

**Folk Camps Society Limited**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held at Toddington Village Hall, Toddington on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

The Chairman, Patrick Self, began with a slide show, depicting plans for camps in 2014 and detailing actions of the Council during the last year. He also thanked the members for their contribution to the smooth running of camps during the year.

He then introduced a proposed Folk Camps Bursary scheme to be financed by the generous legacy to Folk Camps Society from the late Yvonne Hunt. Its purpose will be to part fund places at summer camps for young people whose artistic input would benefit both themselves and Folk Camps. There was a short discussion about how the bursary would work.

The AGM was declared open at 15:15 by Patrick Self in the chair.

**1. Present:** 57 Governing Members

Apologies were received from 27 Governing Members.

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** Approval: Proposed by Cecil French seconded by Andy Malleson and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters arising:** There were none.

**4. Tellers for a ballot:** Tellers were not required as there was no election and no members' resolutions.

**5. Election of New Council members:** The following member was elected to serve on Council for 2013-2014:-  
Lou Tribus.

**6. Adoption of report & accounts:** Mic Spenceley, administration manager, commented that a decrease in bookings in 2013 had resulted in a drop in income. This had been offset by an even greater decrease in running costs resulting in a small operating loss offset by investment income. It should be recognised that costs can only be trimmed so far and not necessarily repeatable in future years. Patrick Self thanked the managers and sub-committees for their efforts to minimise costs. Adoption of the 2012-2013 accounts was proposed by Jacqueline Beattie, seconded by Sue Malleson and carried unanimously.

**7. Appointment of James de Frias as auditors:** Mic Spenceley, administration manager, commented that the current auditors were providing a very quick and efficient service which enabled the arrangement of the AGM in November.

Re-appointment of Auditors proposed by Ray Garnett, seconded by Sue Malleson and carried unanimously.

**8. Appointment of members of development fund committee:**

Mic Spenceley explained that the Development Fund is used to train and develop new staff and sponsor Governing Members with folk projects that needed financial assistance. It also covered the cost of apprentice places at camps and training courses in Food Hygiene and First Aid.

It was confirmed that the committee is made up of Council members and governing members.

Emily Malleson and Barry Pollard agreed to continue on the committee with Council members Liz Cooper, Patrick Self and Richard Jones.

**9. Resolutions in Advance:** There were none.

**10. Any other business:**

a) The chairman thanked Ann Tracey for providing refreshments during the day.

b) The chairman introduced the new managers to the members:-

Jenny Hopper – provisions manager

Caroline Mackinson – PR manager

Mick Green – sites manager

c) PR Manager, Caroline Mackinson, presented new posters to be used to promote particular camps.

d) Roger Bangs asked if there had been progress on the appointment of a new equipment manager to follow Barry Moule after his retirement at the end of next season. The chairman stated that an announcement would be ready quite soon.

e) Sue Malleson asked if the increase in bookings for the 2014 summer camps was as a result of returning to favourite sites. The chairman replied that this was a factor in conjunction with the rearrangement of staff placements and running the camps one week later.

d) Ray Garnett welcomed the provision of more shower facilities and asked if it would be possible to fit clips for the shower head so that it need not be held by hand. This will be investigated.

e) Richard Kenyon asked if sites were being researched 2 years in advance. The chairman responded that Council understood the necessity to start planning further in advance and the sites manager was investigating accordingly. It needed to be recognised that sometimes unexpected obstacles appeared to the use of some sites so caution was necessary.

f) Mic Spenceley encouraged members to book more of the workshop weekends. There were questions from the floor regarding their suitability for families. The chairman responded that this was already being taken into account by the provision of more artistic staff to enable a wider range of workshops.

Emily Malleson added that the timing and location of workshop weekends could also be a factor for families.

Sue Malleson requested that more attention be paid to the inclusion of children's singing games in camps programmes generally.

g) Jacqueline Beattie thanked Council, managers and camp staff for their hard work.

The meeting closed at 16:05

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Chair man 15 November 2014