

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1830 Thursday 16 March 2023

St Mary's Church, Battersea Church Road, London SW11 3NA

Minutes

Present There were 42 members in attendance.

1. Chair's welcome

The Chair welcomed all present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from the following members:

- Ian Beardall, Caroline Booth, Alan Borles, John Bowis, Mhairi Brown, Janice Burrows, Sheila Campbell, Adrienne Carr, Marsha de Cordova, Mark Cornwall-Jones, Denis Doble, Richard and Caroline Heaton-Watson, Margaret Jeffery, Kathleen Laughton, Carole Marshall, Sue Marshall, Marlene Price, Sarah Rackham, John Roles, Patrick Scott, Vivien Slade, Monica Tross, Sara and John Turner, Camilla Ween, Dawn and Anthony Williams.

3. Minutes from 17 March 2022

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were approved.

4. To note the list of Officers and Trustees (see below)

- Officers serving in 2022:
 - Chair and Secretary: Michael Jubb
 - Treasurer: Ian Beardall
 - Membership Secretary: Jenny Boehm
- Trustees serving in 2022
 - Ian Beardall,
 - Jenny Boehm,
 - Clare Graham,
 - Mark Hodgkinson,
 - Michael Jubb,
 - Sue Marshall,
 - John Oughton,
 - Carol Rahn,
 - Jenny Sheridan,
 - Barbara Simmonds.

5. To elect new trustees

The Secretary reported that Ian Beardall and Sue Marshall had completed their terms of office and were not seeking re-election. He also reported that John Oughton had completed his first term of three years as a trustee and was seeking re-election for a second term. This was approved.

The Secretary also reported that he had received no nominations for election as new trustees.

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6. To approve the revised Constitution

The Secretary outlined the key changes that were proposed in the revised constitution, which had been posted on the website for four weeks, with the links sent to all members. Approval of the constitution was proposed by Mark Gitsham and seconded by Mark Hodgkinson. It was approved unanimously.

7. To receive the Annual Accounts for 2022

The Chair reported that the Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting, since the chairlift at St Mary's was broken. He outlined key features of the Accounts, which had been posted on the website for four weeks, with the links sent to all members. He drew attention in particular to the legacy from the estate of Joan Brittain, which had been used to fund work with families with young children, undertaken by the local charity Love to Learn to Read, with support from the Sir Walter St John Educational Charity. The Accounts had been signed off by an independent examiner.

The Chair also reported that Ian Beardall was resigning as Treasurer after nine years. He proposed a vote of thanks to Ian, and this was approved unanimously.

8. To receive the Annual Report for 2022

The Chair introduced the Annual Report, which was in a new format to comply with the requirements of the Charities Act. It had been posted on the website for four weeks, with the links sent to all members. He paid tribute to his predecessors Jenny Sheridan and Sue Demont, and thanked all the Trustees and Chairs of committees for their support during the year. He also drew attention to the strategy session held in the autumn for all Trustees and Chairs, to determine some priorities for the next 2-3 years. Work had already commenced on some changes to the Society's governance arrangements and financial procedures; and to set out a new communications and outreach strategy.

The following officers gave brief introductions to their work as set out in the Report:

Jenny Boehm, the Membership Secretary;
Jenny Sheridan, the Editor of *Battersea Matters*;
Carol Rahn, the trustee responsible for the website;
Mark Gitsham, Chair of the Community Committee;
Sue Demont, Chair of the Heritage Committee;
Clare Graham, Chair of the Open Spaces Committee; and
Liz Walton, Chair of the Planning Committee.

9. Vote of thanks and closing remarks

In addition to the vote of thanks to Ian Beardall (see 7 above), the Chair proposed votes of thanks to two members who were retiring after very long service:

Sue Marshall, who had served as a trustee since 2008, far longer than any other member in recent memory, as well as a valued member of the Open Spaces Committee.

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Mike Roden, who had been a one-man IT department for the Society for more years than anyone could remember, running the website, the membership database, and the member updates emailed to all members, as well as providing regular and very popular contributions to *Battersea Matters*. His contributions to the Society were immeasurable, and we were pleased that he would continue with his more recent monthly *Battersea Insider* newsletter.

Both votes of thanks were approved unanimously.

There was no other business and the AGM concluded at 7.15pm

The AGM was followed by a talk by Guest Speaker, Rev Betsy Blatchley who gave a talk on the work of the Nine Elms Arts Ministry.