

Chiltern District Welsh Society

www.chilternwelsh.org

Minutes of the 18th Annual General Meeting Friday, 11th May 2018 at Coleshill Village Hall Chaired by Kay Day

Present: 40 members of the Society; 12 members sent apologies for absence.

- 1 Kay Day declared the meeting quorate.
- 2 **Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting** held on 5th May 2017 had been circulated and were unanimously approved proposed by Peter Day and seconded by David Powell.

3 Chairman's Report

Kay Day welcomed everyone and reviewed the Society's past year.

Kay reported the death in July 2017 of Mike Stythe, a long-standing and much respected member of the Society, known (inter alia) for the meticulous planning of the many events that he organised; he will be fondly remembered.

The General Data Protection Regulations ("GDPR") were due to come into force on 25th May 2018 and had presented for the Society (as for other small organisations) a complex and time-consuming challenge. A subcommittee of David Powell, Gwyndaf John and Jonathan Pegler had undertaken the work necessary to ensure that the Society would be fully compliant with GDPR and Kay thanked them for their work.

Kay reviewed the events that the Society had organised over the past year. She started by observing that the weather had disrupted two events in particular: the Christmas Drinks, when snow had limited the numbers attending to about 20 people – who, as a result, were very well catered for!; and the St David's Day Dinner which had to be postponed because of expected snow, but was successfully held in mid April. Kay particularly thanked those who had hosted events – Colin and Di Thomas (Christmas Drinks) and Ernest Morris (Summer Lunch) - as well Pam Britton and Chris Thomas who had organised the Golf Day. Members had enjoyed the performance of Meilir Jones at the rearranged St David's Day Dinner, and had also had the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of other events. Kay thanked everyone who had played a part in organising and catering for our programme of events.



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This AGM marked the end of Kay's three-year term as Chairman and she thanked all members of the Committee for their help and support; they, and the members of the Society, had made her term of office very enjoyable. She ended her report by encouraging other lady members of the Society to join the Committee.

4 Membership Report

Ann Lawrence reported that seven new members had joined during the year, of whom two (Gwen and Mike Hill) were present at the AGM and were welcomed. She reminded members that subscriptions were due on 1st April; so far 113 members had renewed their membership, but subscriptions were outstanding from 20 members.

5 Treasurer's Report and Accounts

Graham Beavan began by reporting that this AGM was likely to be his last as Treasurer since he and Anthea were hoping to move during the coming year; he invited members to volunteer for the role of Treasurer.

Graham presented the Accounts, which showed a bank balance of some £7,500 at 31 March 2018. That sum, however, included advance payments of £2,800 for the St David's Day Dinner, £1,525 for the Aberystwyth holiday, and £340 of subscriptions received in advance; allowing for those items, the net balance was about £2,900, which was within the target range of £2,500 - £3,000 mentioned at previous AGMs. Net results for individual events were as expected – by far the most expensive event each year is the 5-day trip to Wales (where the net deficit this year was £8); the Summer Lunch and the Christmas Drinks are modestly subsidised from Society funds.

The accounts were unanimously approved – proposed by Ann Lawrence and seconded by Peter Chapman.

6 Committee

Kay Day reported that two members of the Committee – Jean Owen and Anne Thomas – neither of whom could be at the AGM were retiring; and Graham Beavan would probably retire during the coming year. Kay thanked them for, and asked the meeting to recognise, the very valuable contribution each had made to the life of the Society over many, many years.



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Members of the Committee were unanimously elected as follows:

Chairman for the next three years: David Powell (proposed by Graham Beavan, seconded by Ralph Broomby);

Vice Chairman: Rob Britton (proposed by Jayne Pegler, seconded by Bob Ford);

Continuing members: Graham Beavan, Kay Day, Gwyndaf John, Ann Lawrence and Jonathan Pegler (proposed by Hugh Jones, seconded by Pam Britton);

New member: Colin Picton (proposed by Bill Jones, seconded by David Payne).

7 Any Other Business

There being no other business proposed from the floor, Kay Day stood down as Chairman and invited David Powell, as new Chairman, to close the meeting by outlining the programme of events for the coming year.

Our President, Ann Evans, proposed a vote of thanks (passed unanimously) to Kay for her commitment, enthusiasm and organising skills over the past three very successful years; she had been an outstanding Chairman.

8 Forthcoming Events

David Powell outlined a programme including:

- a Spring Walk on 15 May
- a 5-day trip based in Aberystwyth
- a Summer lunch hosted by Peter and Pat Chapman
- an August day at Windsor Races
- the Society's Golf Day
- a day trip to Bristol in September
- Christmas Drinks hosted by Bill and Sue Jones
- a guiz evening in January
- St David's Day Dinner

David Powell closed the meeting and members then enjoyed a supper prepared by Ann Tennant's team, followed by a varied programme of readings from the works of Welsh authors including Dylan Thomas, presented by Jayne Pegler, Prof Tony Curtis and Margaret Curtis.