

**HAVANT DYNAMO YOUTH THEATRE
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 24 APRIL 2017**

PRESENT: Anna and Holly Beauvoisin, Alex Booth, Andrew Bowker, Simon Boylin, Graham Frost, Tony Goodbody, Jayne Green, Tricia Roberts, Wayne Thomas, Richard Watts, Steve Weaver, Kevin West, Pauline West, Mo Whiting, Wendy Willats, Bev Wade, Nigel Wade, Linda Stimpson, Barbara and Nick Haward, Jeff Allen, Sally and Dan Stroud, Holly Jordan Norris, Katy Loh, Ralph Cousins, Eric, Lucy and Mark Fletcher.

1. APOLOGIES: Lucy Flannery,

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

2. MINUTES OF LAST AGM: Acceptance of the minutes as a correct record of last year's AGM, proposed by Tricia Roberts, seconded by Jayne Green. Agreed by the meeting.

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 and drew the meeting's attention to:

- The accounts have been independently examined by Gibson Whittier, a firm based in Denmead and agreed by the Trustees.
- As a result of the change to Charity Commission rules on free reserves, only £700 was transferred to the Development Fund. We only just covered our costs and are expecting higher rents from St Faith's and The Spring. During the coming financial year, we will be performing 2 shows at St Faith's Hall and 2 at The Spring. Due to these expected increases, it is proposed to increase the subscriptions from £55 a term to £60.
- All shows made a profit despite some higher costs than usual.
- Thanks to Nigel Wade for the donation of £501 from his sponsored bike ride in France and to Joy and David Porter for their generous donations.
- A questioner from the floor asked what are the financial aspirations of Dynamo? The accumulations of funds in the Development Fund are to either move on to a site of our own or develop in St Faiths. Developing a Technical group is an aspiration which will need funding.

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 and the proposed increase in subscriptions. Proposed by Mark Fletcher, seconded by Barbara Haward and unanimously accepted by the meeting.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Richard Watts)

- As we enter the 36th year of Dynamo, off the back of another successful year for the group, membership continues to remain stable, as we only had one leaver in September. The group continues to be enthusiastic, talented and committed.
- There has been another varied programme over the year, allowing members new opportunities to learn and grow. Many of the older members have again helped out with the directing and planning of shows, something that the Artistic Director and committee are very keen to continue.
- Things are moving forward with our hiring agreement for St Faith's Church Hall now called 'The Pallant Centre' and we have signed the initial agreement and are in advanced talks with the hall's management team to put the finishing touches to a long term hire agreement. This has secured 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, but 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.
- I would also offer a special thanks to the Officers, Trustees and Artistic Director for their work in supporting Dynamo during the year, making the Dynamo experience a memorable and important part of our young people's lives.

6. ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Andrew Bowker)

- Andrew started by stating that he is always trying to move the group forward with new and different activities and ideas. He has been successful in getting the 6th form to come up with fund raising ideas and the organisation to see them through. Two successful events were a Scavenger Hunt in May and 'Fright Night' at Halloween.
- There was a very successful London trip organised by Sarah Sweatman and Sally Stroud to see 'The Curious Case of the Dog in the Night'. These trips are both fun for the members and broaden their experience of theatre.
- Andrew commented on the size of the stage at St Faith's Hall vs The Spring while the infrastructure at The Spring makes life easier for the crew. Ideally, we need a permanent performance venue with the size of stage we had for Joseph. There were 80+ people helping with Joseph!
- Andrew is very keen to see 6th formers learning about direction, organisation and technical aspects of staging a performance and not just coming to Dynamo to act.
- There are also opportunities for adults to get involved with direction – Graham Frost will be making his directorial debut with the 6th form show in September. He knows of no other youth theatre that has such a 100% volunteer ethos. This, despite the hard work involved, is why do all this work – for the benefit of the development of the members.
- 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.

7. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES & OFFICERS:

Mo Whiting, Kevin West, and Linda Stimpson stood down as trustees, offered themselves for re-election and were elected en bloc from the floor, proposed by Wendy Willats and seconded by Tony Goodbody. Richard Watts and Wendy Willats were re-elected unanimously on a block vote as Chair and Treasurer. The post of Vice-Chair was again left open. Tony Goodbody was prepared to continue as secretary. Eric Fletcher agreed to join the Committee.

8. AOB

- The meeting was reminded about the fund raising quiz on 1st May 2017, organised by the 6th formers. Always a good evening.

Meeting closed at 8:05pm