



Barham & District Horticultural Society
Minutes of the AGM on 14th January 2015

Present: Brig. Brig. M Atherton (President), Tim Bines (Chairman), Mrs. P Austin (Treasurer), Mr. B Wright & Mrs J. Clough (Show Secretaries), Mr. A Clough, Mr. J Crothall, Mr. T Cumming, Mrs. E Dallison, Mrs. J Borgioli, Mrs. T Fleming, Mr. V Cracknell, Mrs. Mary Duke, Mrs. Jean Clough and some 45 members.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the President, all members and officers to the AGM. He explained that the meeting was to formally appoint officers and committee for the coming year, receive the financial report for the last year, provide comments and suggestions using the forms provided and to receive annual subscriptions from members.

1. Apologies

No apologies had been received.

2. President's Address

The President asked member to stand for a moment of silence to remember Mrs. Joyce Greig.

He asked for comments on the minutes of the previous AGM (2013/14) and none were made.

The minutes were proposed for adoption by John Crothall seconded by Jeanie Wright and approved nem con.

The President pointed out that the minutes were already on the web site and how pleased he was with its quality.

He thanked the hard working officers and the committee for all their work during the last year and noted that membership was healthy although it was important to ensure that entries in the Shows were maintained and that the number of exhibitors increased.

The past year had been well reported in the Autumn Newsletter and the ongoing activities were in the relevant Parish magazines, as well as the Spring newsletter and summarised on the Membership Card.

Finally he thanked Andrew Clough for his work on the seed order.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Austin explained that the financial situation is healthy and explained the figures in this year's Financial Report; she invited members to comment or ask questions. There were none and the report was proposed by Andrew Clough seconded by Malcolm Terry and approved nem.con.

4. Election of Officers and Committee

The Chairman explained his thinking which was endorsed by the committee regarding the re-organising of the Secretary's role. This followed on from the resignation of Gaby McGuire in October. He recommended an Events Organiser, Membership secretary and a Press Secretary to ensure that tasks are less time consuming and can be readily managed. These posts were in addition to the Show Secretary and Treasurer roles.

There was a general agreement that these were sensible arrangements and the meeting then heard that the following would be willing to stand for the coming year:

Chairman - Tim Bines, Treasurer - Mrs. Pat Austin (although she would be grateful to be relieved of the role soon), Membership Secretary - Liz Dallison, Events Organisers - Jill Terry and Sue Smith, Press Secretary - Mary Duke, Show Secretaries - Brian Wright, Jean Clough and Jan Borgioli, Webmaster - Tony Borgioli, Village Hall representative - John Crothall and committee members Tes Cummings, Julie Stribbling and Jane Forbes-Evans. Proposed by Wendy Atherton and seconded by Inge Bailey and approved nem.con.

The President pointed out that Gaby McGuire, Tishy Flemming and Vic Cracknell who had all worked hard for the Society through the committee had stood down this year. He asked fro the members present to express their thanks to all three and then suggested that they should all be made Vice-Presidents - an honorary title which they richly deserve.

Proposed by Andrew Clough and seconded by Inge Bailey and approved nem. con.

5. 2015 programme

Tim Bines outlined the programme which was summarised in the Spring Newsletter. He pointed out that all the events in the coming year would be in Kingston Barn because of the renovation work in Barham Village Hall. There would be a an intersociety Neame Cup competition with tables of 6 to 8 people from local societies. this was a new format and was the first year of this event and members were asked to join in by letting the Chair know.

The Spring Plant Sale was an opportunity to provide and buy plants and was always a popular event. There were six talks in year on various topics which he outlined - the next was the talk by Steve Bradley from Radio Kent on 17th February.

Trips had been arranged for members to Tram Hatch, Pashley Manor and to the Autumn Flower Show at Wisley. Because of the logistical difficulties in arranging the Summer and Autumn shows one-off arrangements had been made for 2015 with a return to normality in 2016. There would be a Summer Mini Show in Barham Church on 4th July and a Pumpkin Show in October. In lieu of the Autumn show the trip to Wisley had been arranged.

The meeting closed at 7.15 and members were invited to complete their suggestion forms, enjoy the refreshments whilst participating in a diverse gardening quiz organised by the committee.