

INVERNESS EVENTS AND FESTIVALS WORKING GROUP
Minutes of the meeting held at 15:00 on Friday 13 September 2013
Committee Room 1, Town House, Inverness

In Attendance

Members

Cllr Glynis Sinclair (GS) (Chair)
Cllr Graham Ross (GR)

Partners / Officers

David Haas (DH)
Mike Smith (MC)
Gerry Reynolds (GRR)
Lorraine Farquharson (LF)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Colin Marr, Cllr Fraser Parr, Cllr Carolyn Caddick, Jackie Cuddy and Victoria Paterson

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 July 2013

Accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- *GRR provided an update on the progress made with Procurement regarding progress made for tendering for the provision of Merchandise and Grant Application Services.*
- *GRR advised that the Tuesday night Piping and Thursday night Highland Dancing Displays in July and August had been successfully staged and had been well received.*
- *It was noted that GRR had briefed the Inverness Hotel Association regarding the remainder of 2013 and 2014.*
- *It was noted that the Inverness Highland Games and the Highland Strongman events had been successfully staged and that the fashion shoot undertaken by La Monde at the Games had gone particularly well.*
- *It was noted that GRR had attended the 100th Calgary Highland Games and participated in the Opening Ceremony and presented awards at the end of the day.*

4. Budget 2013-2014

GRR provided an update on the budget and it was noted that the Inverness Highland Games had cost £19079 to stage. It was noted that the budget for the year had been revised to £320,000 and GRR circulated copies of the latest forecast for each of the events in the programme

5. Winter Festival

- *Mike Smith provided details of the programme for the Street Theatre Festival.*
- *It was agreed that a Press Conference would be held on Oct 10th to launch the Winter Festival programme of the Street Theatre Festival, Halloween, Bonfire, Christmas Lights, Winter Wonderland and Hogmanay. (Action GRR/ MS)*
- *It was agreed that MS would advise GRR when a presentation should be made to the BID Members*

- *It was agreed that GRR would speak to David Haas regarding a briefing to the Tourism BID Steering Group.*
- *The Working Group then discussed the arrangements for Hogmanay 2013 and GRR outlined details of the additional activities being organised by Unique Events on behalf of EventScotland's Homecoming 2014 team.*
- *GRR to confirm that Arts in Motion would have access to the building opposite the Town House for the Christmas Lights Event (Action GR)*
- *The Working Group then discussed the arrangements for guests attending the Christmas Lights event.*

6. 2014 Programme

The Working Group then discussed the arrangements for the Highland Homecoming Festival in 2014. It was noted that EventScotland had requested a joint meeting be organised to which the organisers of all the major events being staged in Inverness during the Highland Homecoming be invited. (Action GRR)

GRR advised the Working Group of the changes that had been made to the Masters World Championship programme to accommodate a world record entry of 190 competitors. It was noted that an application had been submitted to the Guinness Book of World Records and that the estimated economic impact of the event had been revised upwards to £1.5m to accommodate the extra day of competition that it was now required.

GS asked the Working Group to note that an additional ring fenced budget was to be sort for this event.

The Working Group then discussed the programme of entertainment to be organised around the Masters World Championship weekend.

GRR distributed copies of the events which had been registered with EventScotland for 2014.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

3pm December 6th 2013
3pm February 28th 2014
3pm April 25th 2014
3pm 27th June 2014
3pm 29th August 2014
3pm 31st October 2014
3pm 19th December 2014