



AGM 2023

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Edinburgh Sutherland Association
held at 6pm on Thur 14th December - by Zoom call.**

1. APOLOGIES

Steven Anderson, Secretary, noted that apologies were received from:

Rachel Haworth
David Mackay
Sandra Chalmers
Stewart Chalmers

He recorded that those present were:

Andrew Mackenzie
Steven Anderson
Willie Macintosh
Anne Macintosh
David Morrison
Shonagh Morrison
Lorraine Smith
Morven Sutherland
Lynne O'Brien
Christine Smith

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

Steven explained that these were not available but would be forwarded for comments and approval in due course.

3. ESA AGM 2022 President's Remarks

Andrew Mackenzie said:

This year we enjoyed a great annual ceilidh dance in Loanhead. Sandy Brechin had the challenging job of replacing Dave Husband as our band but did very well in the circumstances.

We received lots of applications for funding and agreed to donate to various good causes as follows:

· Aaron Sutherland, Talmine - Support for music college expenses (microphones)	£463
· Dornoch Primary School - Storytelling bench (request plaque)	£700
· Kyle of Sutherland Hub – Arts and craft learning materials	£500
· Fèis Ghallaibh, Armadale - School visits to encourage children to attend Feis	£300
· Tykes Young Carers, Golspie - Respite break bus hire and groceries	£660
· Fèis Chataibh, Golspie - Support for tuition sessions	£300
· Rosehall Pri Parent Council – Minibus hire and a drama workshop at Eden Court	£480
· Community Care Assynt, Lochinver - Tableware/crockery replacement costs	£255
· Dornoch Academy Library - Outdoor storyteller event	£250
· Sutherland Sessions - Support traditional music gigs in East Sutherland	£500

I am delighted we were again able to support good causes in the county and particularly pleased on the range of applicants this year, which allowed us to donate to the west, north and east coast, as well as central Sutherland.

That means we donated over £4,400 to good causes in Sutherland this year. This latest round of donations means that in 13 years we have raised and donated over £31,000 to good causes.

I take this opportunity to thank all our committee members, especially Anne and Steven, and those who have supported and donated throughout the year, including our Patron, David.

Next year I look forward to our Loanhead ceilidh and Christmas dinner, but we should consider a Sutherland ceilidh and work on a sponsored event with David Mackay.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven asked Anne Macintosh, Treasurer, for her report.

Anne said:

At the end of April 2023 we had a balance of £5,160.00 in the current account and £3,023.63 in the NS & I savings account, making a total of £8,183.63.

The balance at 29/11/2023 is £4,861.23. The current account £1,837.60 and the savings account £3,023.63.

She added that our fundraising income came from:

Croft Ceilidh £1,399.00 less expenses of £650.79 Profit of £748.21

Christmas dinner £910.00 less £628.95 Profit of £281.05

We received donations from:

David Morrison 1,000.00

David Paterson 100.00

Mr & Mrs Mackenzie 150.00

Total 1,250.00

Other Income

Amazon Smile 29.51

Charitable Donation 4,131.00

5. DONATIONS

Andrew Mackenzie covered this in the President's Remarks.

6. FUNCTIONS 2022/23

Andrew Mackenzie conformed that the Loanhead ceilidh would be on 15 March and that the venue and band were confirmed. He also noted he was trying to secure Emma Scalpay Macleod as the singer.

He noted his desire to have a Sutherland Ceilidh, possible in Lairg May or June. Steven offered to enquire with family about options for accommodation in Lairg. It was suggested that some of those in the local area who had benefited from funding might assist us with the ceilidh. A sponsored event with David Mackay was also discussed.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

It was agreed that the following office bearers would remain in their current positions:

President – Andrew Mackenzie

Vice-President – Willie Macintosh

Treasurer – Anne Macintosh

Secretary – Steven Anderson

Rachel Haworth, Christine Smith and Lorraine Smith, Morven Sutherland, Lynne O'Brien, opted to remain on the committee. It was noted that Gordon Black would remain as Honorary Auditor. Sandra Chalmers remains the Honorary President. David Mackay was absent but remains on the committee.

8. AOCB

There was a discussion about online events. Andrew suggested this might be an option for interviews with famous folk linked to Sutherland, such as David Mackay, the Virgin pilot, and Jimmy Yuill, the actor.

Anne asked whether we should increase the price of Loadhead ceilidh ticket price or leave it at £15. After a discussion it was agreed that the price should be increased to £20.

Steven Anderson thanked everyone for attending and brought the meeting to a close.

Close of meeting