

AGM

29 November 2021 Pallant Center Havant 19:43 pm - 20:10 pm

ATTENDEES

Richard Watts (Chair), Wendy Willats (Treasurer), Andrew Bowker (Artistic Director), Holly Jordan-Norris (Secretary), Steve Weaver (Admissions), Mary Fletcher, Alex Booth, Linda Stimpson, Wayne Thomas, Joe Wilcox

Apologies: Fritz Simpson, Tricia Roberts, Kate Boylin, Lesley Thomas, Mark Fletcher, Jayne Green

AGENDA

Last Meeting Follow-up

Minutes from previous AGM presented to the group. No issues arising. Steve Weaver propped acceptance of minutes. Wayne Thomas seconded acceptance of minutes. AGM minutes signed and approved.

Treasurer Report

Wendy Willats reported that it has been a tough year with Covid restrictions limiting funds coming into the group. We did however, make £3850 which resulted in the group not having to tap into the Development Fund (currently holding at £60,410). Going forward it would be beneficial to the group to find alternative storage for flats and technical equipment as the storage cost is high. It is the hope going forward that we will be able to readjust and have funds once more coming into the group with future productions and fund-raising events. Please see attached the breakdown of funds. Report proposed by Linda Stimpson and Seconded by Holly Jordan-Norris. All approved. At this time Wendy Willats is stepping down as Treasurer. She wished to extend many thanks for all the support she has received while performing this role.

Chairman Report

Richard extended thanks to Trustees, Artistic Director, Session Leaders, Committees, and all volunteers for their work in supporting Dynamo during a difficult year. A special mention to Wendy for her continued support and ongoing Treasurer duties during a very difficult time. Richard acknowledged that it is a thankless position and Wendy has performed her duties with dedication and has been grateful for her support in the role.

Richard continued by saying that the last year has been tough on the group with the restrictions of Covid and the pandemic. This impacted our members in ways that we could not predict. We were unable to recruit new members so for the first time the group had no year 6 or 7 members. We also lost a few members due to not being able to run sessions as regularly expected. Those members that have remained continue to be enthusiastic and embrace the group. The reduction in members and lack of productions have impacted the finances of the group. We are grateful to The Pallant for their understanding and support during the lockdown and for the reduction in rent during a time when we could not hold sessions.

Although productions and performances were sparse during the pandemic the group managed to produce a variety of radio shows and a video Shield. Meetings were held online via Zoom with the support of Mary, Wendy and Andrew. This allowed the members to interact with each other in a different manner and learn new skills that have not been available before now. Unfortunately we had a group for sixth formers that were unable to receive their leaving certificates due to lockdowns. They were invited back alongside our current leavers and have now received certificates in a leaving presentation in September 2021.

As chair of the group Richard extended his thanks to everyone for the support and dedication to the group during the Pandemic. At this time Richard is stepping down as chair. He thanks everyone for their support during his time as Chair for the group. He wishes his successor and the group a wonderful future.

Report proposed by Wendy Willats and seconded by Steve Weaver. Passed

Artistic Director Report

Andrew Bowker stated that it has been unsurprisingly a difficult year with Covid and the Pandemic. The group were within one week of performing the Director's Challenge known as The Shield in March when the country went into lockdown. The cast lead by the upper sixth form members had worked hard on these performances which had the component of making and using a puppet in their performance. These puppets had to be abandoned to gather dust in storage. Members are nevertheless to be applauded for their determination to ensure the survival of the company. The early part of the year yielded zoom sessions in which cast members planned and rehearsed activities that could be performed in lock down situations or as a Lockdown show when lockdown was concluded. As the pandemic evolved it sadly became obvious that it was going to be sometime before a performance in front of an audience was to be possible. In the summer term members were able to meet in small groups outside. We looked into the possibility of performing for an audience outside but restrictions didn't allow for the possibility of this form of play. This was unfortunate as for the first time in Dynamo history we were not able to have a play for our leavers. When restrictions eased in the Autumn we were able to meet again but with limited numbers due to ongoing restrictions. The members were split into smaller bubble groups that rehearsed and recorded a radio show that could be played for a remote audience. This was a new venture for the company and a new experience for many of our members. Unfortunately, we were unable to do our Christmas show and after the New Year had to return to zoom meetings due to another lockdown. It was decided to do the 2021 Directors Challenge as a short film. Shield groups were chosen and these groups were eventually able to meet up for rehearsals and filming. When the company was once again able to meet up in June, after a 15 month gap, the efforts of the company culminated in a premiere event night showing the films made for the Shield. In mid-July the company was finally able to put together a performance aptly named A Show of Sorts in front of a limited audience. The show had its challenges with Covid isolations and disappearing cast members but to actually be able to perform in front of an audience again brought joy to every member and helper at Dynamo.

Proposed by Richard Watts Seconded by Wendy Willats Approved

Election of Trustees

Current Trustee Officer

Chair of Trustees Richard Watts standing down

Vice Chair currently vacant

Treasurer Wendy Willats standing down

Secretary to be filled

Trustees election or reelection of trustees having served 3 year term

Richard Watts nominated Wendy Willats for Chair of Trustees

Holly Jordan-Norris nominated Mark Fletcher for Treasurer

Alex Booth nominated Fritz Simpson for Vice Chair

Secretary is currently being filled by Holly Jordan-Norris no nomination necessary at this time as role can be filled within the group.

All members approved and passed the nominations. Congratulations all

Alex Booth and Linda Stimpson 3 years expired Trustees. Both Alex and Linda stand as Trustees for another 3 years. Carried.

No other business.

Thank you from all for the dedication to the group.