

LEAMINGTON
STUDIO *Artists*

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 18th July 2018

Present:

Trustees of LSA: Tony Cartwright (TC) (Treasurer), David Haedicke (DH) (Secretary), Alison Chantrey (AC) (Membership Secretary), Soolie Burke (SB), Meurig Hughes (MH), David Phillips (DP).

Members of LSA: 25 in attendance (see attached list of attendees) with a further 15 not in attendance but having voted electronically (see attached list, noting that Barrie Etter voted electronically and was also in attendance) . The meeting was deemed quorate by DH per requirements set out in the LSA Constitution.

Apologies: Sonia Bublaitis, Gill Buick, Ann Dobson, Julia Essex, Brian Hall, Sam Hall, Usha Khosla, Peter Lovelock, Kevin Parish, Karen Parker, Marianne Pitts, Karen Watson, Ruth Whittington

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm on 18th July 2018 at East Lodge, Jephson Gardens, Willes Road, Leamington Spa, CV32 4ER. See attached Agenda as previously distributed to the Members.

1.0 Welcome

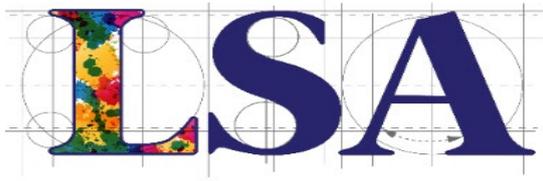
DH welcomed the Members and Trustees in attendance. He noted that, under the Constitution for LSA, the Members in attendance needed to choose a chair for the AGM. DH suggested choosing AC as chair for the meeting and there was unanimous support for that. AC assumed the role of chair for the meeting, noted that the meeting was quorate and acknowledged those who had sent Apologies for not being able to attend.

2.0 Minutes of AGM held on 13th July 2017

The Minutes of the AGM held on on 13th July 2017 were unanimously approved by the Members in attendance. The draft Minutes had been made available to the Members on the LSA website.

3.0 Matters Arising

The sole item arising from the previous AGM was to assess the need for a new computer for use at East Lodge. TC and AC updated the Members on the investigation of the computer and, more importantly, the Internet connection at East Lodge over the course of the year. Although it had appeared that fixing the Internet connection was the principal step in enabling the computer resident at East Lodge to function adequately, the Trustees had now decided to replace the computer. To that end, the steps in process to choose an appropriate computer based on the needs of users at East Lodge was underway and should be complete by the end of August.



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4.0 Annual Report (see attached)

DH provided the Annual Report on LSA's progress and achievements over the 2017/18 year, noting the resignations of Kate Livingston as Chair and Chris Freegard-Elmes (CFE) as East Lodge Manager, and the successful addition of Cathy Black (CB) to replace CFE, Elliot Minor as Press Officer, James Callaghan as official photographer and Cristina Galalae, Karen Parker and Cherry Williams as members of the newly-formed Public Relations subcommittee. He also noted the departure of Morgan Forth for London and the many contributions made by MF in the first year of tenancy of East Lodge. He went on to note the successes with stabilizing East Lodge in terms of volunteers and processes, community outreach through the exhibition with Whitnash Primary School in the Spring, redecorating and external improvements at East Lodge by both LSA and Warwick District Council, maintaining the commitment to ArtsFairs and exhibitions at the Loft Theatre, continuing involvement with Art In The Park and the 20th Anniversary issue of *ArtSpace*.

Looking forward to 2018/2019, DH noted that it was important to maintain the momentum established in 2017/2018 and yet still go on to implement new ideas. The addition of Graham Snape as a new Trustee, Cathy Black as new Manager at East Lodge, and Elliot Minor and the PR subcommittee should all help in adding new energy and ideas to the Trustee meetings. He noted the importance of Art In The Park 2018 (two marquees and a jointly sponsored pre-party on 2nd August with the AITP Directors and VIPs from the community) as a first step in the new year. He also noted the need to renew the lease at East Lodge with Warwick District Council, the exhibition entitled *Response to The Waste Land* in November, and continuing the outreach program with schools initiated in 2017/2018 but this time with Clapham Terrace Primary School.

