

CHILTERN DISTRICT WELSH SOCIETY

Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting held on Friday 17th May 2013

Present: 61 Members attended.

Apologies: Received from 20 members.

Minutes: Minutes of the 2012 AGM had been circulated to all members. There being no points arising, the Chairman asked the meeting to approve and accept the Minutes.

Proposed: Mike Stythe Seconded: Jonathan Pegler Carried unanimously

Chairman's Report: Gwyndaf John welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief review of the events which had taken place since the 2012 AGM, all of which had been well supported and thoroughly enjoyed. The recent St David's Day Dinner had been a great success, with Claire Jones providing both wonderful harp music and interesting insights into various Royal events. Thanks were given to Jonathan & Jayne Pegler for hosting the Christmas Drinks; to Tony and Irene Glyn-Jones for hosting the Summer Lunch; to Bob Ford for organising an excellent trip to the Eisteddfod; to Hugh Griffith for the very special visit to Jesus College Oxford and to Anne Thomas who planned the highly successful Buckingham Palace tour and Diamond Exhibition. Other highlights of the year had been the Snowdonia "Walks & Trains", the annual Golf Day, the popular Festival of Choirs at the Albert Hall and the "brain teasing" Quiz evening. The Chairman thanked all members who had helped in organising these Society events and invited any member to participate in suggesting and running future events.

Members were reminded of events still to come which would include a visit on June 12th to Highgrove, for which there were 3 places still available and 2 places left for the visit to South Wales in September. The chairman drew members' attention to the Summer Lunch, which would take place on July 14th at the home of Diane & Colin Thomas. He confirmed that the popular Golf Day will be played at Oakland Park on 30th August and the year would end with Christmas Drinks on 8th December, hosted by Jonathan & Jayne Pegler. In conclusion, Gwyndaf thanked Ann Tennant for providing the delicious catering at Society events

Membership Secretary's Report: Gwyndaf John confirmed that there were currently 109 paid up members and 4 Honorary Members. He reported that 2 new members had recently joined and that Ann Lawrence had taken over as the new Membership Secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Graham Beavan began by thanking everyone for paying subscriptions by Standing Order and requested that all members consider this method. He also asked for payment from those present who had not paid for this evening and for any outstanding subscriptions. He then presented the Accounts, which were available on all tables. He explained that when a corrected invoice from the supplier of tables and chairs for the Summer Lunch was eventually received, there would be a small loss on this event. Additionally, the loss shown on the trip to Snowdonia was offset by the deposit in the previous year's accounts, therefore the event would actually show a small profit. He reminded the meeting that the Society aimed to break even on all events but the Christmas Drinks were free and the AGM partially subsidised. Graham highlighted that, as always, the closing balance allowed for these and for the issuing of deposits for future events. The meeting was informed that this year the Accounts had been independently examined.

There being no questions, the Chairman thanked Graham and asked the meeting to accept the Accounts

Proposed: Colin Wills. Seconded: Brian Davies. Carried unanimously.

Revised Constitution: Jonathan Pegler explained that the Constitution had originally been written with charitable status in mind when the Society was first founded and had since remained unchanged. It was now appropriate for it to be updated to reflect the inclusion of honorary members, to simplify the election of officers and to allow for greater flexibility in the future. He confirmed that the revisions were not extensive and asked the members for questions. David Payne queried Section 10 (e) but accepted Jonathan's explanation, so this remains as written in the draft. He also queried Section 10 (f) and it was agreed that this should be altered to read "members" It was also agreed that Section 11 will be rewritten to add. "any nominations for chairman and committee members must be proposed and seconded." With these two alterations the members were asked to accept the new Constitution.

Proposed: Ralph Broomby Seconded: Colin Mitchell Carried unanimously.

Election of Officers and Committee Members: Gwyndaf confirmed that, after three most enjoyable years, he would be stepping down as Chairman but would remain on the committee. He requested that members elect Jonathan Pegler as the new Chairman.

Proposed: Beth Sykes. Seconded: David Payne. Carried unanimously.

The meeting was informed that there had been no new nominations to join the committee and asked that the existing committee members continue in their roles

Proposed: Eileen Mitchell Seconded: Muriel Knight Carried unanimously.

AOB: Thelma Lusher suggested the word “Accounts” was incorrect and that “Financial Statement” was the more accurate term to describe the summary presented. As an accountant, Jonathan explained that the term “Accounts” could be used, although the accounts were not “accounts prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.” Mike Stythe requested that the Accounts continue to be presented as a simple Financial Statement, as they are currently.

Gwyn Owen suggested Jean Owen as a volunteer for the committee.

Proposed: Gwyn Owen Seconded: Anne Thomas Carried unanimously

Gwyndaf then thanked the four retiring members of the committee for all their work and dedication over many years, which had helped to ensure the success of the Society. Ann Evans, the President, presented gifts to Maldwyn Pugh, Hugh Griffith, Eileen Mitchell and Bob Ford (absent)

Jonathan Pegler thanked Gwyndaf for the time and energy he had devoted to the role of Chairman and presented him with a gift

Brian Davies offered thanks to the committee, on behalf of the membership. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05pm. Members then enjoyed a buffet supper followed by a most interesting talk by Maldwyn Pugh on “Growing up in Soho”

Kay Day.

18th May 2013