

The Arts Society Camberley
Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting
held on Wednesday 24th October 2018
at High Cross Church, Camberley

1. Welcome

Peter Starkey introduced himself as Chairman. He welcomed everybody and thanked them for attending the AGM.

2. Apologies

Received from Mrs Pam Cowan, Mr Daan Olivier, Mrs Shirley Powell, Mr John & Mrs Hazel Shrimplin and Mrs Carol Westcott.

3. Minutes of the 34rd AGM held on 56th October 2017

No questions were raised and the Minutes were approved.

Proposed: Mr. Tony Cowell

Seconded: Mrs Shelagh Trist

Matters Arising not otherwise on the Agenda

None

4. Chairman's Report

In reviewing the year, the Chairman noted that there had been 10 lectures covering a wide range of topics. We had had an outstanding Special Interest Day (14th March 2018 – "From Can-Can to Soup Can"). He made special mention of the Young Arts exhibition in March – "Spring Magic" This had been a wonderful success thanks to our Young Arts Representative, Helen Gregson. When the Chairman had been at Tate Modern very recently he had thought of Spring Magic and that it showed as much invention as the Tate exhibition. Reference was also made to the Anniversary Afternoon Tea which took place on 18th September as part of the national celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of The Arts Society.

The Chairman thanked not only members of the Committee for the part they had played in delivering all this but also the numerous volunteers who had also played a very full part. He noted Mrs Sue Donovan for all her hard work in producing the informative notice board on display at our monthly meetings, and also remarked on the work of the Heritage Volunteers such as Mrs Shelagh Trist who still works at RMA Sandhurst plus Sheena Cowell who works at Guildford Cathedral. He thanked all the members for their support.

Nonetheless. It had been a testing year. Unfortunately, in the space of a year we had seen two new Chairmen. Daan Olivier had started the year and had been

instrumental in initiating changes which were now being carried forward. Unfortunately, Dan had had to step down as Chairman at the beginning of July because of health problems, but thanks were due to him. Added to this, there had been a decline in membership numbers. Since fees had remained unchanged, then clearly there had been a fall in income, and the loss in revenue now stood at approximately £1000 – not a situation that we want to see repeated.

Apart from Daan's retirement as Chairman we were also facing the loss of other members of the Committee. Moira as Treasurer and Pat as Secretary were standing down having come to the end of their three- year term of office. Helen was not retiring permanently from her role as Young Arts Representative but was taking a well-deserved sabbatical.

In looking to the future, we want to stabilise the Membership and also our income. This will enable us to undertake the Programme of lectures, visits plus Days of Special Interest and the next Young Arts venture - and generally support Arts and heritage in the community.

In looking at how we will achieve these aims, they will be brought about by,

- A high quality Programme
- There will be more visits of a local nature which will also be shorter in length as well as our longer visits.
- There will be better engagement with members including new meeting arrangements such as serving tea and coffee at the beginning of the meeting which will benefit those members who have to rush off at the end of meetings to attend to other obligations.
- There will be simpler ways to book events and to renew membership.
- There will be better publicity and communications with members.

The Chairman did, however emphasise the need for more volunteers to come forward to help the Committee in delivering these aims.

5. Financial Statement & Adoption of Accounts Treasurer's Report.

These were adopted.

Proposed by Uta Barnhill and seconded by Ray Drury. Show of hands for approval.

Election of Honorary Auditor of Accounts: Mr David Crear

Proposed by the committee.

Seconded by: Sally Kettle

Elected by show of hands.

6. Secretary's Report on behalf of the Committee

A written Report was on the web site. This was taken as read.

7. President's Address

The President, Mrs Val Harvey, started by thanking those members who had attended the AGM. She, too, regretted that Daan,, our former Chairman, had had to step down after such a brief time in office because of health reasons and

welcomed Peter as his successor. The President thanked the Committee for their hard work throughout the year and was sorry that to see Helen go away for a little while. She, like the Chairman, remarked upon the success of "Spring Magic". Both the children involved and their teachers had been thankful for the occasion to display the children's art work. The President then went on to make her usual plea at this point for more members to step forward to act as committee members, explaining that the committee did work very much as a team and that volunteers would find that they would make new friends.

After wishing the Society well for the coming year, the President concluded by making a presentation of flowers to the Secretary, the Treasurer and to Helen.

8 Election of Officers:

Chairman - Mr Peter Starkey.
Proposed by the Committee for a 1st year of office
Seconded by: Mrs Uta Barnhill

Vice Chairman - no nomination received

Secretary - no nominations received

Treasurer - Mr Ray Drury
Proposed by the Committee
Seconded by Mrs Sally Kettle

Elected by a show of hands

.9 Re-election of Committee Members:

Mrs Elizabeth Carrington
Mrs Sheena Cowell
Mrs Mariejan Crear

Mrs Sally Kettle
Mrs Uta Barnhill
Miss Diana Lummis

Proposed by the Committee.
Seconded by Mrs. Stella Campbell.

Re-elected by show of hands.

10. Any other Business – by prior arrangement with the Chairman only

None

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 13.55 p.m.