

THACS
TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

**Minutes of the eighteenth Annual General Meeting held at Tewin Memorial Hall on
Monday 14th January 2019**

The meeting was attended by 31 members and 5 non-members.

1 Apologies

Jenny Doxey, John Gilley, Linda Gilley, Mavis Haggard, Anne Hall, Debbie Hall, Ann Lee, Ian Murray, Jude O'Sullivan (non-member), Hilary Tipping, Julia Tizard, Kate Winters and Kirston Winters.

2 Minutes of the 2018 AGM

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were accepted without amendment. There were no matters arising.

Proposed: Mike Clark

Seconded: Lynne Burgess

3 Chairman's Report for 2018

Ray Keppler presented the Chairman's Report for 2018. A copy of the report is appended.

4 Treasurer's Report for 2018

Malcolm Allen presented the Treasurer's Report for financial year 1st November 2017 to 31st October 2018. A copy of the report and accounts is appended.

He expressed his thanks to Graham Spring for his work as Independent Examiner.

The accounts were accepted by the members.

Proposed: Anna Clark

Seconded: Sue Whitbourn

5 Election of Officers, Committee & Auditor for 2018

The following officers were elected without opposition.

Chair Ray Keppler
 (for 11th year)

Proposed: Committee

Seconded: Terry Brand

Vice Chair Jim Hall
 (for 3rd year)

Proposed: Ray Keppler

Seconded: Alice Greenwood

Treasurer Malcolm Allen
(for 8th year)

Proposed: Ray Keppler

Seconded: Mike Clark

Secretary Tina Lord
(for 3rd year)

Proposed: Ray Keppler

Seconded: Audrey Walters

The remaining members of the committee, Terry Brand, Lynne Burgess and Alice Greenwood were re-elected.

Proposed: Peter Burgess

Seconded: Keith St. Pierre

The motion that Graham Spring should remain as Independent Examiner of the accounts was accepted by the members.

Proposed: Mike Clark

Seconded: Joanne Allen

6 Changes to Constitution and Rules

Ray Keppler stated that, as members had been notified, the committee was proposing a change to the constitution to give more flexibility on setting the date of the AGM. The intention would be to hold future AGMs in March (rather than January), which should prove more convenient for members and guest speakers, in that there was less likelihood of travel to the meeting being disrupted by severe weather.

The change was proposed by Jim Hall, seconded by Keith St. Pierre and agreed by the membership without dissent.

The revised paragraph of the constitution reads as follows:

An Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held no later than 30th April of each year for the purpose of: receiving the Committee's report on the work of the Society during the preceding year; receiving a Receipts and Payments Account and Balance Sheet signed by the Auditor; electing Officers and members of the Committee; any other business, of which three weeks' notice has been given to the Honorary Secretary or which the Chair shall rule is in order. Decisions taken at an Annual General Meeting shall be by a majority decision.

7 Preview of 2019

Ray Keppler spoke about forthcoming events and projects that the committee would be tackling over the coming year.

He drew attention to the information on proposed and fixed events for the current year, which was displayed at the back of the Hall, which were as follows:

- Creative writing workshop on 19th March
- Spring Show on 6th April
- Plant stall at the village fete on 29th June
- Garden visit in July
- Autumn Show on 7th September
- Creative writing workshop in October
- Art workshop on printmaking in November
- Art and craft fair on 7th December

- Museum or Art gallery visit in December

Attendees were invited to select their preferred garden visit from a shortlist of four, as well as to leave comments and ideas about other activities, both new and existing.

He went on to report that the committee was developing a revised communication strategy following the demise of the Newsletter. He stressed that effective communication was key to the success of *THACS* and said that the committee was concerned that some members, who had previously received a paper copy of the Newsletter, might lose contact with the Society. However, he set out three ways in which those members could continue to access information in the future:

- Switching to receiving email communications
- Taking out a subscription to *Tewin Magazine*
- Checking the *THACS* page on the *Tewin* website

Ray went on to talk about the ongoing work to enhance the *THACS* web page and to make it more user friendly. He noted that the *THACS* home page had received just under 1,000 hits during 2018 and said the aim was to collect more detailed statistics and utilise them to inform the improvements as well as to judge the success of the website as a source of information. He asked for assistance in this process from anyone with the necessary skills and for others to come forward, if they were willing to test and review the new webpages.

Malcolm Allen said that a great deal had been achieved in 2018 with a small committee and a large group of helpers. He wondered if even more could be undertaken with more people to share the load. He invited suggestions from the membership about any new activities, in which members would like to participate. He further encouraged new people to help organise events and to join the committee.

8 Any Other Business

None.

9 Date and Time of the next AGM

Notice was given that the next AGM would take place on Monday 23rd March 2020 at 7.30pm at the *Tewin Memorial Hall*.

The formal meeting was then closed.

Appendices:

Chairman's report

Treasurer's report and accounts