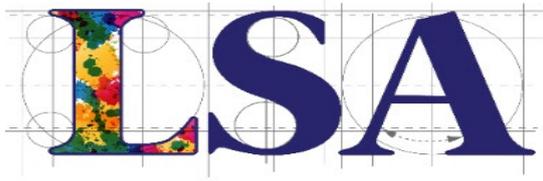
5.0 Membership Report (see attached)

AC updated the Members on membership statistics for the past year, noting the increase in overall membership despite the small increase in subscription fees at the beginning of the year. She also noted that the increase in membership had included a greater number of younger members.

6.0 Treasurer's Report (see attached)

TC presented the Treasurer's Report for the twelve months to 31 March 2018 along with comments on activity from 31 March to the AGM date. He noted the improvement in LSA's financial position and that East Lodge is nearing a point of covering all its costs. With the improvement in financial position, LSA is now in a position of deciding on further activities it can undertake in meeting the Objectives set out in its Constitution.

In response to TC's invitation for questions on the financial report, Clive Engwell (CE) asked about Gift Aid support that would be based on treating member subscriptions as donations. TC responded that LSA has only limited access to Gift Aid since both his research and AC's research indicate that LSA's member subscriptions do not meet HMRC's description of the conditions under which they could be treated as donations. In particular, member privileges



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including free receipt of *ArtSpace* magazine mean that there are benefits to annual subscriptions that preclude them from treatment as donations without benefit to the donor. AC discussed the extent of her research on this question, agreeing that it does not appear that LSA subscriptions could be treated as donations under HMRC guidance.

TC, AC and CE agreed that the possibility of treating member subscriptions as donations for Gift Aid purposes will be an area of continuing attention for LSA.

DP asked for clarification on why *ArtSpace* is an obstacle to the eligibility of member subscriptions for Gift Aid. AC responded that *ArtSpace* is an item of value received by members in return for their subscriptions and that this results in the subscriptions not being eligible for treatment as donations under Gift Aid rules established by HMRC.

SB pointed out that East Lodge had recently been redecorated at a relatively advantageous cost to LSA. TC agreed, noting that the cost had been £900 versus an initial estimate of £1,500. Both SB and TC noted how pleased the Trustees were with the excellent work done on the redecoration.

7.0 Election of Trustees and Officers

AC referred to the list of nominees for Trustees and Officers included in the agenda and on prior notification to the members. The nominees are as follows:

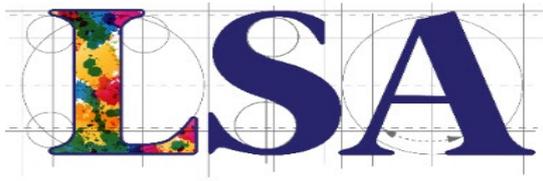
Chair - David Haedicke
Secretary - Alison Chantrey
Treasurer - Tony Cartwright

Trustees -
Soolie Burke
James Callaghan
Meurig Hughes
David Phillips
Graham Snape

Chris Watts made the motion to elect all the nominees to the positions indicated and Archie Pitts seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by those present, and TC reported that all those voting electronically were also unanimously in favour of electing the nominees to the positions indicated.

8.0 Any Other Business

Barry Etter asked whether the Trustees could organize tutorial art education sessions at East Lodge for the benefit of members wanting to improve. There was much support for such an initiative on the part of the Members present. CB offered to look into this possibility and to present her suggestions to the Trustees.



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AC noted that exhibitions at East Lodge have often been mounted by members who have exhibited before. She asked for suggestions from the members on whether exhibitions should be scheduled on a first come – first served basis or on a basis that might ensure a preference for those not exhibiting in the past. The ensuing discussion did not yield up any preferences in connection with AC's question. AC indicated that the question would be considered further as the planning for scheduling all exhibitions for the upcoming calendar year by the preceding Autumn was completed in August and September of this year.

CB called for a vote of thanks from the Members for the excellent work done by AC on the monthly newsletters. The Members present voted unanimously in favour of CB's motion.

Mo Enright, LSA member and also President of F.L.A.G., discussed opportunities for mutual support between LSA and FLAG. She noted that this would be an agenda item at the FLAG meeting in September.

AC called for volunteers to provide assistance at the LSA marquees and at East Lodge for Art In The Park in August. She described the extent of effort involved in taking on two marquees this year and appealed for those members who could provide assistance in the preliminary work on 2 and 3 August and on the weekend (4 and 5 August) to contact her or TC as soon as possible.

There being no further items of discussion, the meeting concluded at 8:15 pm.