

# Barham & District Horticultural Society Draft Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 13th January 2016

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**PRESENT: BRIG. BRIG. M. ATHERTON (PRESIDENT), TIM BINES (CHAIRMAN), MRS. P AUSTIN (TREASURER), MR. B WRIGHT & MRS J. BORGIOLI (SHOW SECRETARIES), MR. A CLOUGH, MR. J CROTHALL, MRS. E DALLISON, MRS. M. DUKE, , MRS. J. STRIBBLING , MRS J. TERRY AND SOME 50 MEMBERS.**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the President, all officers and members to the AGM. He explained that the short business meeting was to formally appoint officers and committee for the coming year, receive the financial report for the last year , provide comments and suggestions using the forms provided and to receive annual subscriptions from members. The papers provided for those attending were the agenda, the draft minutes from the 2014 AGM, the financial report for this year and the 2015 Autumn Newsletter.

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Mrs J. Forbes-Evans who was unwell.

## **2. President's Address**

The President asked members to stand for a moment of silence to remember those who had died and in particular the recent death of our long standing member and ever active Vice-President Mr Ewart Clough who had contributed so much to our Society over numerous years. The President then asked for comments on the minutes of the previous AGM (2014/15) and none were made. The minutes were proposed for adoption by Tishy Flemming, seconded by Julie Stribbling and approved nem con. The President pointed out that the minutes were already on the society's web site and how pleased he was with its quality. He thanked the hard working Chairman, officers and the committee for all their work during the last year and noted that membership was healthy and encouraged members to participate in the Shows and other events the Society organises. The past year had been well reported in the Autumn Newsletter and the ongoing activities were in the relevant Parish magazines, as well as the newly designed Show and Events Schedule. Finally he thanked Andrew Clough for his good work on the seed order.

## **3. Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Austin reported that the financial situation is healthy and explained the figures in this year's Financial Report; she invited members to comment or ask questions. A question was asked about the cost of website maintenance and whether this was a one off cost. The Chairman made clear it was a one off cost in part to bring the work on the web site up to date and that there would be a much smaller ongoing annual charge. There were no other questions and adoption of the report was proposed by Wendi Atherton seconded by Maureen Taylor and approved nem.con.

## **4. Election of Officers and Committee**

The President announced that the current officers had agreed to carry on for the coming year although both Tim Bines and Pat Austin hope to hand over their roles at the end of 2016. The following were then elected: Chairman - Tim Bines, Membership Sec - Liz Dallison, Events Organiser - Jill Terry, Press Secretary - Mary Duke, Treasurer - Pat Austin, Show Secretaries – Brian Wright and Jan Borgioli, Webmaster - Tony Borgioli, and Barham Village Hall representative - Julie Stribbling. The President then asked if there were any other, than those mentioned, who wished to stand for election to any post or to the committee. There was no response. Tishy Flemming proposed the officers seconded by Alan Duke approved nem.con. In addition Andrew Clough, John Crothall and Jane Forbes-Evan were proposed as continuing committee members. This was proposed by Jean Clough and seconded by Diana Forrest approved nem con. The President thanked Sue Smith, and Terry Cummings for their work on the committee and also Jean Clough whose long service as Show Secretary was greatly appreciated. The President proposed, and it was unanimously agreed, that Terry Cummings and Jean Clough be made Honorary Vice-Presidents.

## 5. 2016 programme

Tim Bines pointed out that this year the Show Schedule was in a new format and had been expanded to include all Society events. The forward programme was on page 19 of the booklet which he quickly outlined. He particularly emphasised the talk by Roger Platts (5 times Chelsea gold medal winner) in February as a key feature of the coming year. Trips had been arranged for members to Downs Court, and to Great Comp and Downderry Nursery. In addition to the events listed there were ad hoc meetings in the Duke of Cumberland to discuss and exchange ideas and help.

He asked members if they really needed a Spring Newsletter when all the information is in the Schedule and on the website. It was agreed that this was not necessary. The Chairman asked if the timing and date of the AGM suited members and following a suggestion and brief discussion it was agreed to consider a start time of 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm, the raffle was drawn and members were invited to complete their their suggestion forms, and enjoy the refreshments provided by the committee whilst participating in a gardening quiz.