

Harrogate and Nidderdale Art Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 22nd September 2011 at Harrogate Grammar School, Arthurs Avenue, Harrogate

Attendance club members including committee members for year 2010/11

Distribution Committee members
Club Members

Apologies Helen Cassidy
Bob Livie
Dorothy Gerrard
Leisa Mark
Susan Broadhurst
Christine Spence

1. Chairman's Report	<p>As Chair Helen was absent the Chairman's report was presented by Vice Chair Kate Stephens.</p> <p>Kate stated it was yet again a fantastic previous year. A disappointing start with the cancellation of the Autumn Exhibition due to inclement weather and the following hard winter challenging weekly meetings was followed by resounding success of the Spring Exhibition.</p> <p>The Spring Exhibition surpassed the previous 5 years takings. There were record entries and record sales, up £2,000 on the previous year. 75% sales were made on the new credit/debit card machine which it is believed increased sales. The machine had been purchased as a result of the hard work of the committee in the previous year and current, in particular Robin Corner.</p> <p>The committee has little to do with the running of the exhibitions, this is currently carried out by the Exhibition Sub Committee, lead by Helen Cassidy, comprising of many other non committee members. The committee would like to minute their formal thanks to all the hard work and effort put into running the exhibitions and making them such a success.</p> <p>Members can volunteer to help the club in many ways, not only by serving on the committee, and being part of the exhibition sub committee is one of those ways. The club needs so much help to run smoothly that we appreciate all your help.</p>
2. Treasurer's Report	<p>Robin Corner presented the Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year. Highlights as below. The accounts have been viewed by Tony Brown in his capacity as Financial Statement Examiner (previously referred to as 'auditor').</p>

	<p>At points during the year it looked worrying that the club was going to suffer many losses. Numbers dropped heavily in the autumn and the cancellation of the exhibition whilst not incurring too many cancellation costs obviously failed to raise any revenue for the club. Obviously things improved as the year went on, particularly with the Spring Exhibition and left us with a small net loss of £125.</p> <p>The issued accounts show the amalgamation of the old and the new club. It also shows only 10 months as the new year end is now at the end of June. Effectively however it is comparable to other years as the summer months have no effect on the accounts.</p> <p>The income for the year was down because of the significant drop in numbers. The Autumn Exhibition made a loss of £72 because Ripley kindly let us off paying the rental fee for cancelled exhibition. However the Spring Exhibition brought in £652, £400 more than previous year.</p> <p>Costs were down overall as the hall rental at St Aelred's was cheaper than Trinity and the costs for the demos were kept to a minimum. However the equipment purchased – the credit card machine, and the increased website and database costs have increased. The equipment is obviously a one off cost however there are ongoing monthly costs for the line rental. It is expected that the website and database costs will also continue to rise, as will the cost of demonstrations if we are to maintain our high standards.</p> <p>Robin thanked Tony Brown for stepping in at the last minute to carry out the examination of the financial statements. In the past we have referred to this as 'auditing the accounts' however since incorporation as a limited company the term 'auditor' holds a more formal position and it is recommended for the future we will use the term 'financial statement examiner'.</p> <p>Robin also thanked committee member Chris Rushton for his invaluable work helping Robin to set up the limited company, produce the first set of accounts and generally giving all sorts of financial advice.</p> <p>Robin asked that the club approve the accounts as set out on the Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet. It was proposed by Mike Chantler and seconded by John West. They were universally approved.</p> <p>Robin stated the full accounts would be available on the website in a few weeks time.</p>
3. Subscriptions	Due to the increased costs this year and expected increased

	<p>costs for the coming year it is proposed that the annual fee is increased to £40. The fees have not been increased since 2007 and it is believed it still offers very good value for money with fee access to weekly club meetings from September to June.</p> <p>In addition to this as the club is 75 years old this year there will be a celebration taking part in November which the committee would like to commit some fund to. It would also like to rebuild the pot of money set to one side for one off expenditure. Currently this has been depleted by the purchase of the credit card machine. It has been drawn to attention that the club computer will need updating soon.</p> <p>It was proposed by John Carby-Hall and seconded by Tony Brown. There was 1 against however the rest agreed to the increase.</p>
<p>4. Election of the Directors and Officers</p>	<p>Helen Cassidy who has served for the past year as Chair is stepping down from the role but will continue to serve on the committee in the capacity of Exhibition Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Marina Emptage and Leisa Mark have both served the committee for 2 years and now wish to step down from the committee.</p> <p>Kate Stephens has volunteered to step up to the role of Chair. Robin Corner will continue to serve as treasurer and Marie Cousens as Secretary. Chris Rushton, Manchula Foulkes, Gwen Puckrin and John Harcourt will also continue to serve on the committee. Ian Brockett has also volunteered to join the committee for the coming year.</p> <p>Kate formally thanked the members of the committee who had served over the past year, in particular those who were stepping down from their roles, Helen as chair, Marina as Membership Secretary and Leisa Mark as librarian.</p> <p>The nominations will be treated as a block. Proposer Dulcie Darlington and seconded by Janet Carby-Hall. They were universally accepted</p>
<p>5. Election of Financial Statement Examiner</p>	<p>Tony Brown volunteered to take up the role again as Financial Statement Examiner. Proposed by Michael Salkild and seconded by Robin Corner. Universally accepted.</p>
<p>6. Any Other Business</p>	<p>Tony Brown brought up the issue of the computer and stated it would probably do for this year but a new one would be needed for next year.</p> <p>John West asked about resuming the Club trips to see art exhibitions around the country. Kate asked if this was an idea generally approved and the majority of members said they were in favour. Kate then explained that the club would support club trips however the committee would need</p>

	<p>additional support to organise these trips. In addition it would be better that a group of people organise the trips rather than depend on just one person. If members want to volunteer for the role can they let a member of the committee know in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Kate explained the new programme was now available. Hard copies could be collected from the club over the next few weeks however it will also be placed on the club website for members to print off.</p> <p>Michael Salkild stated he still had the club projector. Kate asked if he could hold onto it until we could find a new home.</p> <p>The club celebrates its 75th anniversary this year by a meal on Friday 11th November at Ascot House, Harrogate. Gwen has arranged a lovely menu and there will be entertainment on the night. Gillian Dunsmore has also volunteered to bake a celebratory cake which will be served to members at the meal. There will be a special raffle which the committee are already sourcing the prizes. More details will be issued soon. There would be no Christmas meal out this year.</p> <p>It was decided that to make it special the club would decorate the room with an arty theme. Each member will be issued with a triangle of white fabric. This can be decorated in any manner they choose. They should be returned to Manchula Foulkes before 27th October and she will assemble into bunting. This bunting can also be used to decorate the rooms at the exhibitions and the Christmas and Summer Socials.</p>	
<p>7. Members Present</p>	<p>Ian Brocket, Tony Brown Janet Carby Hall John Carby Hall James Chan Mike Chantler Rosemary Chapman Julie Clark Robin Corner Marie Cousens Susan Dalby Dulcie Darlington Diana Davis Harry Duffill Gillian Dunsmore Ray Fiddes Manchula Foulkes Ros Gascoyne Margaret Guenin John Harcourt Muriel Illingworth</p>	<p>Ann Jenkins Beverley Jenkins Anne Lawless Bob Livie Christine Muir Ray Murtimer Christopher Noble David Perks Pat Rowntree Michael Salkild Jane Scales Malcolm Simm Yvonne Spence Ann Walker John West Ron Whittell</p>