

Dorking Society

Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting

Held at Crossways Hall, Junction Road, Dorking, Surrey at 19.30 on Thursday 9 September 2021

1. Chairman's welcoming address

The Chair, Jean Ward, welcomed the members present.

It was noted that Jane Le Cluse had resigned as a Trustee on 9 June 2021 and Jean Ward had been appointed by the remaining Trustees as Chair in her place.

Jean Ward, on behalf of the Society, formally thanked Jane Le Cluse for all her hard work and support for the Society over the years during which she had been Chair and, in particular, during the Covid 19 pandemic as evidenced by the Dorking Museum being awarded the Queens Award for Volunteering.

2. Election of President

Jean Ward proposed that Sir Adrian White CBE DL be re-elected as president. This was seconded by both Chris Heaps and Peter Sturge. The re-election was agreed unanimously.

3. Apologies for absence

The Secretary to the Trustees noted apologies for absence received from Erica Chambers, Paul Elderton, Ben Lee, Gary Brooks, Andrew Lovett, Jenny Partridge, Peter Pemberton, Phil Smith, and Sue Tombs.

4. Minutes of the 2018 AGM held on 16 May 2019 and matters arising

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 16 May 2019 was proposed by Gwen Wood and seconded by Elaine Simmons. The minutes were approved without amendment.

There were no matters arising.

5. Chairman's report

In her report the Chair noted that:

- The last year had been very challenging on account of Covid 19, but despite this it had been a remarkably successful period for the Society as a whole during which it, despite the enforced closure of the Dorking Museum, had found new and enduring ways of engaging with its members and the public. Her heartfelt thanks went out to all the volunteers who

through their dedication and hard work had made this possible.

- The clearest acknowledgment of their efforts was the Dorking Museum being awarded the Queens Award for Voluntary Service with a special recognition for its work during the pandemic. The award ceremony had taken place that afternoon with a certificate signed by HM The Queen presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey to Kathy Atherton on behalf of all the volunteers.
- The Local History Group, being unable to meet face to face, had continued to hold meetings by Zoom. These had been very successful drawing attendees from around the UK and elsewhere in addition to members. On account of this virtual meetings will continue to be a regular feature.
- The Conservation, Community and Planning Group had been actively engaging with local traders and other interest groups to understand better their concerns regarding the changing face of Dorking High Street and how to regenerate it now that so many people were working from home and using the internet for purchases.
- Progress in the proposed development of Unit 1B had been largely suspended due to Mole Valley DC needing to focus on the impact of Covid 19. Now this was less of an issue work on this would recommence shortly.
- A key focus for the forthcoming year would be on developing and strengthening the ways in which the Society communicates with its members and the public.

6. To receive and adopt the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018

It **WAS AGREED THAT** a query from Sir Adrian White a regarding the large reduction in cash held by the Society would be referred to the Treasurer, Andrew Lovett. His explanation for this would be added to the Summary Financial Statement presented to the meeting and the updated version of the Summary appended to the minutes of meeting. *

Subject to the above adoption of the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 was proposed by Sandra Wedgwood and seconded by Jane Le Cluse the financial accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 were adopted.

***The Treasurer subsequently advised that the reduction in cash held was due to £70,000 being transferred from cash to investments.**

7. To elect an independent examiner of accounts

The resolution to elect David Wheeler the independent examiners of accountants was proposed by Kathy Atherton and seconded by Gwen Wood. The appointment of David Wheeler was approved unanimously.

8. Election of Trustees

It was noted that as:

Jane Le Cluse had resigned as a Trustee on 9 June 2021;
Nigel Arch had resigned as a Trustee on 9 July 2021; and
Peter Camp and Mike Gooch were not seeking re-election as Trustees,

it would, in accordance with Article 29 of the Society's Articles of Association be unnecessary for any of the remaining Trustees to stand for re-election.

Benjamin Lee was proposed for election by having been co-opted as a Trustee under Article 36 of the Dorking Society's Articles of Association on 6 January 2020. The appointment of Benjamin Lee as a Trustee was confirmed.

Jean Patricia Ward was proposed for election having been co-opted as a Trustee under Article 36 of the Dorking Society's Articles of Association on 3 May 2021. The appointment of Jean Patricia Ward as a Trustee was confirmed.

Erica Anne Chambers was proposed for election by having been co-opted as a Trustee under Article 36 of the Dorking Society's Articles of Association on 30 June 2021. The appointment of Erica Anne Chambers as a Trustee was confirmed.

9. Close and date and time of next Annual General Meeting

It was noted that the next AGM of the Dorking Society would be held at a time and place to be advised.

The meeting was closed.

Signature:

Date:



Summary financial statements for 2020

Summarised versions of the balance sheet and statement of financial activities from the Society's statutory financial statements, which members are asked to approve at the AGM, are set out below together with a financial review. The full financial statements are available on our website <https://www.dorkingsociety.org.uk/>. The independent examiner has reviewed the financial statements and has not raised any matters of concern.

Financial review

At 31 December 2020 the Society's total funds stood at £944,281, of which £609,906 consisted of property assets and £334,375 of investments and net current assets.

During the year income exceeded expenditure by £21,164, but a fall in the value of investments of £33,934 resulted in a net reduction in funds of £12,770. In the course of the year the Society transferred a total of £70,000 from cash to investments.

The Society keeps its funds to both finance future projects and to provide a return to help finance day to day expenditure.

Balance sheet at 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Property	609,906	618,857
Investments	267,378	229,202
Current assets		
Stocks	11,425	13,208
Debtors	1,933	2,623
Cash	54,847	94,351
Creditors	(1,208)	(1,264)
Net current assets	66,997	108,992
Total assets	944,281	957,011
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	334,375	338,194
Endowment fund	609,906	618,857
Total funds	944,281	957,051

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	<i>2019</i>
	£	£
Income		
Donations and legacies	13,620	12,652
Charitable activities	7,816	25,108
Other trading activities	3,731	92
Investment income	10,279	11,551
Grant	25,000	
Total income	60,446	<i>49,403</i>
Expenditure		
Raising funds	7,929	11,593
Charitable activities	22,402	20,213
Other	8,951	37,895
Total expenditure	39,282	<i>69,701</i>
Gain/(loss) on investments	(33,934)	29,017
Net income/(expenditure)	(12,770)	<i>8,719</i>
Funds brought forward	957,051	948,332
Funds carried forward	944,281	<i>957,051</i>

Andrew Lovett
Treasurer
July 2021