

NORTHIAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 9 December 2022 in Northiam Village Hall.

OPEN: meeting opened at 7.30 pm with Mrs Linda Belton and Mrs Carol Knowles in the Chair.

PRESENT: The President and 68 members

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Society's 125th AGM and to the Christmas Social gathering afterwards.

1. APOLOGIES for absence; none received.

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Members were invited to obtain copies of the 2021 AGM minutes from the Secretary in the Autumn newsletter. No matters have arisen from the minutes, and they are therefore accepted. Proposed: Lynne Pomfret, seconded Peter Gunther.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The audited Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the year ending 30 September 2022 had been distributed. The Treasurer informed the AGM that the Society showed a healthy set of accounts but must continue to be prudent regarding costs as income from our main fundraiser, the plant sale, was down compared to results pre-Covid pandemic. Total Society funds amount to £9,968.26.

The Treasurer thanked Mrs. Ann Antrobus who has kindly completed the annual audit for 2022.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ACCOUNTS

With no matters arising from the Accounts, the Chairman thanked Mrs. Moon for her report and asked for a proposal to accept the audited accounts for the year ending 30 September 2022. Proposed by Mr. Michael Clark and seconded by Mr. Brian Doggett. This was agreed unanimously.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Chair then outlined the present position regarding the Office bearers and Committee Members:

Mr. Fergus Garret, Life President

Mrs. Linda Belton is willing to continue as Co-Chair

Mrs. Carol Knowles is willing to continue as Co-Chair

Mrs. Penny Bone is willing to be the Membership Secretary

Mrs. Della Weight is willing to continue as the Hon. Secretary

Mrs. Deborah Moon is willing to continue as the Hon. Treasurer

Mrs. Linda Belton is willing to be Show Secretary

Mr. Dean Charlton is willing to continue as Joint Show Secretary

Mrs. Joan Davis, Mrs. Rosemary Husey, Mrs. Julia Byron, Mr. Lewis Boshier, and Mrs. Alison Kirk are willing to continue as Committee Members. Mr. Malcom Shirley had left the Committee in 2022 due to ill health.

Mrs. Joan Davis has stood down from the position of Membership Secretary and she was thanked for her work on the committee over many years and as our Membership Secretary for the past ten years. Mrs. Bone has kindly taken on the position of Honorary Membership Secretary.

Mrs. Alison Kirk has stood down from the position of Show Secretary and she was thanked for her work on the committee and the success of the shows over many years. Mrs. Belton has kindly taken on the position of Show Secretary.

In the absence of other nominations, the Chairman asked that the voting for the above be taken en bloc and asked for a proposer and a seconder. Proposed by Mrs. Lynne Pomfret, seconded by Mr. Tony Pomfret and agreed unanimously.

6. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Mr. Garrett gave a short address on the Society's year of events and thanked the Committee for their work and the Members for their support.

7. PRESENTATIONS

The President presented the Royal Horticultural Society's Banksian Medal to Mrs. Averil Phillips.

8. The Chairman announced that the SUBSCRIPTION will remain unchanged at £5.00 per member for the calendar year 2023.
9. The Committee had no proposals to change the CONSTITUTION.
10. The Chairman proposed Mrs. Ann Antobus as HON AUDITOR which was seconded by Mr. Lewis Boshier and agreed unanimously.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In closing the Chairman thanked the Committee members for their support in 2022 and invited other Members to join the Committee for the 2023 program.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.10 pm