

Friends of the Theatre Royal
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 28 July 2018

Attendance

There were 32 members present as per the register.

In attendance: Philip Bernays and Ashley Earnshaw.

1. Apologies for Absence

Jim Ainslie, Marian Green, Elizabeth McCaffrey, Dorothy McKean, Pat Roxborough, Pam Tomlinson and Liz Turley.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 22 July 2017

Acceptance of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting was proposed by David Dewar and seconded by Geraldine Chaplin.

3. Chair's Report

Pam Clarke, chairing the meeting on behalf of Jim Ainslie, advised she will give a review of our year and activities followed by a review of our finances given by Yvonne Richardson.

We have had an interesting and varied programme of events as is our custom and I am delighted so many of you support our activities.

In the year to 31 March 2019 we had:

- 12 Inside Views which brought us 40 guests from *Mamma Mia* in April 2017 to *Art* in March 2018. Copious teas and coffees served by Jon.
- We also had a Teatime Inside View with the lovely Ria Jones from *Sunset Boulevard* as well as visits from our patrons – Sir Matthew Bourne in May 2017 year and Jill Halfpenny in February 2018. Our Patrons are very supportive and we will see them again in the coming year.
- The Teatime Talks continue to be enjoyed with Professor John Derry being especially popular. He will be back in March 2019.
- We also had three local visits to Dunstan Staiths, Alderman Fenwick's House and a Riverside Walk.
- Our new events wouldn't be complete without the Scarborough Trip to see "*A Brief History of Women*"
- Our Christmas lunch at Northern Counties Club was lovely and was a sell out.

The theatre had a good year with healthy audience numbers and there has been a 13% increase in the number of Friends' members. This now stands at 6781.

A lot of work goes into all of these events so I would like to thank my fellow committee members;

- Yvonne, our Treasurer, Scarborough and local walks organiser
- June, our Secretary without whom today wouldn't have happened and for keeping us straight
- Karin, our chief raffle organiser and who ensures the visiting companies get their fruit baskets when they arrive. It is always appreciated.
- Gillian, who keeps Matchams Numbers in order. It is only £12 a year and a monthly prize of £100 is given out.
- Clive, Christine and Sue who support many of our events and assist with the raffles etc, as well as being valuable committee members.

Today Jim Ainslie steps down as Chairman after serving three years in that role. Although Jim has not been able to be with us much this year due to ill health he has still very much been our Chairman and provided much advice and wisdom by email and telephone.

Pam then presented Carol, Jim's wife, with a token of our appreciation on Jim's behalf.

Pam said we are also hugely indebted to Ashley Earnshaw for all his work as Friends Organiser. He does huge amounts of work behind the scenes, not least in getting our Inside View guests, Ashley was presented with a small token of our appreciation.

Pam concluded by thanking the Theatre Management for their support.

4. Treasurer's report on accounts ended 31 March 2018

Yvonne Richardson, the Treasurer, presented the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The income and expenditure account shows a small deficit for the year of £433, and improved on the previous year's deficit of £1583.

Income for the year amounted to £4832, an increase of £668 from the previous year.

Items of note within the income category are as follows:

- There was an increase of over 30% in Inside View income, both from the ticket and raffle ticket sales, amounting to £897
- Fundraising events which included Tea Time Talks, an up market version of our Alderman Fenwick's House visit and a guided walk encompassing the history of the railways in the area, generated a healthy £868
- The annual visit to Scarborough generated a profit of £936, increased from previous years by a one-off early bird ticket promotion by the Stephen Joseph Theatre.
- Matcham's Numbers again boosted our income, this year by the sum of £1285.

Expenditure during the year amounted to £5265, a fall of £481.

Items of note within the expenditure category are:

- Wine and gifts for Inside View guests amounted to £105 and other sundry expenses, mainly thank you gifts, totalled £252.
- The ever popular fruit baskets to welcome the visiting companies cost £908
- A donation of £4000 was made to the Theatre for the chair refurbishment project.

The Balance Sheet shows net assets of £5177, represented mainly by cash at bank and in hand and amounts owed of £1611 of which the majority is £1491 owed to the Friends from the Theatre for ticket sales etc. which are collected via the Booking Office. There is a small debtor for £462 in respect of a sum owed for a Tea Time Talk and a fruit delivery received just before the year end.

Yvonne advised that Keith Proudfoot, our Independent Examiner, carried out the review of the accounts and presented a clean report and asked if there were any specific questions. There were none. Ken Turley commented that she had done a very good job.

Yvonne asked for a proposer to accept the accounts. Ken Turley proposed acceptance and Sue Jenkins seconded.

5. Election of examiner

Yvonne advised that that Keith Proudfoot has agreed to continue in the role of examiner of the accounts. Yvonne asked for a proposal to appoint Keith Proudfoot in this capacity in 2018-19. The proposal was given by Pam Clarke and seconded by David Dewar.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

There are six Officer posts up for election:

Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary

There being only one nomination for Chairman, Pam Clarke was duly elected.

There being only one nomination for Vice Chairman, Clive Freemantle was duly elected.

There being only one nomination for Treasurer, Yvonne Richardson was duly elected.

There being only one nomination for Assistant Treasurer, Gillian Wingfield was duly elected.

There being only one nomination for Secretary, June Svenson was duly elected.

There was only one nomination for Assistant Secretary, Jim Ainslie was duly elected

There being six nominations for six committee posts the following were duly elected - Joan Abela, Carol Ainslie, Ruth Barber, Maggie Hornsby, Eve Purvis and Mark Sugden.

Karin Dyke, Christine Holmes-Franklin, and Sue Jenkins continue to serve as committee members.

Meeting closed and Philip Bernays took questions from the floor.