

## MINUTES OF THE PATCHAM MEMORIAL HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 3 July 2023 4.30pm.

3 Old London Road, Brighton BN1 8XR registered charity number 213464.

Present:

Members of the community: Karen Baker, Downsview Lifeskills College, Raul Ortiz, Downsview Lifeskills College, Anne Meadows (Cons Councillor), Marion Brooks, John Brooks, Sarah Walker, Monica Quinn, Richard Shipley, Michael Shade.

PMH committee members John Hogg, Maria Hogg.

PMH Elected Trustees John Williams, Jan Mulreany, Hugh Woodhouse,

PMH Appointed Trustees Pamela Hubbard U3A, Christine Eden U3A.

Apologies in advance from Sophie Hogg, caretaker, Mary Taylor WI, Annie Corpe, Fred Hards, Rita Hards, Lucy Potter (Patcham Library), Patrick Harrex.

### AGM business:- A Review of the year January - December 2022

- Trustees' annual review, report and discussion

During the year under review, the Committee Chair Elizabeth Storey had died, and as no one had been appointed from the Elected Officers to take on the chair permanently, John Williams, as Deputy Chair, led the AGM and presented the Report to the assembled company.

Public disappointment was expressed at the lack of response from Brighton & Hove Council to the Committee's claim to be recompensed for the damage caused to the garden by the Council contractors, Connicks, and the committee was urged to pursue the issue.

- Treasurer's Review and presentation of the approved Accounts.

The Accounts had been approved by the Trustees at an earlier meeting, and they were presented by the Treasurer. As no question nor request for clarification was received from the floor, their adoption was proposed by Jan Mulreany, seconded by Pamela Hubbard. The Annual Return to the Charities Commission is due by 31 October 2023.

- Committee reports. These were presented to the floor by John Williams, Bookings Secretary and John Hogg, the Estates manager, which included the gardening group.

### Plans for 2023 and beyond

- Presentation by Downs View Life Skills College about a proposed Community Garden  
In a new venture for the Trustees of the Hall, collaboration is planned between the neighbouring College, and PMH. Colleagues from the College made a presentation based on their initial proposal for funding and approval from the local authority for their community garden. This is located on council land behind the Hall and to the side of the college, in the uncultivated end at the top of the Peace Garden. As well as utilising the land, its purpose is to support their students in a key curriculum area, through outside lessons to develop skills and knowledge. The plan features accessible paths and beds, the creation of food and sensory gardens, orchards, a wildflower meadow providing for wildlife, and an increase in sustainability towards the City Plan. It also focuses on community cohesion, and a hope that Patcham residents, businesses and community groups will engage with the young people and their aims towards enhanced employability.

The Trustees of PMH have directed some match-funding towards the College for planting an orchard, in support of their application to the Urban Tree Challenge and intend it to be part of the Hall's Centenary celebrations in 2024.

- A short introduction the plans for our Centenary Celebrations, 3 February 2024, was announced, with invitations to suggest ideas via public consultation later in the year, through local outlets such as the Patcham Post, local Facebook groups etc.

There being no Other Business, the meeting closed at 5.30pm.