

RHODODENDRON, CAMELLIA and MAGNOLIA GROUP

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation, number 1161254

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on Sunday 23rd April 2017

At 2.30 p.m. in The Peter Buckley Learning Centre, Rosemoor

The Constitution requires that there is a quorum present at an AGM if decisions are to be taken. With the current membership, less honorary ones, being 625, 32 members are needed for a quorum, but only 23 were present. Accordingly the meeting took the whole of the Agenda, and what would have formal decisions, had there been a quorum, were voted upon for information purposes only. The AGM was adjourned and continued at the Dower House Hotel, Knaresborough on Sunday 14th May 2017. As per the Constitution, the members present (23) formed the quorum after 15 minutes.

Meeting, Rosemoor

Present: Chairman and Trustee Mr David Millais, Trustees Mr Philip Evans and Alastair Stevenson, Vice Chairman Mr Ivor Stokes, Hon. Treasurer Mrs Jenny Fly,

Mr R Beeson, Mrs P Bucknell, Mr P Dawson, Mr A Fly, Mr G Hargreaves, Mr B Haseltine, who acted as secretary of the meeting, Mr Alex Hill, Mrs A Mallett, Mr J Mann, Mr J Marston, Mr R Rosendale, Mrs A Rosendale, Mr B Starling, Mr R Steele, Mrs A Steele, Mr C Tomlin, Mr B Wright, Mrs I Wright.

1 Apologies:

P Andersen E Annal E Atkinson, F Banham J Borrón J Bradshaw R Carpenter R Carter S Chesters C Clark P and B Cooke N Edwards R Eley M Foster P Furneaux M Gunn S Hayward R Howell R Lancaster R and C Legrand Lord Lansdowne G Mills S Nickols J Sanders R Underwood T Vince R White R Whiting C Williams J Warren

2 The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2016, held at Ramster on Wednesday 28^h May 2016 and published on the Group website, were agreed to be a true record and were signed by The Chairman.

3 Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

4 Chairman's Report

The Chairman referred attendees to the Trustee Report on the Group's web site; he did not propose to go through it, but would give a few PowerPoint slides about the events and highlights of the last year. After showing the slides, he asked for comments or questions.

The Chairman thanked Stephen Harding for his work as Conservation officer; he also thanked all of those who had helped so much in the important year for the Group. He thanked Marie Pertwee for helping with membership and commented on the number of members, 653, which includes 28 Honorary ones.

5 Treasurer's Report:

The income and expenditure account, and the balance sheet for the year ended October 31st 2016 were introduced by Jenny Fly; they had been available on the web site. The Group had made a small profit on normal activities, £763, and there was now a substantial Centenary Fund, £7000, for use in accordance with the rules of the fund.

The independent examiner has issued his certificate stating he has no objections to the accounts. An informal vote accepted the accounts unanimously. [This is sufficient, as the Trustees have the formal responsibility for approving the accounts.]

After the Treasurer's report, Ivor Stokes gave some insights into the working of the Plant Committee. He particularly reported on the numerous Collections that the Group has sponsored, and is monitoring. Russell Beeson, Pam Hayward and Sally Haywood have joined the plant Committee.

6 Special resolution

To amend the Constitution, Article 11, (5b) subject to the following provisions:

The quorum for general meetings shall be at least 2% of members. An organisation represented by a

person present at the meeting in accordance with sub-clause (7) of this clause, is counted as being present in person.

The Chairman drew attention to the lack of a quorum at this meeting and suggested that we should lower the number needed, so that it did not happen again. The meeting informally unanimously approved the resolution, so it will be referred to the Second Call AGM.

7 Election of Trustee

John Marston had been proposed to replace Alastair Stevenson, and he was accepted informally, unanimously; it will be referred to the Second Call AGM.

8 Election of Officers for 2015/2016

The following officers were proposed, seconded and accepted informally unanimously.

Chairman	David Millais
Vice Chairmen:	Ivor Stokes
Bulletin Editor:	Peter Furneaux
Secretary.	Polly Cooke
Treasurer:	Jenny Fly
Membership Secretary:	Rupert Eley
Yearbook Editor and Archivist:	Vacancy
Events Organiser:	Christopher Legrand
Webmaster:	Graham Mills
Conservation officer	Vacancy
Archivist	Pam Hayward

The Chairman emphasised the need for a new Conservation Officer and a Year Book Editor. The latter job might have to be done by a small group of people, with more technical assistance from the RHS.

9 Election of Independent Examiner

Russell Beeson was nominated and an informal vote approved his appointment unanimously; he will be referred to the Second Call AGM.

10 Any Other Business:

John Marston raised the subject of the Research Grants and explained the procedure.

A comment was made from the floor that it was to be hoped that a printed version of the Bulletin would continue to be available for some time to come.

The Chairman thanked Rosemoor for allowing the Group to use the room, and for the assistance their staff had given.

At the end of the meeting, the Chairman thanked Alastair Stevenson profusely for his 30 years work for the Group and presented him with a magnolia plant.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3.45 p.m.

Continuation meeting, 14th May 2017, Nidderdale Suite, Dower House Hotel, Knaresborough HG5 9AL at 6.15pm

Present: Chairman and Trustee, Mr David Millais, Vice Chairman, Mr Ivor Stokes

Mrs P Bucknell, Mr R Chaplin, Mrs M Chaplin, Mr P Furneaux, Mr M Gates, Mr A Hallett, Mrs J Hallett, Mr G Hargreaves, Mr B Haseltine, who acted as secretary of the meeting, Mr B Holt, Mrs R Howell, Mr C Legrand, Mr C Marwood, Mrs S Marwood, Mrs R Rawling, Mr R Rosendale, Mrs A Rosendale, Mr A Shephard, Mr D Treleaven, Mrs J Warren, Mr J Wooton.

11 Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed members to the continuation meeting and explained the process that a quorum would be deemed present after 15 minutes. He then showed a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the previous year.

12 Special resolution

The Chairman drew attention to the difficulty of achieving a quorum and proposed the following Resolution:

To amend the Constitution, Article 11, (5b) subject to the following provisions:

The quorum for general meetings shall be at least 2% of members. An organisation represented by a person present at the meeting in accordance with sub-clause (7) of this clause, is counted as being present in person.

The Resolution was proposed by Ivor Stokes, and seconded by Joey Warren; it was approved unanimously.

13 Election of Trustee

A proposal to elect John Marston to replace Alastair Stevenson from the 1st June was proposed by Chris Marwood and seconded by Christopher Legrand; it was passed unanimously.

14 Election of Officers

Polly Cooke was proposed by Barry Haseltine to be Secretary and seconded by Christopher Legrand; she was elected unanimously.

Russell Beeson was proposed by Ray Rosendale to be the Independent Examiner and seconded by Martin Gates; he was elected unanimously.

The other Officers agreed to continue in their positions for a further term so no vote was necessary.

15 Date of Next Annual General Meeting.

To be advised.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm