

The Friends of St Anne's Church, Kew

Registered Charity No. 1085389

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and a Special Meeting held in St Anne's Church, Kew on 6 May 2017

Present 25 members.

Apologies for absence: Anthony and Patricia Holme, Ian Lewty, Joan and Derek Stanton, Isobel Moses, Sue Shorter, Cate Lyon, Dorothy and Peter Hayman, Bruce and Kate Hodgkinson and Rosemary Charles.

Special meeting

Lorraine Neale (LN) presided and welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting, which she indicated would be preceded by a Special meeting to alter a section of the Constitution, as advised to members in the notice of meeting and agenda.

The Secretary explained the Committee's proposed change to the Constitution, which is to change the composition of the Committee to substitute two elected members (currently there are only four other than the three officers) for the two currently nominated by the Church's PCC so as to allow more flexibility to bring in outside people. Articles 7 (1) b and c would read:

- “b) not less than 2 nor more than 6 members elected at the annual general meeting who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting;
- c) 3 nominated members appointed as follows:
 - The Vicar of the church, who shall be President of the charity
 - The church wardens appointed by the annual Vestry Meeting.”

Grace Robson proposing, Belinda Pethick seconding, the change was approved with one dissenting vote.

Annual General Meeting

1 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14 May 2016

The Minutes were approved, Tina Ruygrok proposing and Uta Thompson seconding.

2 Election of Executive Committee

LN referred to the officers indicated on the agenda as offering themselves for election, which are the following:

Lady Lorraine Neale (LN), Chairman; Anne Barker (AB), Treasurer; and Ben Jones (BJ), Secretary.

All three were proposed by Tina Ruygrok and Ann Kirkbride and were elected.

As noted on the agenda, four other members offered themselves for election, were proposed by Monica Bridgewater and seconded by Tricia Rudd and were duly elected: Wendy Booth, Paul Booth, Phyllis Cunningham and Belinda Pethick.

LN pointed out that the Churchwardens also serve on the Committee and welcomed Bill Cottle, who has replaced Telfer Saywell as churchwarden.

3 Annual Report and Accounts

Anne Barker, Treasurer, presented the financial statement for the year to 5 April 2017, copies of which had been made available at the meeting along with copies of the annual report. She called attention to the income received, which totaled £16,413, about half from membership, legacies and donations and half from events. Expenditure was mostly to reimburse the PCC for the cost of the new church floodlighting. Balance at 6 April 2017 was £16,773.10. She then mentioned the Floodlighting 300 campaign, now running down, and thanked those who contributed. The PCC took over the costs of the project while we raised funds, and not all bills have been received, but we will pay those when presented. The total cost, she indicated, has been about £60,000, including the Hall pathway lighting.

LN thanked Anne for her work on behalf of the members. Tom Kirkbride proposing and Tina Ruygrok seconding, the annual report and the accounts were approved unanimously.

4 Website, Membership and Events

- Website – Paul Booth noted what has been said in the Chairman's letter and the annual report. The website details events and allows members to purchase tickets online (and to use the Friends' discount). In response to a question he said that a member's discount code is automatically sent out to members on email but indicated that there will be a new emailing of the codes. LN emphasized how useful it is to The Friends that members give us email addresses.

- Membership – Wendy noted that a number of members have not updated their standing orders to the new amounts. For this purpose the website will allow members who have paid at the old rate to top up at the new rate. She noted that those who are not fully paid up will no longer get the members' discount. In answer to a question she noted that we have 120 members at the new amount, 30 people who have paid the old, and 30 previous members who have not responded. Positively we have added 23 new members in the last year.
- LN asked all those attending to come to the beer tasting on the following Friday (12 May). There are a few tickets still available.

5 Any Other Business

Tom Kirkbride, a former secretary of The Friends, indicated his pleasure at the progress being made by The Friends. He asked about the status of the plaque to be placed on the Gainsborough tomb commemorating The Friends' finance of its renovation. The Vicar said the matter was in hand and that a quote had just been received. David Barker, a former Chairman of The Friends, noted that he believes the cost of the plaque was provided in the amount paid to the contractor who did the job. The Vicar said it was proving difficult to get that contractor to do the work but assured members that The Friends would not be charged twice for the plaque.

LN requested members to join her in thanking those standing down from the Committee – Monica Bridgewater, Jill Clarke, Bruce Hodgkinson and Cate Lyon- as well as Telfer Saywell for all they have done for The Friends.

There being no further business, LN thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting.