

**CHALFONT ST GILES SHOW  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022 AT 8PM  
GARDENS ASSOCIATION HALL, SCHOOL LANE,  
CHALFONT ST GILES**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

**From the Committee:**

Paul Buchanan (Hon President), Simon Swerling (Chair), Grant Kirkby (Treasurer), Eleanor O'Connor (Secretary), Des Bray, Vicky Hinds, Stephen Hinds, Peter Scott, Chris Drury, Rob Gill and Gary Jackson.

**Also present:**

Kathleen Martin, Carl Jackson, Mary Bentall, Peter Bentall, Angie Johnson, Peter Bentall, Joan Bishop and Briony Wickenden.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Vince Parry, Carly Sweales, Tony Hook, Yolanda Gillam, Lizzie Rawlinson, Martin Hill, Barbara Conheaney, Mary Holloway, Caroline Jackson, Garry Brown and John Bradley.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

Approval of the minutes of the last AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 were proposed by Des Bray, seconded by Joan Bishop, and agreed by those present.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. President's Report**

Paul Buchanan reported as follows:

*From a couple of years of not doing very much, we've been very busy! At last year's AGM I mentioned we were hoping to hold two events and they both happened.*

*The Queen's Platinum Jubilee appeared to be a great success as was the Village Show.*

*We tweaked a couple of things for the Show: firstly keeping it mainly on Stone Meadow and secondly gave free entry to everyone under 18.*

*Next year is the King's Coronation and we are already planning a street party on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the event.*

*The Village Show will probably be of a similar size to last year, on Stone Meadow.*

*We managed to make a small profit and give some much needed funding to local causes this year. Grant will give us more detail along with some interesting facts and figures. We gave to 8 good causes during the year.*

*Before I pass you over to Simon, I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work along with the army of volunteers that make our events come to life.*

## **5. Chairman's Report**

Simon Swerling reported as follows:

*Just to say it's been a fantastic year despite Covid. It was our intention to downscale the show in response to feedback that it was becoming too commercial and bearing in mind it is primarily for the good of the village. The show is becoming more difficult each year due to red tape and increased costs and we will no doubt have further discussions in 2023 about the ticket price.*

*We are very grateful for the support we receive. There will be challenging times as we are now in a recession. We recognise the need to keep every age group interested and last year, without Premier Rides, we were losing teenagers. Next year we hope to encourage all generations.*

*The committee managed two events during 2022 and the sub-committee headed by Stephen Hinds, which organises the street party, do a very good job.*

*All that remains is for me to thank everyone involved in the show and the committee for all you do to make the events happen.*

## **6. Treasurer's Report and Accounts - including appointment of an Auditor**

Grant Kirkby summarised the accounts as follows:

*Normally I would compare this year against last year but we did not hold a show in 2021. The first column in the accounts shows a consolidation of the street party and show, the blue compares the last show in 2019 against this year's and the end column is the variance. The middle columns compare this year's street party with that in 2021.*

*The street party generated a surplus of just over £5,000 against £4,392. It was attended by a lot more people so the hire of equipment was higher because of this. Sponsorship was less than previous years but overall street party generated an increased profit which was a very good result.*

*The show shows a surplus before depreciation of £4,563 which is £6,457 worse than 2019. I was concerned that it wouldn't make any money at all this year primarily due to cost increases which came to our attention when we started ordering but by that stage we had already taken the decision that under 18s would be free.*

*Ticket sales were down £2,881. Numbers adults 2,063 2022 against 2,151 2019. The shortfall was not as much as expected.*

*Catering is nearly £7000 lower than 2019. The reason for this is that we received very little money from the pubs who ran the BBQ and bar on a profit basis but whose costs wiped out any money due to us. We will address this next year. Advertising in the schedule/programme was down mainly because we didn't have a programme. In the past we had the opportunity to sell advertising in both. We have not discussed this for 2023 yet but it will be an issue for consideration.*

*Sponsorship was slightly down and this is something we will work on earlier in the year.*

*Other events is impacted by our decision not to invite Premier Rides to the show this year but for which we normally get £1000.*

*The raffles did extremely well at both the street party and the show.*

*We also received an anonymous donation of £300 which is much appreciated.*

*With regard to costs, everything was much in line with expectation because although we had cut back we still didn't save money because of hire increases.*

*FJL Recycling provided the skips and waived the charge which was greatly appreciated. This doesn't appear in the accounts overtly.*

*During the year BAT4 St Giles ceased its activities and merged with the show. £7,926 was transferred from the BAT4 accounts to the show accounts which boosted cash. Capital expenditure included the purchase of 10 gazebos and a sound system for both events. These are a good investment for the future and we may buy more sound equipment.*

*The show has a surplus of £4,563 in 2022 against £10,700 in 2019.*

*The cash position has moved quite significantly. In 2019 it was £56,468 a drop of £4,381 to £52,127 in 2020. We gave charitable donations from reserves. In 2021 the cash declined to £51,845. We received income from the street party and continued to give donations. As a consequence of the BAT4 cash and generation of funds, cash is now up to £58,658. This puts us in a healthy position.*

### **Charitable Funding Update**

*I propose we continue to make donations with a limit set for 2023 of £3000.*

*The Constitution restricted the committee to give donations only within the amount agreed at the AGM. We are proposing a change to this to allow flexibility for the committee to decide if additional funds need to be given.*

*I have looked at the history of donations given by the show. From 2012 to last year, it has given £44,000 to 39 different local organisations. This is an important part of our work. Last year we donated to 8 organisations.*

Grant reported that Vince Parry has confirmed the accounts have been audited and they have been signed.

**Election of Auditor** – Grant Kirkby nominated Vince Parry and this was seconded by Rob Gill, and agreed by those present.

Questions: Kathleen asked about reserves. Grant explained that the costs of putting on the show are anywhere between £25,000 and £35,000. If we had to cancel the show at the last minute, we would be liable to most if not all of that sum. We should be operating at around £50,000 to £55,000 to cover us for two complete years of wipe-out. The change in the Constitution will make it easier to manage the reserves because if the street party is successful we could increase donations whilst maintaining sufficient reserves.

Des noted that the hiring of tables and chairs involved a delivery charge. Grant confirmed that this made a considerable difference and amounted to a 6-7% increase.

## **7. Election of the Executive Committee 22/23:**

It was agreed that the executive committee and committee be appointed in total rather than individually.

Hon President – Paul Buchanan

Chairman – Simon Swerling

Secretary – Eleanor O'Connor

Treasurer – Grant Kirkby

Committee Members – existing members comprising Garry Brown, Barbara Conheaney, Tony Hook, Des Bray, Vicky Hinds, Stephen Hinds, Peter Scott, Gary Jackson, Lizzie Rawlinson, Carly Sweales, Rob Gill, Martin Hill and Chris Drury, and new member Yolanda Gillam, were proposed by Des Bray, seconded by Kathleen Martin, and the appointments were agreed by those present.

## **8. Proposed Change to Constitution**

Grant explained that BAT4 St Giles changed completely from its original incarnation to organising events, mainly the street party. The committee members of BAT4 were all members of the show committee and BAT4 was merged with the show. The Constitution for the show is specific in its wording which restricts activities to organising the Show and does not include the street party or other events. The committee would like to change the wording of this to allow flexibility.

The Committee therefore proposed changing the wording of item 2 in the Constitution from “The objective of the association is to promote and manage an annual show in the village of Chalfont St Giles.” to “The objective of the association is to promote and manage events in the village of Chalfont St. Giles, the main event being an annual show.” An additional sentence is proposed at the end of this paragraph to read “Other events can be arranged as approved by the Executive committee.”

In order to allow flexibility to pay donations over and above that stated at the AGM when income allows, the committee proposed removing the sentence at the end of item 9 which currently reads “The committee may not distribute more during one year than the amount agreed to be available at the immediately preceding AGM.”

These changes were proposed by Briony Wickenden, second by Joan Bishop and agreed by those present.

## **9. Date of next year's show**

Paul explained that the committee had been considering changing the date of the show from the first Saturday on the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the second Saturday on the 9<sup>th</sup>, mainly to allow school children to be more involved in the competitions and because many villagers are on holiday. However, some committee members who are crucial to the set-up of the show are not available on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The date of the show will therefore remain on the first Saturday which is 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023.

## **10. Any Other Business:**

Carol Nolder Cup – Paul explained that this is given to a person who has not received it before and who has been a significant help at the show. The committee has decided to present it to Mary Holloway who has been running the Hospitality Marquee for some years.

Chris proposed the show fund a duck house on the pond for the enjoyment of all the village. Paul noted that the Parish Council is working on rejuvenating the pond. Grant suggested this could be included in the project to refurbish the pond and could be made as an application by the Parish Council to the show. This would be considered by the Committee.

Paul thanked everyone present for attending.

The meeting closed at 20.45 hours.