



MINUTES OF AGM, TIRLEBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL, TEWKESBURY SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2020

Present: Sue Edwards, Neil Gillard, Doug Harbour, Derik Palmer, Alison Simmons, Heather Farrell-Roberts, Mike Fenton, Rachel Fenton, Alec Anness, Richard Bland, Andi Cale, Anita Cotterall, Hilary Davies, Pat Gilbert, Elizabeth Harris, Catherine Nicholls, John Rawlinson, Helen Slade, Wendy Taylor.

Apologies: Guy Padfield, Jan Brodie, Joolz Buggy, Anne Cole, Rees Gallacher

The meeting was opened by Neil Gillard in the absence of the President and vice-President.

The minutes of the 2019 AGM, which had been previously circulated, were summarised. They were proposed as a true record by Derik Palmer, seconded by Lyn Jones and accepted by all present.

The President's Report, previously circulated, was summarised, including that there had been a full programme of events during 2019, though numbers attending had been disappointing. A new venture had been a presence at the Celtic Connections event in Glasgow. The full programme of events organised for the current year is detailed later in these minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Derik circulated copies of the accounts and reported that UKA's financial situation remains sound, with the overall funds increasing during the year, despite events in Brighton and at Woodbridge making substantial losses. There is no need to increase subscriptions or fees for events at present. Sue Edwards proposed that the accounts be adopted, this was seconded by Catherine Nicholls and unanimously passed.

Officers and Committee Members: Guy is standing down as President, but remaining as a Committee member. Derik, nominated by Anne Cole and seconded by Neil, was appointed as President, and will continue as Treasurer. Joolz remains as Vice-president, but is standing down from Webmaster, and at present there is no replacement for this role. Sue is standing down from the Committee but is willing to continue to act as first contact for enquiries. Doug, as Membership Secretary, Jan, as Advance Organiser, Lyn, as Loaner Coordinator, and Neil, as General Secretary, will continue in these roles, while Anne Cole, Rees Gallagher and Alison Simmons will also remain as committee members. Jan Brodie and Rees Gallagher have also agreed to share the role as Autoharp Notes Editor. Claudia Myatt has also agreed to join the Committee – proposed Sue, seconded Anne. There being no other nominations, these appointments were all confirmed.

A huge vote of thanks was made to Sue, and to those standing down from part of their previous roles for their contributions to UK Autoharps in recent years.

Future Events

Sutton Coldfield Autoharp Day, 30th May, hosted by Catherine Nicholls. Another exciting new venue - programme details to be arranged.

ScAW (Scottish Autoharp Weekend), 31st July 2nd August, hosted by Nadine White and Anja Lyttle, with additional masterclasses on the Friday, classes and a concert on the Saturday, and social playing opportunities.

SFSS October Weekend/UKA Day, 30th October – 1st November (UKA Day Saturday 31st October) tutors and workshops to be confirmed.

We would also welcome a UKA presence at other music events. All ideas will be considered, and all offers of involvement welcomed!

Note: With the advent of stricter Government advice following the Coronavirus Pandemic, ScAW has now been cancelled for this year, while the Sutton Coldfield Day is under review. We may also need to reconsider other plans, giving notice as soon as is possible.

Other Business

Derik explained that he welcomed the opportunity to serve as President, and to lead the policy formation and review of UKA, but he also enjoyed the more ceremonial aspects of the role. In this regard, he took the opportunity to announce that Heather Farrell-Roberts has been appointed as the newest Life Honorary Member, and to present her with a certificate to this effect. He also presented Mike Fenton (who was appointed in 2017) with his certificate.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 1.45pm.

Grand Draw Results:

- 1st – Gig Bag – Judith Haddock
- 2nd – Set of Strings – Roy Love
- 3rd - Roll of Felt – Barbara Parkinson
- 4th – Tool Kit – Neil Gillard
- 5th – Voice Recorder – Anita Cottrell
- 6th – Autoharp Cosy -