

## **Minutes of the AGM 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017-07-06**

**Present:** Berkeley Ranby, Alan Dean, Ian Glynn, Sharon Taylor, Susan Towell, Mohan Bhakoo, Liz, Callum Jarvis, Sue Hearfield, Glenys Berry, Bill Berry, Linda Butt, Mum Bhakoo, Beryl Duggan, Bryan Hobday, Christine Bell, Debbie Duncan, Ben McKeary, David Walters, Norman Lyon, Mrs Lyon, Sharon, Margaret Snow, Lillian Parry, Audrey Sykes, Jill Whitmore, Glenys Salmon, Neil Jarvis, Eddie Currin, Gordon Jones, John Andrew, Norman Hughes, Neil Eastwood, Janet Hobday, Michael Bell, Sue Wellsbury, Nora Pipkin, Ray Asworth, Ellen Burke, Jacqui Trares, Steve Trares, Sharon Coombes

**Apologies:** Steve Andrews, Ena Wright, Mark Edge, Joyce Jones, Tony Davenport

**Minutes of the last AGM:** Approval proposed by Mohan Bhakoo and seconded by Jill Whitmore

**Matters arising:** None

**The Chair, Linda Butt, read the following report:**

Good evening and welcome, it's lovely to see so many familiar faces along with some new ones.

Before we begin I'd just like to take a few minutes to remember those members who have died in the previous year, we have felt these losses keenly. Though they may not be here the people we have lost remain a part of the CDFB family and we shall not forget them.

Once again, as chair I have pleasure in presenting my report at this , the 7<sup>th</sup> AGM.

Last year I reported that we had an extremely busy year and the last 12 months have been no different. I cant believe it's 12 months ago I was reporting that a feasibility study has been done on the renovation of the unit at Rossmore and the first job was to install a new roof.

We have made incredible progress. The roof has been replaced, the outside walls have been clad. The huge gas heaters have been removed along with old pipes and lights. Openings have been created for new fire doors and these have been purchased and fitted.

The trading side is all but finished with only the plumbing and decoration to finish. The Trading Area has two new offices, a toilet, independent heating unit, and four purpose

built hoppers. It also boasts a mezzanine floor on which stock is stored. ground level has, 2 work rooms, storage area with hoppers and the cloakroom.

Work has begun in the main building - the Charity Side. Work in the Charity side is well underway, dividing and fire walls have been erected, walls have been demolished and electricity supplies have been re-seated.

Without the hard work of our fundraising and trading teams this work would not have been possible.

Diligent project management by Sue, who somehow manages to get the best out of the paid builders and our wonderful volunteers. (I digress a bit here with a little story) we sold some scaffolding on ebay and when the man came to pick it up, somehow, after talking to Sue, he ended up doing some welding for us for nothing. Good will, generosity and hard work has enabled us to be where we are today. We are hoping that the Charity side will be open for Christmas.

Our activity clubs continue to be well supported. The Wednesday mystery trips are running again with different destinations suggested by members.

Members Meetings are held every month in Ellesmere Port and in Chester, These meeting are important as it's your chance to have your say about your charity.

The cinema club will run again after the summer holidays. There were some initial problems with the audio description equipment and we will ensure that these have been rectified. We are also working with the Storyhouse in Chester and hope to have a club running there shortly.

We will have lots of scope to extend the range of our activities when the unit is fully operational. Members have already put forward suggestions for new activities, so watch this space, it's going to be exciting.

Linda then listed all the current clubs and services and proposed ideas for future services.

Our membership is increasing and we would like to reach as many people as possible. it's up to all of us to spread the

word, please let us know of anyone who you think who might be interested in joining us or bring them along to a members meeting.

The fundraising team have brought in about £36,000 so far this year and are reaching their targets, huge vote of thanks to everyone who helps with this.

Volunteers are involved with every aspect of our work and play a vital role within the organization. There are too many to thank individually but I would like to say that without your support we could not function.

I thank our staff for going the extra mile when necessary and lastly my sincere thanks go to Sue, our leader, our conductor our Boudicca!

**The Financial Report below was then read by Berkeley Ranby**

**Accounts Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

What follows is a report based on the annual accounts that were prepared by our accountants, Johnstone Howell. These

were approved by the board of trustees of the charity on 7th July 2017 just prior to this AGM.

Everything went very well again as far as finances are concerned in 2016 and the charity's financial position substantially improved over the year under review.

Total funds are up in 2016 to £275,210 from £234,943 in 2015.

The two major contributions to income were from the gross profits made by our two charity shops of £115,513 (up on the previous year's £105,814) and the income from the collections organised throughout the year of £78,896 (collections raised £75,123 last year).

All this means that the charity's income exceeded its expenditure in 2016 by £40,267 – this is down on the previous year which was £86,895. This difference is primarily due to the ongoing refurbishment of the building. Money has been invested in improving the building, which is now worth considerably more than when we purchased it.

We continue to improve financially year on year.

What the charity has achieved financially is quite remarkable. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of all our staff and volunteers.

CDFB is in a very healthy position with respect to finances. Having grown from almost nothing at its registration in 2009, the charity now has a very healthy cushion of reserves, a building we own outright and four vehicles we own and run. Just as we have grown financially so have our services expanded.

Work continues on the refurbishment of the building and we have enough money to do this.

I recommend that the AGM approve this report and the charity and trading accounts on which it is based.

The accounts were approved.

Appointment of auditor/independent examiner. It was agreed that Johnstone Howell would be appointed again next year.

Election of the Board of Trustees:

The following people put themselves forward for election to the board of trustees:

Glenys Salmon

Mohan Bhakoo

Linda Butt

Joyce Jones

Susan Towell

Jill Whitmore

All were elected, there were no other candidates.

AOB: There is a new club in Upton Chester, which will run every two weeks on a Thursday.

One of our members offered an electric wheelchair, free to a good home.