



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING At THE HERITAGE and LEARNING CENTRE, SCAMPSTON HALL SATURDAY 19th MARCH 2016

Val Hepworth Chair,
David Tiptaft Treasurer,
Vice President, Caroline Legard
Minutes: Malcolm Barnett

Welcome

Val, as Trust Chair, warmly welcomed members to the 19th AGM and reminded everyone how lovely it was to be back at Scampston. She recounted how the 2005 AGM had been at Scampston, although then it was in the village hall and not in 'these historic horticultural surroundings'. She described how that then 'the wonderful Richardson Conservatory, where the AGM was being held today, had been in a parlous state and out of bounds' - 'now just look at it, looking very fine as a heritage and learning centre'. She concluded her welcome by reminding everyone how pertinent that at our AGM of 2016, the 300th anniversary of Capability Brown's birth, we will be able to walk the Scampston landscape that he himself had walked in the Autumn of 1772.

Caroline Legard then took the chair for the AGM. There were seventy five members present.

1. Apologies were received from The Countess of Harewood, Ray Blyth, Simon Charlton, Martin Constantine, Penelope Dawson Brown, Heather Garnett, Peter Goodchild, Louise Wickham, Moira and Graham Fulton, Susan Kellerman, Dick Knight, Jill McCandish, Matthew Wrigley, Pippa and Jeremy Morrogh Ryan, Molly Brocklesby, Rosemary Anderson, John Barker, Pauline Murray

2. Minutes of the 18th AGM on 21st March 2015 at Pool in Wharfedale Village Memorial Hall were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed: Tony Cleaver, Seconded: Margaret Nieke.

3. Matters arising: none.

4. Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements and Trustees' Annual Report.

Report had been mailed out in advance.

David paid tribute to Val, our Chair, for her leadership throughout the year, for holding the Trust together and also for preparing the Report.

He reported that our accountants, UHY Smith Calvert, had commented that our accounts were all in order. He also paid tribute to the work of the Events Committee and for their contribution to the Trust funds.

5. Adoption of the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Adoption of the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements were proposed by Karen Lynch and seconded by Win Baldwin. They were agreed unanimously and adopted by the Meeting.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiners.

It was proposed that UHY Calvert Smith be reappointed for another year.

Proposed by David Tiptaft and seconded by Jane Furse and adopted by the Meeting

7. Chairman's Report and Introduction of the Trustees

Val introduced her report by highlighting just what a busy and exciting year lay ahead and drew particular attention to the 'marathon effort' that the Trust was making to celebrate Capability Brown's 300th birthday. She gave a special thanks to Karen for all her work over the previous 3 years to prepare the Noble Prospects' exhibition and to Caroline for her success in raising the necessary funding.

She expressed her delight in having Nick Lane Fox as a Vice President, Vicky for joining the events team and Maddy Jago for helping with the review of the YGT Small Grants Scheme and the Business Plan.

She also made a special mention of Ray Blyth who had agreed to stand again as a Trustee and who was currently arranging for YGT to again host a visit of a group of refugees- this time to Beningbrough Hall.

She expressed her appreciation for the support of the National Trust and made particular mention of how thrilled Refugee Action York had been to receive such an invitation.

Individual Reports:

Val then introduced a number of Trustees and sub-committee Chairs to provide the Meeting with brief updates of some of the wide range of work of the Trust had undertaken during the previous year and of plans and preparations for the year ahead.

8. Election of Members of the Council of Management

Before introducing this item, Caroline paid a special tribute, on behalf of the whole Trust to Val, without whom, she firmly believed, that the Trust would not be meeting and holding an AGM at all.

Caroline then paid tribute to the many years of service to the Trust by Jane Furse who was resigning from the Board. Jane had served as a Trustee since 1999 and had been deeply involved with the Trust's work throughout all that time. Caroline made a presentation to Jane.

Val was seeking re- election. Proposed by Penelope Dawson Brown, seconded by Kathryn Gibson. Unanimously agreed.

Ray Blyth, who had previously been a Trustee, had agreed to stand for election.

Ray was unanimously re-elected to the Board. Proposer Val Hepworth and seconded by John Barker

9. Any Other Business

Patrick Ayres reminded everyone that there was a 'Capability' Brown Study Day at Wentworth on 22 April when there would also be the launch of the New Arcadian Journal.

Caroline reminded everyone that there would be a 'Capability' Brown seminar at Scampston on 28th April.

10. Presentation

Caroline made a presentation to Jane on her retirement as YGT trustee.

Val made a presentation to Caroline in gratitude for allowing us to have our AGM at Scampston in this special Capability Brown celebration year. She thanked her for chairing the meeting and for all her years of such wonderful support to herself and to the Trust. Val also made a presentation to Sir Charles Legard who was thanked for his hospitality and support for YGT.

The Annual General Meeting Closed at 11.20am.