

**HAVANT DYNAMO YOUTH THEATRE  
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2016**

**PRESENT:** Anna Beauvoisin, Alex Booth, Andrew Bowker, Simon Boylin, Chris Bradbury, Lucy Flannery, Mary Fletcher, Graham Frost, Tony Goodbody, Jayne Green, John Palmer, Ethel Ray, Tricia Roberts, Malcolm Sturgess, Wayne Thomas, Richard Watts, Steve Weaver, Kevin West, Pauline West, Mo Whiting, Wendy Willats.

**1. APOLOGIES:** Julia Cairns, Hugh Cairns, Bev Wade, Nigel Wade, Linda Stimpson

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming.

**2. MINUTES OF LAST AGM:** Agreed as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT (Wendy Willats):**

Annual accounts were circulated at the meeting.

The Treasurer recapped the highlights:

- The accounts have been independently examined by Gibson Whittier, a firm based in Denmead.
- Financially the year was successful although net income was down from £9221 in 2015 to £6994 .
- The shows during the year all made a surplus, a third of which was allocated to the development fund. Income declined from £10552 to £5309, primarily because of increased costs of hiring the show venues.
- The £8115 membership subs covered the administration and general costs of holding the sessions but an increase in the termly rate to £55 from September 2016 was proposed, primarily to cover increased costs of hiring the Hall. This proposal was proposed by Tricia Roberts and seconded by Mo Whiting and approved unanimously by the meeting.
- The total funds of £62265 are split into 3 funds with the Development Fund increasing by £4000. This fund receives a third of show profits and the proceeds of dedicated fund-raising activities. Our policy is that we keep enough reserves to run the group for a year – estimated at £15000 now at £18000 slightly higher than needed.

The Chair thanked Wendy for all her work and help during the year and for the considerable effort involved in preparing the accounts. He asked the meeting to accept the accounts which was formally proposed by Ethel Ray, seconded by Lucy Flannery and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Richard Watts)**

- As we enter the 35th year of Dynamo, off the back of another successful year for the group. Membership is almost full, and the group continues to be enthusiastic, talented and committed.
- We still have hopes for the senior section, Dynasty, (formed in 2011), and are hopeful that this can be restarted in the future.
- There has been a varied programme over the year, allowing members new opportunities to learn and grow, with many of the older members again helping out with the directing and planning of shows. We were also very fortunate to have been given the chance to perform a world first with Greg Mosse's "Daisy & Marvin Save the Day" for our Christmas show.
- Things are moving forward with our hiring agreement for St Faith's Church Hall and are in advanced talks with the hall's management team to put the finishing touches to a long term hire agreement. This will secure the ongoing use of the hall for sessions and performances. A big thank you to all those involved with this process. Once this has been agreed, we will look at using some of the Development Fund to improve facilities that are unique to our use of the hall.
- We continue to be one of the partner groups at The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre and have continued our good relationship with Sophie and her team. The size of the stage at the theatre

however makes it difficult for large cast shows; however we are committed to continue to use the venue for our six form productions.

- We have again been very fortunate this past year and received some very kind and generous donations from past members and friends of Dynamo.
- Thank you to the committee and show time volunteers. You are the key to the success of the group, as without this work, there would be no productions or on-going organisation and planning. However, we recognise that we do need to increase the number of volunteers and welcome any ideas to involve parents more.
- Acceptance of the Chair's report was proposed by Mo Whiting, seconded by Chris Bradbury and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

## 6. ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Andrew Bowker)

- This has been a year of great innovation!
- The first event of the year, the Director's Challenge in February 2015, was performed to a high standard.
- The first show of the year was "Sparkleshark" performed at St Faith's Hall in May. The innovation here was that the direction was by ex-members Barney Walsh and Zack Cuthbertson. It was an outstanding production.
- At the earnest request of the membership, we ran a 24 hour challenge. The membership was given the challenge of 'The Bastille', all things French and a piece presented to a paying audience at the end. There was a lot of creativity shown and Andrew was proud of them.
- The sixth formers, who left the group in September and were exclusively female, successfully performed "Midsummer Night's Dream" adapted and directed by Lucy Flannery. Performed at The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre, Havant, the show was very innovative, well attended and enjoyed by the audience.
- Our Christmas show was "Daisy and Marvin Save the Day", specially written by Greg Mosse and John Gleadall. This was a totally original piece and surprisingly, appealed to a much younger audience than expected. Although expensive to stage at St Faith's, it still made a surplus. With their connections to professional theatre, we were all very encouraged by Greg Mosse and his friends' enthusiasm for working with Dynamo.
- We have an unusually high number of boys among our buoyant membership. Our problem is finding additional volunteers. How do we do it? We need new people to run the group, not just assisting at shows. New people and new ideas are essential to keep the group fresh and relevant to a demanding membership. We are a deserving charity and if parents and friends feel like being charitable, make Dynamo your charity!
- Andrew gave his thanks to the Officers, Committee and all who have helped with the shows through the year. He particularly thanked Mo Whiting and Mary Fletcher for their support during the rehearsal evenings.
- Our security of tenure may be getting more positive and Andrew felt cautiously optimistic with the draft tenancy agreement and felt that we may have to use some of the development fund to enhance the facilities of St Faith's Hall. Offers from Rev Tom Kennar include under stage storage, a pull-out office in the Green Room and storage for flats in the space behind the Parish Offices. The biggest opportunity is the possibility to erect couple of buildings in the garden which could be used as workshops and as a base for a technical membership. We will discuss the proposals and Tom Kennar has indicated that he is prepared to come to an Extraordinary General Meeting to answer questions and satisfy concerns.
- Finally Andrew thanked everyone for all the support given to the membership.

## 7. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES & OFFICERS:

Richard Watts and Steve Weaver stood down as trustees, offered themselves for re-election and were elected en bloc from the floor. It was assumed that Mark Rowlands has resigned as a trustee as there has been no communication with him for months.

Richard Watts and Wendy Williats were re-elected unanimously on a block vote as Chair and Treasurer. The post of Vice-Chair was left open.

Tony Goodbody was prepared to continue as secretary.  
John Palmer agreed to join the Committee.

Meeting closed at 8:20pm