

INVERNESS EVENTS AND FESTIVALS WORKING GROUP
Minutes of the meeting held at 15:00 on Friday 5 July 2013
Committee Room 2, Town House, Inverness

In Attendance

Members

Cllr Glynis Sinclair (GS) (Chair)
Cllr Fraser Parr (FP)
Cllr Carolyn Caddick (CC)
Cllr Graham Ross (GR)

Partners / Officers

David Haas (DH)
Mike Smith (MC)
Gerry Reynolds (GRR)
Jackie Cuddy (JC)
Victoria Paterson (VP)
Lorraine Farquharson (LF)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Colin Marr

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 April 2013

Accepted as a true record.

3. Minutes of the Briefing held on 5 June 2013

Accepted as a true record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- *GRR provided an update on the progress made with Procurement regarding Fireworks. DH updated that there is no requirement to Procure as Fireworks are now classed as an act. The group agreed for GRR to set up a meeting between DH and Ashley Gould.*
- *CC gave a brief update on the Armed Forces Day Event held on Saturday 29 June 2013.*

5. Budget 2013-2014

- *GRR provided an update on the budget and it was noted £20,000 has been spent to date. GRR advised that he will have a more accurate understanding of the budget position for the year after the Inverness Highland Games are done and ticket sales were known.*
- *The Partners agreed to have a meeting after the Highland Games to discuss the option of a traditional summer evening event. GS suggested a Ceilidh in the Park which could bring in the locals and tourists.*

6. Bunkers Festival July 12th July 13th

GRR updated that the Bunkers Festival which would be focused on the Town House rather than the Castle. The Town House will be opened every Thursday evening for Highland Dancing. The

Legions Pipe Band will be starting at the Castle on Tuesday night. There will be a launch after the Scottish Open has finished. GRR will arrange for a press release to go out.

7. Highland Games July 20th

- *GRR updated the Partners that the Provost and the Highland Games Committee have sent a letter of condolences to the Calgary Highland Games.*
- *GRR gave an update on the changes to the Highland Games. The Highland Games this year is expanding into the Northern Meeting Park.*
 - Changes are -*
 - *Toddlers Race for under 5's starting at 11am*
 - *New Junior 3 Event Competition*
 - *Return of the Clan Village*
 - *Highland Dancing Competitions Return*
 - *Solo Piping located in the garden at the top of Ardross Street*
 - *Introducing Female Heavy Events*
 - *Disability riding bringing in Shetland ponies.*
 - *Disability Curling will be coming in for a demonstration*
 - *Introducing Scottish Backhold Wrestling*
 - *Members are asked to note due to the Clan Village the car park will be situated at the Town House.*
- *GRR also updated on the Crafts Fare. He had been pushed hard to get more crafts involved. The craft sellers ask that a marquee be supplied which currently there are no resources for. GRR suggested that in future years it may be possible to have a craft event on the Sunday with the use of the clan tent.*
- *GRR updated on selling of tickets. It was planned to start selling tickets on the Friday and to use the steeple shop as a box office. JC offered the use of Eastgate if volunteers could be found to man the sales point.*
- *A French fashion shoot are sending over 11 people to use the Highland Games as a backdrop for their fashion shoot also there is a French TV crew who are interested in coming over which is to be confirmed. Colin Simpson, Tourism Co-ordinator has agreed to sponsor some staff t-shirts.*

8. Highland Strongman August 17th

- *GRR gave an update on the Highland Strongman – a new free event building on the tradition of stone lifting at the Northern Meeting Highland Games in 1822 and the success of the event organised by Forge Gym over the past two years. This year's event will take place in the Northern Meeting Park in the evening of Saturday August 17th.*

9. Any Other Business

- *VP noted that GRR will be attending her next meeting at the end of July in the Drumossie Hotel and that GRR will be giving a briefing for Highland Homecoming.*

10. Date of Next Meeting – 15.00 on Wednesday 2nd October in Committee Room One