

# Godmanchester Community Association

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting 20 February 2006

**Those present were:** Sylvia Barclay, Ally Barrett, Stuart Bond (Chairman), Dave Brown, Keith Chapman, Nina Collier, Helen Galer, Elwyn Hughes, Patrick Hull, Jean Morgan, Christine White and Roy White.

**Apologies were received from:** Bridget Gaskill, Lynda Heseltine, Peter Heseltine, Alan Hooker, Geoff Larcombe and Nicola Rule.

1. **Open & Welcome:** The meeting was opened by the Chairman who welcomed all who had braved the cold weather to attend. For the benefit of new attendees he explained the raison d'être of the Association.

2. **Previous AGM Minutes:** RW proposed that the minutes of the previous year's AGM be accepted as a true record and this was seconded by JM.

3. **Overview of past year:** The Chairman gave a brief report on the activities of the CA over the past year. He referred to the sad loss of the President, Harry Foren and explained that as the position was an honorary one it had not been necessary to fill it. He also paid tribute to the efforts of the Treasurer, Alan Hooker, particularly in the light of his poor health during the year. He also thanked Nicola Rule for her efforts over the years as a one time Chair of the Association and also as a Company Director. He welcomed the new members who had joined the Association during the year and thanked all Members for their support.

4. **Association Accounts:** In the absence of the Treasurer due to sudden illness, SB ran through the audited accounts, summaries of which were provided to the meeting. The following were highlighted:

- Over the course of the year, the Association had supported local groups such as the Community School, the Porch Museum and Godmanchester Rovers FC, contributing over £1,100 in a variety of causes.
- PH thanked the Town Clerk for cooperating with AH so efficiently for Picnic in the Park.
- SB commented on the importance of sponsorship for Gala Week and thanked Aimsview and Brian Marsh from the Bradford and Bingley for their contributions. He stressed the need to find sponsors for this year's Gala Day.
- PH commented on the way that Affiliated Groups were able to use Gala Day as an opportunity to raise funds. He said that the participation of groups such as the churches, the Guides and the Scouts contributed to the establishment of its unique atmosphere.
- SB recognised the funding donated by Sears Publishing following the Foss Dyke Band "Last Night of the Proms" event which was very successful. Stephen Spencer is considering a further event in 2007.
- HG proposed that the accounts should be accepted and this was seconded by NC.
- PH proposed that Bulley Davey should continue to act as auditors for the Association and their office should act as the Association's registered office. This was seconded by RW.

5. **Company Secretary Report & Election of Directors:** In the absence of the Company Secretary, SB explained that he had obtained legal advice from MWR and had been told that it would be advisable for the Association to elect two Directors now that NR was stepping down. The following were elected:

- PH proposed that **Mike Westcott Rudd be re-elected as Company Secretary** and this was seconded by NC. The election was unopposed.
- **Roy White and Alan Hooker had kindly put themselves forward for election as Directors**, JM proposed they should be elected, seconded by PH, and **they were elected unopposed**. SB offered his thanks for the support demonstrated.
  - **Action: MWR to contact the new Directors and complete necessary forms for Companies House and transfer of Registered Office to Bulley Davy**
  - **Action: MWR to confirm with Nicola Rule submission of her forms to step down as Director and move the Registered Office.**
- Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be elected at the next Ordinary Meeting

6. CW proposed that **AH be re-elected Treasurer**, seconded by NC. He was elected unopposed.

7. NC proposed that **EH be re-elected as Minute Secretary**, seconded by JM. He was elected unopposed.

## **8. The Chair invited questions or comments about Gala Week.**

a) He was asked about the participation of Young People in Gala Day. He replied that lots of youngsters took part in the Parade and it was evident that they enjoyed the experience. Their participation through organisations such as the Scouts and Guides was also very welcome, and new events for the youth of our town would be most welcome. He noted that the teenagers tended to prefer the Picnic in the Park.

b) A question was asked about the level of payment made by the Concessions on the Recreation Field. SB replied that they were charged flat rates but referred the question to AH for the future confirmation at the next ordinary meeting.

c) A question was asked about the contributions made to Gala Week by the town's Public Houses. SB said that the Exhibition and the White Hart were both planning to stage events. He was unsure if this were true of the other pub.

d) SB appealed for contributions to Gala Week Action: SB to contact the Town Council to ask them to publicise their activities on Gala Day.

e) NC suggested that the companies on the new industrial estate should be contacted by March at the latest asking them for sponsorship or contributions to Gala Day activities.

f) AB suggested that the Blood Transfusion Service might like to be represented on Gala Day. Also HDC might like to put on a Re-Cycling event. Organisations wanting to publicise themselves could use the new notice boards at the entrance to the Church. (Contact the Parish Office)

g) SB called for all local groups to use the Godmanchester web-site for publicity purposes.

h) HG suggested a contribution by the Air Ambulance Service or MAGPAS.

9. Finally PH offered a vote of thanks to SB for his untiring efforts over the year.

**The next ordinary meeting of the Community Association will be on Thursday 9 March 2006, at 8pm in The Comrade's Club.**