

## **Castor, Ailsworth and District Gardeners' Society**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (followed by a quiz session)**

**Present:** Mr Edmund Humphries (Chairman) and 35 officers and members. The meeting was thus quorate.

**Apologies:** Margaret Sharpe, the Hemingrays, Steve Grys, the Ardrons, the Gibsons, the Hudson Peacocks, Carol Mackaoui, Ian Sheldon, the Chilcotts (senior) the Sansoms, the Armstrongs and the McCloughlans

**Agenda:** Notice of Meeting (taken as read)  
Apologies (see above)  
Minutes of previous AGM (and matters arising)  
Chairman's Remarks  
Secretary's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Election of Officers and Main Committee Members  
Reviewing annual subscription  
Any other business

**1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016**

These Minutes were read aloud and approved nom com.

**2. Matters arising from those Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**3. Chairman's Remarks**

Edmund Humphries began by thanking the Main Committee for its support and hard work during the year. Alas John Finnie (Chairman of the Show Committee) was standing down for personal reasons. The Chairman wished to express the gratitude of all members for his contribution, particularly with the Annual Show, over many years.

The Society had enjoyed another successful year, starting with Geoff Hodge's talk before the last AGM (and his contribution to raffle prizes!) Other highlights include:-

- our overnight trip to the Malvern Spring Show and Birmingham Botanical Gardens
- our contribution to the procession to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- interesting visits to Alwalton Manor House Garden (20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June)
- bowls and barbeque evening in Peter and Ann Huckle's garden (23<sup>rd</sup> July)
- a very successful Annual Show in September
- a cheese and wine evening with quiz led by Peter Huckle
- an illustrated talk by Bunny Guinness about Highgrove Garden
- an illustrated presentation by Rector Ridgeway on plants flourishing in China (part 2 to follow)
- on 17<sup>th</sup> March we had a musical evening (with poetry) provided by the Hayley Sisters.

Having had a very successful last year we look forward to a full agenda for 2017/18.

#### 4. **Secretary's Report**

Adrian Davies reported continuing progress with the 'action driven' accountability drive behind Main Committee activities. Links with RHS continue to produce new opportunities e.g. for prestige garden visits.

Action is in hand to develop links with other horticultural societies in our area e. eg. Werrington, Orton Waterville and U3A. This should produce extra attendance at our public events and is beginning to do so.

Our constitution continues to guide our activities in the background. We have decided to issue membership cards (with the year's programme) to all members backed up by our active website.

#### 5. **Treasurer's Report**

David Edwards presented his income/expenditure account for 2016/2017, which shows a very healthy picture. This shows a notional surplus of £1,967.25 (last year £1,319.55). Income had increased to £4,958.36 and expenditure had fallen to £2,991.11. At year-end total assets were £2,473.49 (last year £1,825.34). The process of building reserves to fund top level speakers was continuing.

Our current account continues with Lloyds, and a visit to Barclays by signatories to the deposit account is planned, in order to close it. Its balance is frozen at £506.24.

#### 6. **Election of Officers and Committee Members**

Proposals had been received in respect of all vacancies, with the exception of Show Committee Chairman. Susan Hillier had retired from the Committee, but Susan Humphries was a candidate to replace her. No other new candidates had emerged which was disappointing.

Tony Corke took the Chair to announce the nomination of Edmund Humphries as Chairman. He was elected by acclamation. Each of the other posts was elected in turn – all by acclamation. David Edwards was re-elected as Deputy Chairman as well as Treasurer.

The full listing of Officers and Main Committee members is now:-

		<b>Secunder</b>
Chairman	Edmund Humphries	Caroline Ingram
Treasurer	David Edwards	Edmund Humphries
Secretary	Adrian Davies	Kerry Davies
Chairman of Show Committee	Vacant	
Membership Secretary	Susan Edwards	Caroline Ingram
Social Cttee Chairman	Peter Huckle	Ann Huckle
Main Committee	Brian Hillier	Susan Hillier
	Caroline Ingram	Susan Edwards
	Susan Humphries	Susan Edwards

No election is held for the post of President. Invitation comes from the Main Committee and it will now be necessary to renew Margaret Sharpe's mandate.

**Action: Main Committee**

**7. Reviewing Annual Subscription**

Following last year's changes, membership now costs £5/year and £12/3 years. Family rates are double these. There was no resolution to change subscription rates at this AGM.

**8. Other Business**

EH announced that this year's Annual Show would take place on 19<sup>th</sup> August. Many members were away in September, hence the change of date. The Show this year would be managed by a sub-committee of the Main Committee, which EH would lead and would constitute, with assistance from John Finnie for the last time.

**Action: EH**

SE reported that membership was now 165 (a record). More members were needed to share a more ambitious programme. She intended to talk to allotment holders about joining CADGS.

**Action: SE**

CI reported that the website had 30/40 hits in recent months. It needed to be used more to engage members. There was no response from Facebook.

Another target for outside relationships was the Hardy Plant Society.

**Action: AD to contact**

At 8.15 pm the Chairman closed the Meeting.

Signed as a correct record .....

Date .....