



AGM 2024

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Edinburgh Sutherland Association
held at 7pm on Wed 18th December - by Zoom call.**

1. APOLOGIES

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

Rachel Haworth
David Mackay
Sandra Chalmers
Stewart Chalmers
Chris Fraser
Robin Sutherland
Andy & Maureen Sanders
Lorraine Smith
Morven Sutherland

He recorded that those present were:

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

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

Steven proposed the previous minutes –Lynne proposed Christine seconding.

3. ESA AGM 2024 President's Remarks

Andrew Mackenzie said:

We have had another successful year at the Edinburgh Sutherland Association.

This year we enjoyed a great annual ceilidh dance in Loanhead. Sandy Brechin and Emma Macleod again provided the entertainment. We also held a ceilidh in Stoer support by Rory Matheson and another successful Christmas dinner.

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

- Strathnaver Community Hall - £250 for a new cooker
- Fèis air an Oir - £600 fees for young assistant teacher at the Fèis
- Sutherland Care Forum - £250 for supplies for Befriending services
- Connect Assynt Ltd - £200 - towards Ullapool supermarket transport
- North Coast Connection - £150 for art & craft supplies
- Culrain & District Hall Committee - £580 for events marquee tent
- Dornoch Pipe Band - £275 for new pipe bag covers
- Lochview Rural Training - £250 for an educational resource box
- Clyne Heritage Society - £300 towards a research trip to School of Scottish Studies
- Assynt Mountain Rescue Team - £360 towards new all terrain tyres
- Assynt Leisure, Youth & Learning centre - £250 towards craft supplies
- Lairg Gaelic Choir - £400 towards costs for commissioning a new song/arrangement inspired by the Clearances in the Strath of Kildonan
- Golspie Youth Action Project - £300 for personalised hi-vis vests

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 £35,000 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.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven asked Anne Macintosh, Treasurer, for her report.

Balances as at 30 04 24			
Treasurer's Account	3931.18		
National Savings	<u>3047.02</u>		
Total	<u>6978.20</u>		
Income			
Croft Ceilidh	1340.00	Xmas Dinner	1100.00
Less Expenses	<u>-741.42</u>	less expenses	<u>-639.15</u>
Surplus	<u>598.58</u>	Surplus	<u>460.85</u>
Donations Received			
David Morrison	2000.00	National Saving	
David paterson	<u>100.00</u>	Interest	<u>23.39</u>
Total	<u>2100.00</u>	Amazon Smile	<u>19.75</u>
No new memberships			
We made donations of	<u>£4,408.00</u>	(as detailed by Andrew in his report)	
End report by thanking Gordon Black for examining the accounts.			

5. DONATIONS

Andrew Mackenzie covered this in the President's Remarks. (Section 3.) And also please see Treasurer's report (Section 4)

6. FUNCTIONS 2025

Loanhead Ceilidh in March - Date TBC March? Friday 07 or 14

Andrew suggested we should look to have another Sutherland Ceilidh again this coming year but keep it simple - what's the model, BYOB, no food - like the successful Stoer Ceilidh Andrew organised this year.

Drumbeg – potential for Rory to do a Drumbeg Ceilidh this year – Andrew will look into this.

North coast – potential for informal August Ceilidh? Anne and Lynne will look into this.

Potential for another Quiz- Steven And Andrew will look into it. Possibly May time?

David Mackay Sponsorship event – hasn't happened yet but potential there – Andrew will discuss with David/ others who may want to participate.

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

Morven happy to remain on committee.

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.

Look to expand new members of the committee.

8. AOCB

Anne asked whether we should have a shorter period for the supper at the Loanhead ceilidh? General view is that it's not a big interruption – suggestion that we could do raffle at the door as people come in on a separate table - we agreed to trial that this year.

Lynne raised that we should be encouraging people to pre-pay in advance for tickets rather than last minute as sometimes we have catered for numbers who then cannot show. This is not a huge issue but we agreed we will push this going forward.

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

Close of meeting