

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Weston Village Hall

6.30pm Thursday 15 September 2022

Present: José Wilson (Chair), Lori Weber, Velda Kemp, Katie Lewis, Chris Chowney, Venera Town

We also welcomed Pat and Roger Duggan, Jenny Turner and Alan and Eileen Hammond.

Before starting the business of the meeting we observed a minute's silence in honour of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and then raised a toast to the new King Charles III.

Apologies: Fiona Leathart

Minutes of the AGM of Tuesday 29 June 2021 were approved, with one amendment (Roger Duggan's name). Proposed Chris Chowney, seconded Velda Kemp.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Annual Reports

Editor: Lori Weber reported that the magazine is now firmly in full colour, which gives her more flexibility, and she's had good feedback. She's been able to feature local events, including eight pages on the Jubilee celebrations. She's grateful to regular contributors of garden articles and recipes, and also to Ian Lewis for his historical and topical contributions. She welcomes other contributions, including photos for the cover. Events are increasing now and the focus remains on local people, events and stories, broadening out to Hereford and Gloucester Cathedrals for Christmas. Advertising, now invoiced in September for the coming year, supports the printing costs, with colour making the adverts more striking and better value. Lori also thanked her husband David Weber for creating the front covers and preparing artwork for new advertisers, and Katie Lewis for proofreading and other support.

Treasurer: Velda Kemp reported that the accounts had been signed off by Nigel Stewart. The year-end had been changed from February to July, so the accounts covered 16 rather than the usual 12 months, and therefore showed a deficit of £1147.93 for the year. Printing costs had increased and virtually all the income had come in in September. Advertising is slightly down for the coming year. Bank balances are healthy, though – we had a good cushion of £3690 in the bank at year-end. The twelve-month period from August to July from now on will show more accurately how we are doing.

The accounts were approved, proposed by Roger Duggan, seconded by Alan Hammond and unanimously approved.

Chairman: José Wilson reported that 10 wonderful copies of the magazine had been produced during the year, thanks to editor Lori and secretary Katie with help from others in the background, including David Weber. The magazine is well appreciated. Those present agreed that it is now much more of a magazine. Its absence in August had been noted, and we agreed that it is good to deliver to empty houses changing hands so that new arrivals find it waiting for them. José recorded huge thanks to the team of deliverers, who deliver the

magazine to 650 households. It also goes to every pupil at the school, many of whom don't live in Weston. José thanked all contributors of text and photos.

In spite of the deficit in the accounts, we know that month to month we are covering costs, and we no longer need to hold financial reserves that would fund a replacement printer.

José announced that she was standing down as chair of the committee, after 17 years of involvement with the magazine, feeling that it was time for others to join the team. She wished the whole team continued success and offered her further support.

Elections:

Officers: There was only one candidate for each post, and so the election en bloc of the following was proposed by Jenny Turner and seconded by José Wilson.

Chairman	Venera Town
Editor	Lori Weber
Secretary	Katie Lewis
Treasurer	Velda Kemp

Committee members: José is trying to recruit a replacement to look after the distribution. In the meantime the following were the only candidates and their election en bloc was proposed by Katie Lewis and seconded by Lori Weber.

Website	Chris Chowney
Distribution	José Wilson

Alan Hammond indicated he was willing to join the committee.

Any Other Business

Lori Weber, on behalf of the whole committee, thanked José Wilson for all her years of involvement with the magazine, and we presented her with flowers and gifts from the committee and from the magazine as a whole, as a token of appreciation.

The meeting closed at 7.10 pm.