

PMH AGM MINUTES

Thursday 20th June 2019, 4.30pm
Patcham Memorial Hall, 3 Old London Road
Brighton, BN1 8XR

Present: John Hogg, Pamela Hubbard, Jan Mulreany, Richard Shipley, Elizabeth Storey, Cllr Lee Wares, Elizabeth Dwiar, Patrick Harrex, Annie Corpe, Carol O'Brien, Elizabeth Garrett, Richard Greenwood, Cllr Alistair McNair.

7 residents joined the trustees and committee members, a total of 12 Patcham residents so the minimum of five to form a quorum was present. The AGM was chaired by the Trustees Committee chair, Elizabeth Storey.

Apologies received in advance from: Mary Taylor (WI), Hugh Woodhouse (PMH & PCA),

- The PMH Annual Report and activity reports for the year to December 2018 had been circulated to attendees by email prior to the meeting and copies were available for reading at the hall.
- The Chair thanked the Committee for its work during the year under report and she emphasised how the committee had worked successfully during the year, through the medium of small subgroups tackling specific tasks and aims, specifically to Maria Hogg and Jan Mulreany for planning the Celebration of the Peace / Armistice event. Formal thanks were made to John Hogg and Richard Shipley for the continuing maintenance of the Hall.
- Priorities for the coming year were outlined: fundraising for the installation of an Audio Induction Loop, and continued refurbishment of the hall, especially the stage area. A call was made for any expertise in this from the people present or their neighbours.
- The Chair noted that the PMH Constitution allowed for up to 12 trustee members but that it had lost some members over the last few years, namely the second representatives of the WI and U3A, and some local residents. The committee would welcome new members, especially if they would like to take on tasks such as supporting the garden, or if they had a particular expertise in activities to raise funds. She extended an invitation to those present to join a task group for its lifetime without having to be a full member of the committee.
- The adoption of the 2018 accounts was proposed by Pam Hubbard and seconded by Richard Shipley. It was noted by Cllr Lee Wares in the Treasurer's Report that the committee should be mindful that the discretionary business rate status might alter in future, and that forward planning to cover this cost is advised. He advised that BHCC has a range of funds available to support the establishment of objectives, which can become sustainability funding, and that he would send details to the secretary.
- A vote of thanks was proposed to John Williams, as bookings secretary, from a participant for help he had given her in considering how to develop communications/contact about sharing her classes information. Lee Wares suggested that the committee could share its information with other associations through social media in the area.
- The meeting was asked to consider a series of questions around the possible refurbishment of the Garden outside the Hall, which had been posed by the gardener. John Hogg outlined how the front patio could become more than a 'shop window' display point for the hall, and that we could make it a more interesting space. We had considered two actions: reducing the hard landscaping and making it more wildlife friendly.
Responses included

- making it a social area when waiting for classes to start, but the issue of noise if the windows are open was raised, and would it make it too attractive to young people to sit there in the evenings?
- accessibility issues regarding the gradient and steps, and space between flowerbeds
- young people in the Ward who might like to get involved with a community garden project, and schools might also be interested.
- consider an approach which will address climate change and increase biodiversity, such as creating a nectar bar with spring bulbs. The earlier committee meeting considered laying a wildlife meadow instead of flagstones, and this was met with favourable comments.

It was agreed that a Garden Subgroup would take this idea forward, meet the gardener and ask for a design that took the above into consideration. A further plea was made from the floor to involve schools, as the committee had done with the Celebrating the Peace event.

- The Trustees had invited Patrick Harrex from the All Saints Patcham Restoration Committee to provide a display and outline the aims of the group in uncovering and renovating the paintings in the Church. Donations to and membership of the Friends of All Saints was encouraged, and a notice given of the work being done, including the National Heritage weekend of 14 and 15th September. <https://www.allsaintspatcham.org.uk>. A talk about the renovation project is on Friday 13th September, at 7.30pm, tickets £10.
- **Any Other Business**
The committee conformed that all the documents relating to the founding in 1923 of the group of residents of Patcham Parish that had originally caused the War Memorial Hall to be built, and that had been in the keeping of the committee's secretaries over the decades, were now in the archives at The Keep, along with original plans (which had been deposited previously). The secretary to the trustees has an electronic copy of the documents for any future use.
- **Reading of minutes & confirmation of actions arising from the meeting.**
The Secretary read out the minutes as agreed, and no errors were noted. The minutes were duly agreed as an accurate summary of the meeting, by the people present, being proposed by Lee Wares, and seconded by Pamela Hubbard.

It is proposed that the AGM 2020 will be scheduled for a similar date in June, subject to any amendment necessary.

Signed:



Jan Mulreany, Charity Secretary to the Trustees
30 June 2019