



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MASHAM HALL SATURDAY 18th MARCH 2017

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

Welcome

Val, as Trust Chair, warmly welcomed Members and said that it was such a pleasure to be in Masham with its long history as a small market town and to be in the fine Town Hall that opened in 1913, and to welcome Simon Warwick to speak to us on our local 'landscape improvers', the Mickles.

She expressed her thanks to the Events team who had worked so hard to make the event possible- to Ray, John, Vicky and Louise. She also thanked Nigel, Tony, Peter, Ian and others who were helping during the day- and also Malcolm for taking the Minutes, and Gail who was doing the write- up for the Newsletter

She then introduced Nick Lane Fox who took the chair for the AGM. There were sixty members present.

1. Apologies were received from The Countess of Harewood, Caroline Legard, Fiona and Gavin Barlow, John Barker, Susan Kellerman, Dick Knight, Catherine Thompson Mc Causland, Liz Simson, Janette Ray, Peter Goodchild, David Rhodes, Michael Horsley, Kath Gibson, Juliet Ramsden, Matthew Wrigley, Rosemary and Adrian Anderson, Anne Petherick, Nicola Harrison, Patrick Ayres

2. Minutes of the 19th AGM on 19th March 2016 at Scampston were agreed and signed as a true record.
Proposed: Heather Garnett. Seconded: Karen Lynch.

3. Matters arising: none.

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

Report had been e- mailed and mailed out in advance.

David summarized the positive financial picture for the year in which subscriptions had increased and there had been significant surpluses made from events, from the Northumberland Tour and from the CB 300 event.

He then went on to pay tribute to the work of the Events team for their contribution to the Trust funds, to Louise Amende for all her support, and paid a special tribute to Val, our Chair, for her leadership and massive contribution during the year. Finally, he expressed his thanks to his wife Jenny for all her support.

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

Adoption of the Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements were proposed by Jane Furse and seconded by Mike Heagney. 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 Nigel Tooze. Seconded by David Tiptaft

7. Chairman's Report and Introduction of the Trustees

Val introduced her report by highlighting just what a particularly busy and exciting year it had been ahead; not only had it been the Trust's 20th birthday, but a year which had been much overtaken by the celebrations for Capability Brown's 300th birthday.

She expressed special thanks to Karen for all her work over 2-3 years in curating the highly successful 'Noble Prospects' exhibition at the Mercer Gallery in Harrogate and for her beautifully written and illustrated book, to Caroline for her success in persuading funders to support us and to everyone who had helped, including the YGT members who hosted at the Gallery.

She then reported that she had intended to retire and to hand over to a new Chair with fresh ideas. However, in the absence of anyone coming forward, she stated she was willing to continue.

Nick felt he was speaking for everyone when he said how glad he was to hear that Val was staying on as Chair. Val, before concluding, invited any comments on this year having sent out the AGM papers, wherever possible, by e-mail for the first time- thus saving on paper and costs. There appeared to general support from the meeting.

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

Nick expressed how sorry he was that the Trust's long standing Trustee, David Tiptaft, was retiring from being Council and not standing for re- election. He paid tribute to the huge service he had made as Treasurer for many years – and for making us laugh at the AGM's with his sharp humorous take on the accounts,

He reported that Kath Gibson, Trustee and Chair of Conservation and Planning sub- committee, had sadly resigned in June, 2016 and was greatly missed for her professionalism and dedication.

Malcolm was seeking re- election; proposed by Penelope Dawson Brown, seconded by Vicky Price.

Nick then introduced 3 prospective Trustees/ members of Council and proposed the co- option of Nigel Tooze

Fiona Barlow: proposer Caroline Legard and seconded by Liz Barker

David Morgan: proposer Val Hepworth and seconded by Ray Blyth

Vicky Price: proposed by Ray Blyth and seconded by Elaine Frances

Nigel Tooze: proposed by Chris Shaw and seconded by Val Hepworth

Their election was unanimously agreed.

Nigel was then welcomed as the Trust's new treasurer

9. Any Other Business

Val expressed her personal thanks to David and invited both him and his wife, Jenny to come forward to receive a presentation on his retirement as YGT Treasure and Trustee.

Wendy Watson expressed a special personal tribute to the work of the Trust and particularly how impressed and overwhelmed she had been by the work of the Events Team.

Val thanked everyone for their attendance and the Annual General Meeting Closed at 11.20am.