost of the band while also providing valuable publicity and promotional opportunities for sponsors during Society events.

The importance of **early promotion and publicity** was also discussed. The current circumstances have made it challenging to maintain member engagement, particularly as the Society has been unable to hold events as regularly as planned.

It was agreed that the existing sponsorship packages should be reviewed and updated where necessary to ensure they provide an attractive proposition for potential sponsors.

5. Actions Agreed

Action	Responsible	Deadline / Next Step
Liaise with The Club and book the Family / Welcome Back Brunch for 26 September	Sean	As soon as possible
Begin preparing advertising and promotional material for the Brunch	Committee	Following confirmation of booking
Assist Sean with initial Club organisation	Alan & Kerry	As required
Confirm the revised January date with the Marriott	Kelly	
Contact the band regarding the change of date	Jane	
Review and update sponsorship packages		Before future event sponsorship approaches

6. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, 20 August 2026

Time: 7:00pm UAE / 4:00pm UK

Format: Online meeting

The meeting link will be shared via WhatsApp.

Meeting concluded : 7.45