

## **MINUTES OF THE HH&CGS AGM HELD AT THE CASTLE INN, HURST ON THURSDAY APRIL 30<sup>th</sup> 2015**

**Present:** Kathy Tuggey-Chairman, Keith and Julie Attfield, Ted and Betty Smith, Geoff Manning, Paul Martin, Edwin Jones, Marion Maybank, Frank Whittaker, Howard and Janet Larkin, Ken Curry, Mac Stephenson, Lou Robinson.

**Apologies:** Penny Curry, Barbara Stephenson, Gavin and Sue Hastings, John and Jo Penney, John and Ann-Marie Vimpany, David and Naomi Bassett, Terry Bunyard, Christine Cymbaluk.

**New Constitution:** Keith suggested that the constitution should state the date of the Society's year-end and this was agreed, which was March 31st. An amendment to clause 11 (Winding-up the Society) of the proposed new constitution was put forward by Geoff and adopted by the members present. This amendment states; 'The assets should go to the RHS or other local societies with similar aims'. It was agreed by all members present that this amended proposed constitution shall now be formally adopted as the Hurst Horticultural and Cottage Garden Society's new constitution and be circulated to all members together with the minutes of this meeting which Frank will do.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Penney could not attend the meeting but Frank had been briefed by John prior to the meeting. Frank distributed a Statement of Accounts for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 which showed a £350 donation to Royal Chelsea Hospital and an expenses sum of £310.94 which comprised mainly £238.50 for a farewell buffet for Terry Bunyard and a £40 gift to Harlequin Marquees for help with moving and erecting tents. The closing balance at the bank was £8,519.39 credit.

**Chairman's Report:** Kathy reported that her first year in office had gone quickly, she had enjoyed it and was encouraged by the strong interest in the Society from the members.

She stated that whilst we participated in the 2014 Hurst Country Show we will not be doing so this year. The mini-show would take place this year on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

The 2014 main show was a great success with overall entries up by 6% however children's entries were down and we will continue to try to generate more interest from children. The attendance of Chelsea Pensioners at the show was memorable and we donated £350 to the Royal Chelsea Hospital charity. Kathy stated that the continued success of the show is entirely due to the dedicated team of people who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make the show possible. She also recognised the importance of the show sponsors whose support is crucial. The show's printed schedule was a particular feature of the show and she thanked Keith for his hard work and attention to detail in its production.

Kathy mentioned that we now had a new constitution which will assist in the running of the Society. During the year we had made a decision not to accept a sizeable offer of sponsorship from a local company.

After many years Naomi had decided to stand down from the role of Vice-Chairman and Kathy thanked her for her commitment to the Society and looked forward to her continued involvement albeit in an informal capacity.

Kathy ended her report by saying how much she is looking forward to this year`s show and once again thanked everyone for their continued support of the show and the Society.

**Officers:** Kathy was willing to serve as Chairman and with no other candidates was elected. Nominations were sought for Vice-Chairman and Keith volunteered and seconded by Ted and Howard was duly elected. John Penney was willing to continue as Treasurer and with no other nominations was elected. Frank was willing to continue as Secretary and mentioned that Sheila wanted to stand down as Joint Secretary but he was willing to do this alone, with no other nominations was elected. Janet was willing to continue as Horticultural Secretary and with no other nominations was elected. Julie was willing to continue as Home Industries Secretary and with no other nominations was elected. Ken was willing to continue as Field Manager and with no other nominations was elected. Paul was willing to continue as Show Entry & Results Co-ordinator and with no other nominations was elected.

With the officers of the Society elected Kathy stated that this by no means precludes others from being involved and such involvement would be most welcome.

**Questions:** Geoff asked if future meetings could start at 8pm instead of the usual 7:30pm and after a vote of 14-1 it was decided to retain the 7:30pm start.

The meeting ended and was immediately followed by a business meeting.