

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS OF QUANTOCK

HELD AT ST MARY'S CHURCH CENTRE, NETHER STOWEY

ON WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2017

Present: Major D White (Vice-President), Mr A Hughes (Chairman), Mrs L Kelly (Vice-Chairman), Mr C Paul (Treasurer), Mrs M ter Braak (Secretary), Mrs C Waterman-Smith (Minutes Secretary), Mr I Kett, Mrs S Samuelson, Mr M Pitcher, Mr D Lloyd, Mr T Whittingham, Mr P Comer, Mr C Edwards and 58 members.

The Chairman welcomed the large group of members present and passed on the good wishes of Lady Gass who was unable to be present. He announced with sadness the death of former Vice-President Commander Maurice Ingram who had been a long serving member and had held the Chair for three years. Former Treasurer Geoffrey Stoate had also passed away since the previous AGM.

The Chairman welcomed Professor Peter Haggett who would give a talk on 'A Quantock Light: Changing Representations of Quantock Country in Art' following the AGM.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were received from Major and Mrs A Mitford-Slade, Mrs B Stokes, Mrs B Shaw, Mr J Fawcett, Mr R Osborne, Mrs P Stokes, Mrs J Leonhardt, Mr and Mrs R Conway, Mrs M Creswell, Mr and Mrs M Richardson, Mrs J Swash, Mr J White, Mr J Anderson Mrs D Mahoney, Mr M Gambier and Mr and Mrs C Yates.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 MARCH 2016: the Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising.

ANNUAL REPORT: (*a full copy of the 2016 Trustees' Report and Annual Review can be found in the Spring 2017 newsletter*). The Chairman stated that 2016 had been a year of consolidation. The major issue had been the delay with the Heritage Lottery Fund application which would be re-submitted in May. Indications pointed to a favourable outcome in October 2017.

The Chairman thanked all officers and committee members as well as all observers and other helpers. He welcomed two new observers, Dr Jasmine Lucas and Mr Phillip Comer and stressed the continuing need for volunteers. The newsletter committee was congratulated on producing another excellent and informative Spring newsletter. The Chairman remarked on the interesting programme of events for the forthcoming year and drew attention to the remaining spaces on both the Crowcombe garden tour on the 10 June and the archaeological walk on the 9 May. Roger Hapgood was thanked for his fundraising walk in 2016 which he has offered to repeat in 2017 if members would like to sponsor him or accompany him on the walk.

The importance of both ordinary and business membership was highlighted by the Chairman and members were encouraged to support those businesses published in the Business Directory.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND BALANCE SHEET: (*summary Accounts are included in the AGM Agenda*). The Treasurer reported that 2016 had been a quiet year with little movement in finances resulting in an overall small increase in funds. He drew attention to the £1000 contribution to the AONB service which had been triple matched by DEFRA. The accounts had been audited. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mr T Whittingham, seconded by Mrs L Kelly and carried nem. con

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES: The Chairman explained that of the nine Trustees, three would retire by rotation each year. This year, Mr Ian Kett, Mr David Lloyd and Mrs Barbara Shaw were due to retire and had offered themselves for re-election. This re-election was proposed by Mr A Hughes, seconded by Mr P Comer and carried nem. con

MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS: There were no members' resolutions.

