

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on Wednesday 10th July 2019 At Stratton House Hotel

Present:

Committee

Annemarie Thurgood (President), David Fowles (Vice President), Adam Vines (Vice President), Howard Smith (Treasurer), Jan Sparrow, Hilary Norris-Evans, Howard Burr, Russell Jones-Walker, Mark Harris, Fran Coulter, Hannah Hockley and Claire Wardell (Secretary)

Members

Des Coates, Virginia Stourton, Christine Gore, Simon King, Aidan Stevens, Carlo Vuolo, Amanda Wallis, Vicky Henderson, Jonathan Street, Kay Ransom, Susan Chamberlain, Patrick Coleman, Richard Collishaw, Terry Lockwood, Tony Golby, Karl Rudzki, Ian McIntyre, Phillip Bishop, Ian Johnston, Gaynor Hutton, Peter Allison, Sharla Dandy, Richard Dodd, Cheryl Waring

Guests

James Hollway, Tony Morris, Amelia Bishop, Sue O'Neil, Greg Nicol, Jon Leamon

1. Apologies for Absence

Dee Simpson, Steph Smyth, Sir Geoffrey Clifton Brown, Helen Wallace, Gary Barber, Caroline McShane, Sarah Tenent-Bell

2. Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved, to add Jan Sparrow.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. **President's Report (Annemarie Thurgood)**

I would like to thank you all for your support over the past few months. Something I think is great and will be built upon next year is the level of attendees at monthly meetings, in some cases it has doubled. The breakfasts are in their third year and doing well. It's great to see so many people making the most of their membership.

I think we have all enjoyed visiting different venues around the town and will continue to do so next year. We have also had some great speakers, if any of you are here tonight, I would like to say thank you.

Membership is holding steady at 135 but I would like to see it increase if possible to about 160.

Over the next few months we will be focusing our attentions on meeting our member's needs and we will continue where we left off from our lobbying meeting and we will shortly be sending out a questionnaire to see how the chamber can help. If as many of you as possible could try and fill this out it would be greatly appreciated.

I would also like to let you know that if you ever have any feedback in regards to the chamber, good or bad, any ideas to improve it, please do let us know. This is not one person's chamber it belongs to all of its members and I value all your views.

Last but in no way least, Jen Winnett will be stepping down from the committee and I would like to say a huge thank to her from the whole committee for her time, help and enthusiasm over the past year, she will be greatly missed.

5. **Treasurer's Report (Howard Smith)**

As new treasurer Howard has decided along with the committee to change the end of year date. This will make our accounting easier and will be a better way to monitor our finances. This year's accounts are run from March 2018 until the end of June 2019.

If anyone wishes to see a copy of our accounts please feel free to contact us.

The chamber is a non-profit organisation and tends to just about cover its running cost. Although it appears a slight deficit the chamber has reserves to cover itself, due to increase in subscription fees which were applied in September 2018, we should start to see a slight increase in funds.

Howard also mentioned that the chambers costings are obviously increasing each year with inflation, for things such as insurances, events along with running day costs.

Proposer: David Fowles; Seconded by: Mark Harris

Approved by a unanimous show of hands

show of hands

Election of Officers

Election of the President:

Les Stephens's unfortunately had to step down last year, and as Vice President Annemarie stepped in. David Fowles explained what a fantastic job Annemarie has done so far. Annemarie is now happy to stand as President.

David Fowles asked the members if they were happy for Annemarie to undertake the role as President.

Nominated: **Annemarie Thurgood**

Proposer: Mark Harris; Seconded by: Vicky Henderson

Elected by a unanimous show of hands

Election of the Vice-Presidents

David Fowles & Adam Vines will stand as Joint Vice Presidents

Nominated: **Adam Vines** and **David Fowles**

Proposer: Howard Smith; Seconded by: Aidan Stevens

Elected by a unanimous show of hands

Election of the Treasurer

.Howard Smith, is happy to continue as treasurer of the Committee

Nominated: **Howard Smith**

Proposer: David Fowles Seconded by: Jan Sparrow

Elected by a unanimous show of hands

Election of the Executive Committee:

The remaining Committee Members have agreed to stand again and were duly elected to do so, these are:

Jan Sparrow, Hilary Norris-Evans, Howard Burr, Mark Harris, Russell Jones-Walker, Adam Vines, Fran Coulter and Hannah Hockley

Elected by a unanimous show of hands

Election of New Committee members:

N/A

(New committee members can be appointed during the year, if required)

9 **Any Other Business**

None

Dates of Next Meetings

The next Network Meeting will be on 11th September 2019 and the next Breakfast Meeting is 19th September 2019.

The date of the next AGM is to be confirmed – provisional date 8th July 2020.

The members and guests were invited to stay on to network.

End of meeting at 7.15pm