

**Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held at Faraway
Ringstead Bay on Sunday 26 August 2018**

The Chairman, John Young (JY), welcomed members to the first meeting of the Society as a CIO and thanked them for coming despite the bad weather. He circulated an attendance register and asked members to sign next to their names. He said that if people could not find their names it might be that they had not renewed their memberships and they should speak to the treasurer. He said members would have received a larger than usual number of documents with the notice of the AGM because of the Society's new status.

1. Apologies: Tim Williams; Toby, Simon & Nick Walker; Sue Blane; John & Rosemary Parry; Terry & Jo Alldridge; Paul & Frances Cuss; Tessa Scott; Gilly Edwards; Alfie Kirkpatrick; David, Leila, Felicity & William Kneeshaw; Eric Serjeant; Susan Burden; Michael Carter; Nigel & Barbara Hensman; Lydia & Simon Lebus; Richard Smerdon; Sarah Wilson; Tess & John Banham; Julian Arkell;

JY said that since the last meeting the Society had lost two long-standing members; Sue Williams and Nick Peele. Sue had lived at The Shambles, a house she and David built 49 years ago. She made so many people welcome there and will be terribly missed. Nick had been a member of the RPS executive committee and a valued support to JY on the matter of the cliff erosion. His huge popularity was evident at the memorial service for him in Sherborne Abbey. JY offered the Society's deepest sympathies to both families.

2. Minutes of the AGM 2017 of the "Old" RPS: These had been circulated and were relevant since the CIO had taken over from the 'old' RPS and retained its objectives and activities but there was no need to vote on them. JY asked if there were any comments and there were not.

3. Matters Arising. JY said he hoped any matters arising would be dealt with by the agenda items.

4. Annual Report

The Annual Report had been circulated. JY reported that the local councils were in the throes of merging into a unitary authority which meant the erosion problems of the bay were unlikely to be a priority but there was likely to be a new beach management plan. JY undertook to arrange a meeting with the engineer to ensure the rate of erosion was measured accurately since recent reports suggested a slower rate than physical inspection indicated.

The vandalised parking meter in the national Trust Car Park had not been replaced.

Ian Scott & JY had their customary meeting with Johnnie Russell who made it clear he wished things at Ringstead to continue as they had in the past and had no plans to commercialise it.

The committee was looking into creating a website where documents could be stored and which would have email addresses that could be used by officers instead of their personal accounts. Discussions had been had with Alfie Kirkpatrick who had had the foresight some years ago to register a suitable domain name. He has kindly agreed to assign it to the RPS.

JY thanked his fellow Trustees for their work during the year which had been more onerous because of the creation of the CIO and changes to the General Data Protection Regulations. He also thanked Michael Young for securing the free assistance of the law firm Reed Smith.

Sue Kirkpatrick referred to the meeting with Jonnie Russell and pointed out that he had suggested the play area for children installed at the Kiosk and she wanted the RPS to be vigilant on the matter of development of the area. Ian Scott said Jonnie had thought the play area would make it a more pleasant experience for customers and not necessarily an attraction in itself. Rupert Edwards said Jonnie had two sons and a daughter who were also keen to see the area remain as it is.

5. Annual Statement of Accounts

The approved accounts had been circulated. Alastair Fisher explained they appeared more complicated because of the switch to the CIO during the year and the change to the payment system. Membership now stood at 87 representing 150 names. The move to ask children of members to become members in their own rights at the age of 25 was proving a successful way of maintaining membership numbers.

Tim Weston asked about the likelihood of the RPS reserves being challenged by the Charity Commission. Rupert said it was a possibility but the Society had reasonable grounds in its aims and objectives to make a good defence for keeping funds in reserve.

JY thanked Rupert for auditing the accounts and Alastair for his tireless work. He asked that the meeting accept the accounts. The motion was proposed by Nigel Williams and seconded by Tim Weston. It was passed unanimously.

6. General Data Protection Regulations

JY said RPS was compliant with the new regulations that came into force in May 2018 and he thanked Reed Smith and in particular Ellie Brooks for help with drafting a policy on GDPR for the Society which had been circulated ahead of the AGM. He said RPS would communicate with members mainly via email. Tim Weston asked if the RPS could give any guidance on GDPR to householders letting out their properties. Alastair Fisher said it was acceptable to respond by email to tenants if they had made a contract but not email them on marketing matters without their consent.

7. Election of Trustees and Officers

The current Trustees being required to retire at the first AGM of the CIO did so but offered to stand for re-election. JY asked the meeting if it were prepared to vote on all of them in one vote which it indicated it was. Rupert Edwards proposed the motion for election of the Trustees en bloc, Karen Williams seconded and it was carried. JY said Sue Kirkpatrick had indicated she wished to stand down at the next AGM. She had been secretary from 2008 to 2016 and RPS was most grateful for her contribution. He asked anyone interested in standing as a Trustee to speak to him.

All current officers - namely John Young (Chairman), Alastair Fisher (Treasurer) and Vicky Banham (Secretary) – retired but had indicated their willingness to stand if re-elected. JY asked that the vote could be taken for all three at once and again this was agreed. The motion for election of the officers en bloc was proposed by Nigel Williams, seconded by Lucy Kirkpatrick and carried.

JY said he had decided he did not wish to continue as chairman after the 2019 AGM as he would have held the office for 12 years by then. He had given thought to a successor and written down what qualifications such a person might be expected to have. He had consulted the other Trustees and all had concluded Nigel Williams would be the best candidate to put to that meeting. In addition to Nigel's obvious passion for, understanding of and long association with Ringstead, he is Chairman of his Parish Council and has a grasp of how local authorities work. Nigel had expressed his willingness to stand and told the meeting he regarded the invitation as a huge honour. He said that if he were elected he was

aware he would have huge shoes to fill in following John's tenure and hoped he would do half as good a job.

8. AOB

Sue Kirkpatrick said there had been rumours about the future of The Creek Caravan Site and said the objective of the RPS was to care for the undeveloped character of Ringstead. Alastair Fisher said he could not say what the future held for the site as the shareholders were not in agreement currently but added that investment was needed to bring facilities up to date. Paul Thomas said that it was not the first occasion on which matters had been brought up under AOB for which members were unprepared and asked that in future members be asked to give notice of such items. Vicky Banham agreed to ask members for additional items before sending out the agenda next year.

Rupert Edwards remarked on the new posts and gate on the road to the beach and asked for members' thanks to go to Jonnie Russell for these. Vicky asked members to be vigilant about vehicles driving through the gate and onto the land in front of Over The Hills which was being undermined by erosion.

There being no other business, JY thanked members for attending invited everyone stay for drinks.

NOTE

The Committee of the 'old' RPS ceased to be once the CIO was established but it is hoped that the former committee members would be interested in joining the new General Committee. Anyone else interested in joining is invited to contact the Chairman or Secretary. The Trustees have not had time to discuss the terms and conditions of this committee but will do so in due course and the matter will be addressed at the 2019 AGM.



26.8.19.