

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday 21st February 2017

Huntingdon Town Hall, Huntingdon

**Present**

**Committee Members:** James Rowe, Chair (JR), Graham Crouch, Treasurer (GC), Marion Stribling, Secretary (MS), Dean Laccohee (DL), Edd Welsh (EW), Caroline Molony (CM), Guido Paoluzi Cusani (GP), Rae Goodwin (RG), Michelle Gibson (MG)

**Members:** Ann Monk, Paula Spalding, Annie Welsh, Roy Bellass, Craig Phelan, Mike Plews, Millie Smith, Sarah Cornforth, Sandra Birnie, Vicky Spurway, Matt Callen, Andy Wilkes, Steph Hamer,

JR welcomed members to the AGM at the Town Hall which would be the venue for the summer and autumn productions.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Josephine Hussey, Lyndsay Kennedy and Maggie Redgrave.

**2. Minutes of the 2016 AGM (9th February))**

There was one amendment to the minutes. The Patch production referred to by Annie Welsh was called “Somewhere in England” not “Summertime in England”.

The minutes were ***agreed*** as correct.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes.**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**4. Chair’s Report**

JR reported that the club had had a good year with three very good productions which had all produced a profit, including the summer production after donating £1000 to Magpas.

* Ticket sales were growing and were just short of the club’s aim of 400 per production.
* Club membership was growing and was now at 62 members.
* More people were attending auditions, the spring production had cast 27 roles with 12 new members in the cast.
* Financially, the club had been very successful. The target of £5000 free reserve had been passed, there was now £6000 in the club’s bank account compared to £800 just three years ago.
* The club planned to put on three productions for 2017. The spring production “Alfie” had already sold 116 tickets which was the highest number of tickets ever sold with a month to go. The summer production would be a comedy called “Shakers” by John Godber and the autumn production would be “The Crucible” directed by Rae Goodwin. Both productions would take place at the Town Hall.

JR thanked the committee for their hard work over the last 12 months and reminded members that there would be no productions without the work of the committee. JR also thanked the club members who volunteer their time to support the productions by working backstage and front of house.

JR reported that the club had put on a number of social activities throughout the year for everyone to get involved. The club had organised theatre trips, meals, drinks and workshops. More people had attended club social events in 2016 than ever before. JR thanked Josephine and Caroline who had looked after the social calendar.

In summary, 2016 had been very successful with lots to look forward to in 2017.

**5. Treasurer’s Report**

GC introduced the Treasurer’s report which was available in the Annual Report. He reported that the bank balance had increased £2300 in the last year. All three productions had made a contribution to the club’s finances despite £900 being spent on bespoke costumes for “Madness of George III” and “Memory of Water” making a donation of £1000 to Magpas.

Extra expenditure had included insurance, Noda membership and attendance at the Cambridge Drama Festival.

JR thanked GC for all his work as Treasurer and was delighted to report that GC had agreed to remain as Treasurer for 2017.

**6. Election of Committee**

JR reported that Guido would be stepping down from the committee and thanked him for his contribution. He added that, after three years as Chair, he would be stepping down to concentrate on the Commemoration Hall refurbishment project. JR said he had enjoyed his time on the committee and wished the new committee the best of luck. The remaining committee members would continue.

There was one vacancy on the committee and nominations had been sought ahead of the meeting. Sarah Cornforth had been nominated and seconded and was elected as a committee member.

**7. Subscriptions for 2017**

JR reported that subscription for 2017 would remain at £15. Payments could be made by cash or cheque to GC. The club’s bank details were available on the website for online payments.

**8. Motions**

No motions had been proposed by the committee and there were no motions proposed from the floor.

**9. Any Other Business**

Steph Hamer requested further information regarding the Cambridge Drama Festival. DL responded that the club had entered the festival with an excerpt from “Alfie”. Last year they had taken part with an excerpt from “George”.

DL spoke on behalf of the committee to thank JR for transforming the club during his 3 years as Chair. He added that JR had been a huge influence on productions and the committee. There was a confidence in the club that came from James’s enthusiasm and positivity. The club was now in a very healthy position in terms of finance, productions and membership thanks to his leadership.

Steph Hamer asked who would be the new Chair. JR responded that the committee would elect the Chair at the next meeting.