



Folk Association of South Hants

Minutes of the delayed Annual General Meeting

1pm Sunday 17th October 2021

Held at Soberton Village Hall in the lunch break of the first workshop of the season

Present: Ian Kirby, Elizabeth Haigh, David & Lyn Sutton, Jacqui & Steve Longhurst, Daphne & Kenneth Coates, Yvonne & Dennis Wheeler, Karen Ilott, Celia & Nigel Close, Martin Davis, Jacky & Dick Gurney, Elizabeth Habens, Alice Morris, Liz Neal.

1. Apologies for absence: Lin Rayner, Hilary & John Turner, Sue & Pete Hall, Elsa Millard, Joanna Morrell, John Coates, Joy Simmons, Liz Norris, Sue & Eric Bradshaw, Tom Linley Jones.

2. Minutes of AGM held on Sunday 4th October 2020: approved and signed

3. Matters arising

para 3: callers' workshop – John was unable to give feedback in person due to illness, but sent the following report which was read to the meeting: *“Initially 16 people expressed an interest in the workshop.*

The sessions were run using email. With questions being posed by me and written responses created by the participants. Several interested parties opted out at this stage.

Our first series of questions concerned dance preparation. Tips were provided on how to approach the task and review your response before finalizing it. Participants were asked to prepare dance cards using their own words where possible, for dances that they may not have met before. (Notations were provided.)

Some participants responded well to this task. Sadly several participants decided they would not participate further in the process.

We then went on to prepare dance instructions for more complex dance figures, bearing in mind: concise instructions, eliminating ambiguity, providing reassurance and the need for brevity in the prompt call.

Unfortunately only 2 participants were active in this process.

We were in this process when I was stricken with my 'invalidity' and I'm afraid things quickly ground to a halt. I will contact the remaining participants in the near future to check if they wish to continue.”

It was felt that the Covid lockdown must have made a major contribution to the dropout rate. The meeting expressed sympathy for John's current problems and wished him well for the future.

para 6: adjustments for 2019/20 season ticket holders

At our last AGM we promised 'to make adjustments to reflect the cancellation of 2 out of 8 workshops'. Each workshop would have cost £5 with a season ticket, so we are therefore offering those who held season tickets for 2019/20 either attendance for the balance of just £4 at each of their first 2 workshops this season or free attendance at their first one.

4. Chairman's report – Ian Kirby

Ian gave a brief outline of the much curtailed 2020/21 season – no 'live' workshops but a West Gallery Sing and 4 afternoon dances on Zoom, each of which attracted around 80 people on 50 screens and much positive feedback.

We are looking forward to seeing as many people as possible dancing with us in person again this year. Ian asked people to take a copy of the flyer for 2021/22 and put the dates in their diaries, taking special note of the new venue at Durley. This was necessary because of problems at Twyford following the death of their bookings secretary, but we are very pleased to have found an excellent alternative venue.

He thanked the committee for their various contributions, Lyn Sutton for her work organising the distribution of Solent Waves and everyone present for supporting us. The full report was sent out in advance of the meeting and a copy can be seen [here](#). There were no questions.

5. Treasurer's report – Lin Rayner

The accounts for the year ending 31st March and Lin's report were sent out in advance of the meeting and a copy of both can be seen [here](#). Lin was unable to attend because of an imminent hip operation, but was available by phone to answer any questions. In the event there were none. Ian told the meeting that the accounts have now been inspected and we extend our thanks to John Martyn.

Dennis Wheeler proposed their acceptance, Karen Illott seconded and it was agreed unanimously.

6. Membership secretary's report – Jacqui Longhurst

As agreed at the last AGM, we have had only 'supporters' rather than members until today when our live workshops started again. We have 22 members for the coming season so far, but expect this number to grow. One of our oldest members, Elizabeth Pennycooke, died in February this year. Jacqui has contact details for her family if people want to get in touch.

Jacqui informed the meeting that we will now need a collect code to pick up a free lateral flow test from a chemist, but that it is easy to get a code online from www.gov.uk or by ringing 119.

7. Editor's report: website & Solent Waves – David Sutton

The full report was sent out in advance of the meeting and a copy can be seen [here](#). Dave spoke about the frustrations of trying to produce listings when everything was being cancelled! The website (www.fash.org.uk) has been kept up to date throughout and this continues now that live events and clubs are gradually starting up again.

He has kept Solent Waves going out as a soft copy throughout lockdown with advice on Zoom and news of Zoom events as well as editions from the archives which many people have appreciated as being of nostalgic or historical interest. He was very pleased to announce that at last we have our first printed edition since lockdown began! It is the October 2021 edition (no. 435) and plenty of copies were available for people to take away.

There was a round of applause to show everyone's appreciation of the wonderful job Dave has done this year.

8. 2021/22 season plans

We will be sending out our Covid guidelines before each workshop and continuing to take extra care with cleaning and ventilation. We asked the meeting for feedback about whether we should still provide Elizabeth's popular soup. Elizabeth said she would be happy to make it and in order to minimise any Covid risk we would have just one person ladling it out. On a show of hands the vast majority were in favour, so there will be soup at this season's workshops. The meeting showed its appreciation of Elizabeth's soup with a round of applause. The next 2 workshops will be held in the Durley Memorial Hall (SO32 2AD) which is a lovely hall with good facilities not far from Twyford. A map and detailed directions are now on the website.

There is no news yet as to whether any Schools Ceilidhs will be happening this year. FolkActive are looking at feasibility, but they are dependent on the rules operating in schools regarding Covid protocols.

9. Committee nominations

The following committee members were willing to stand again: Elizabeth Haigh, Lin Rayner, David Sutton, Jacqui Longhurst, Ian Kirby and Daphne Goddard Coates. Nigel Close nominated them all, Celia Close seconded and it was carried unanimously - followed by a round of applause.

10. Any Other Business

We sent our best wishes to Lin Rayner for a successful hip operation and a speedy recovery.

The meeting closed at 1.20pm in time for an enjoyable afternoon's dancing with Nigel Close and Pogles Copse.