

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LEAMINGTON STUDIO ARTISTS held 13th July 2016

Present:

Trustees of LSA: Kate Livingston (KL) (Chair), Tony Cartwright (TC) (Treasurer), David Haedicke (DH) (Secretary), David Phillips (DP).

Apologies: Alison Chantrey (AC) (Membership Secretary), James Callaghan (JC)

Members of LSA: 13 in attendance with a further 12 not in attendance but having voted electronically .

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm on 13th July 2016 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Leamington Spa, CV31 1JW. See attached Agenda as previously circulated to the Members.

1.0 Welcome

KL welcomed the Members and introduced the Trustees in attendance. She also noted those who had sent Apologies for not being able to attend the AGM.

2.0 Minutes of AGM held 6th July 2015

The Minutes of the AGM on 6th July 2015 were unanimously approved by the Members in attendance, having previously been made available on the LSA website.

3.0 Matters Arising

TC noted that Minutes of all meetings of Trustees are now on the LSA website. This action was taken in response to Members' request for more transparency regarding Trustees' actions and considerations on behalf of LSA.

4.0 Chair's Report

KL summarized the many events that had occurred for LSA since the previous AGM in July 2015. These included the resignations of Bryan Kelly and Clive Engwell as Trustees, the lease of space at East Lodge in Jephson Gardens providing four studios and exhibition space for Members' art and day-to-day management by Morgan Forth (MF), the Spring Art Fair developed by AC, development of a new logo, many changes and upgrades to the LSA website initiated by TC, the evolution of Art In The Park under Carole Sleight's management but with continuing significant involvement and recognition of LSA as co-founder and recognition of the many contributions of Mo Finnissey to LSA and her election by the Trustees on 16th June 2016 as a lifetime honorary Member of LSA.

There was lengthy and spirited discussion of the changes in management of Art In The Park during the year, with Carole Sleight now being overall manager of the event rather than LSA and a new entity owning all rights to AITP.

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5.0 Membership Report

DH provided the Membership Report in AC's absence. The Report was available at the AGM and had also been made available on the LSA website. There was discussion of the Report with positive mention regarding the change from the Gallery 150 site to the new East Lodge site, and compliments on the changes to the LSA website and the LSA Newsletters. In the collective view of the Members in attendance, these positive changes should help in offsetting the effects of lower membership in LSA over the course of the past year and should help in reversing that trend in 2016-17.

6.0 Treasurer's Report

TC presented the Treasurer's Report, copies of which were available at the AGM but which had also been made available on the LSA website. By way of comparison with the prior year's report, he noted that:

- the 2014/15 Report had covered 15 months due to changes in LSA's financial year-end to March 31,
- funds remaining in the Gallery 150 accounts had been transferred to the LSA accounts during the year,
- the excess of expenditures over receipts during the year had occurred primarily because of start-up expenditures for East Lodge and a timing difference between years of AITP receipts and expenditures,
- subscription receipts were down because membership itself had declined over the year, as discussed in the Membership Report, and
- the continuing rent for East Lodge will be £5,500 per annum.

7.0 Election of Trustees and Officers

KL read the list of nominees for Trustees and for the positions of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. These comprised:

Trustees and Officers:

Kate Livingston as Chair

David Haedicke as Secretary

Tony Cartwright as Treasurer

Trustees:

Soolie Burke

James Callaghan

Alison Chantrey

Morgan Forth

David Phillips

She noted that Soolie Burke and Morgan Forth would be new Trustees.

The Members in attendance and those voting electronically voted unanimously to accept the Trustees and Officers as presented by KL

8.0 Other business.

DP brought up the idea of LSA Members renting their work to others for a rental fee and with LSA helping to arrange such opportunities. The Members expressed interest in this and KL said

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the Trustees would advertise for a sub-committee of Members to pursue the idea. Mo Enright also suggested looking into schemes that would support the installment sale of artists' works.

ACTION: KL/TRUSTEES

Clive Engwell (CE) pointed out that the refurbishment of the band stand in the Pump Room Gardens would result in hoardings around the band stand that might present an opportunity for Members to paint until it was taken down. CE to research this and provide more information to the Trustees.

ACTION: CE

Gabrielle Rucinski (GR), Soolie Burke and Mo Enright all discussed the need for better and increased signage for East Lodge. Morgan Forth, as manager for East Lodge, will pursue signage opportunities. GR also suggested that MF look into a bell or other means of indicating that people had entered East Lodge so that artists in the studios would be aware of this.

ACTION: MF

9.0 Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.