

Scottish Society of Abu Dhabi

Committee Meeting Minutes 25/8/26

Present: Jane, Sean, Kerry L Smith (Secretary) Kerry Smith, Amy, Heather

1. Upcoming Brunch

Proposed Date: Saturday, 3 October

The committee agreed that **3 October** was the preferred date for the upcoming brunch, subject to confirmation of venue availability.

The originally proposed date of 26 September was unsuitable due to a clash with the Irish Society event. Holding the event on 3 October will also allow sufficient time for organisation and promotion.

Actions:

- Sean to confirm venue availability with the club for 3 October.
- Committee members to support promotion and organisation once the date is confirmed.

2. November Ceilidh

Proposed Date: Saturday, 14 November

The committee agreed to proceed with **14 November** as the preferred date, subject to final confirmation from the Club.

Timing: **7.00 pm to 11.00 pm**, with licensing arrangements that may allow the event to continue later.

Event Format and Pricing

The committee discussed several options for food and drinks. The preferred approach is:

- An affordable entry ticket price.
- A **cash bar** for drinks.
- Food arrangements to be agreed with the Club once catering options and costs are confirmed.

The aim is to keep ticket prices accessible while ensuring the Society can generate a reasonable return..

Actions:

- Sean to continue discussions with the club regarding the date.
- Kerry S, Sean and Heather to coordinate the Ceilidh arrangements.

- David's availability as caller to be reconfirmed.
- The committee to finalise food, ticket pricing and event arrangements once the Club has responded.

Naming the Event

We cannot use the name St Andrew's name in relation to the raffle licence and previous licensing difficulties.

Decision:

The Club will be consulted regarding licensing requirements before the committee can finalise the event name and marketing.

4. Raffle Licence

The existing raffle licence remains valid, with the date requiring amendment.

Action:

- Update the raffle licence once the event's date and title for November are confirmed.

5. Burns Supper 2027

Provisional Date: Saturday, 23 January 2027

The committee agreed to retain **23 January** as the provisional date and proceed with early planning.

The aim is to begin sponsorship discussions well in advance and secure the necessary licences and venue arrangements early.

Entertainment and Format

The committee reflected on the previous Burns Supper and agreed that:

- The evening programme was full, and we could not easily accommodate a band; therefore, the band would not be necessary.
- A slightly earlier start on a Saturday could provide a more relaxed arrival period.
- Entertainment from Gary was well received and should be considered again.
- The previous entertainer, Gary, Sharon's husband, may not be available due to another event on the same date.
- Speakers for the programme will need to be confirmed

A possible collaboration with Sharon's event was discussed, but no decision was made.

Actions:

- Begin approaching potential sponsors.
- Confirm the club booking for 23 January.

- Sean to ask Sharon what dates she is considering and explore whether collaboration is feasible.

6. Future Events – May

The committee discussed the possibility of an event in **May**.

Ian from Whisky Kiss had been informed of the change of dates due to the current situation. He has indicated that the band remains interested in supporting or participating in a future Society event.

Action:

- Begin considering potential May event dates by October or November to allow sufficient time for confirmation with the Marriott

7. Membership and Communications

The committee agreed that, as members begin returning after the summer period, the Society should increase its social media activity.

A **welcome-back post** should be created for Facebook and Instagram to:

- Encourage new members to join.
- Highlight upcoming activities.
- Provide an overview of the Society's planned events.

Action:

- Kerry S will create and publish a welcome-back social media post, including a simple teaser of forthcoming events once these are confirmed.

8. Summary of Key Actions

Action	Responsibility
Confirm brunch venue availability for 3 October	Sean
Continue discussions with the club regarding the 14 November Ceilidh	Sean
Coordinate Ceilidh planning	Kerry, Sean and Heather
Reconfirm David's availability	Amy
Confirm food, pricing and event arrangements with the club	Kerry/Sean/Heather

Clarify event naming and licensing requirements	Jane/ Club
Update raffle licence once details are confirmed	Events Sub-committee
Confirm Burns Supper venue booking for 23 January 2027	
Begin approaching potential Burns Supper sponsors	Committee
Explore possible collaboration and entertainment options with Sharon	Sean
Begin planning a May event and consider dates	Committee