

WHIMPLE AND DISTRICT VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Committee Room, Whimple Village Hall, on Monday 27th January 2020.

Present: Paul Wilson (Chairman), Doreen Staddon, Sylvia Broom, Branco Love, Myrtle Dockings, Geoffrey Gardner, Gail Davies, Jim and Zena Calverley, Brian Nelson, Andy Bratt, Danny Bratt, Jenny Holmes, Linda Aucott, Michael Mallett, Sherril Olive, Donna Baker and Rachel Owen.(18)

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Colin Clark, Gilly Curtis, Mike Ellingham, Hugh Roberts and Jane Tancock.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 28th January 2019:

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28th January 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report:

Paul began his report by reviewing all the events that had been held during the previous twelve months. During the last year, there had been a social evening at the New Inn, three talks, four excursions, a Quiz Night and of course our two main events, the Spring Plant Sale in May and the Annual Flower and Craft Show in August. This had been another very good year for the VPA and Paul thanked Brian and Doreen for arranging the events and ensuring that overall, the excursions made a small profit. The influx of new members and support from Ottery St. Mary has made the trips very successful and very worthwhile and our thanks to Brian for keeping the interest of the Ottery Members since the loss of their own Club. Paul thanked everyone on the Committee for all that they had done during the year as the success of the VPA was very much due to it being a team effort. Everyone had worked so hard throughout the year with everyone simply getting on with the tasks that have to be done without anyone having to be chased. All this goes to ensure that all the events were successful and more importantly very enjoyable. Another good year for the VPA!

5. Treasurer's Report:

Branco opened his report by saying that the Association's accounts were in a very good position and the Association did have significant funds in its accounts. The Association still had a very healthy membership with 61 paid up members during the last year. The year's events had all gone well and Branco thanked Doreen and Brian for all their hard work as the trips had been well supported. The annual Plant Sale continues to prosper generating sufficient income to ensure the costs of the Flower

Show are covered. The accounts were still very healthy with the year returning an increase of income over expenditure of £525.60. The accounts were summarised as follows:

Cash in hand as at 31 December 2019	£282.51
Current Account as at 31 December 2019	£1,502.46
Building Society as at 31 December 2019	<u>£5,160.94</u>
Total Funds	£6,945.91

The adoption of the report was proposed by Brian Nelson and seconded by Gail Davies and was unanimously agreed. Paul thanked Branco for another year of excellent work in managing the Association's accounts which was unanimously endorsed by the everyone.

6. Show Secretary's Report:

Paul gave a report on the Annual Flower and Craft Show. It was good to report that it was another successful and very enjoyable show. Although the number of exhibitors and exhibits was slightly less than in 2018, the quality of the exhibits remained at a very high standard. For the record, there were 42 adult exhibitors and 10 exhibitors in the children's classes and three of these entered in some of the adult classes. Despite the lower number of exhibitors, the total of 491 exhibits was still a very healthy number. The Show wash up meeting did highlight one or two areas where improvements could be made and these will be addressed for the 2020 Show. Branco thanked Zena and her team for the excellent lunches and supper which was well received by the Judges and the Show Team. Once again there was a great response on the draw which raised an amazing £213.00 and thanks to Rachel and her team for dealing with all the draw tickets. We were delighted to be able to invite Maria Wallis to present the prizes in recognition of her continued support to the VPA every year. Paul concluded by saying that the Show continues to be well supported and it is an important village tradition which is very much a part of the village calendar and will hopefully be even better in 2020. He again thanked everyone for their efforts in putting the Show together especially Danny for his patience in sorting out the technical problems we had on the day. He also thanked everyone who helped with the clearing of the hall after the event, it is always amazing the way this is done so quickly and so very efficiently.

7. Election of Officers:

Before the election of Officers, Paul paid tribute to Myrtle for all the hard work she had done as membership secretary as she was standing down from this post. The VPA membership was currently at its highest level since she had been undertaking this role and all present were unanimous in thanking Myrtle for all she had done. The following Officers were duly proposed and seconded and elected into office for the coming year:

Chairman	Paul Wilson
Vice Chairman	Brian Nelson
Treasurer	Branco Love
Secretary	Donna Baker
Show Secretary	Paul Wilson
Village Hall Representative	Paul Wilson and Sherril Olive

Membership Secretaries	Branco Love and Andy Bratt
Publicity	Jim Calverley
Events Team	Doreen Staddon, Brian Nelson and Branco Love
Committee Members	Linda Aucott, Zena Calverley, Gilly Curtis, Gail Davies, Andy Bratt, Danny Bratt, Jenny Holmes, Myrtle Dockings, Sylvia Broom, Rachel Owen and Jane Tancock.

8. Show Schedule:

It was agreed that the first Show Schedule meeting would be held on Monday 10th February and Jim and Zena kindly agreed to host the meeting.

9. Future Events

Brian and Doreen had prepared a list of events to be considered for the coming year and outlined what they were proposing. It was agreed that the dates for the two main events of the year, the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning and The Annual Flower and Craft Show would be held on Saturday 16th May and on Saturday 8th August 2020 respectively. As with the previous two years, our last event will be the very popular Quiz Night in November. Other events were being considered and these would be discussed and dates agreed at the next Committee Meeting.

10. Any Other Business:

(i) Paul referred to the recent meeting of the Village Hall Committee when the future of the Hall was discussed. 2020 marks the centenary of the Hall and there were plans to mark this milestone with a special event in May 2020. It was proposed to have a major fund raising push with the aim of trying to raise £1,000 per month towards the ongoing maintenance work that was needed. Paul suggested that for our Community project for the year, it would be good for the VPA to make a donation. After a good discussion, it was eventually proposed by Branco and seconded by Doreen that the VPA make a donation of £1,000.00 to the Hall Maintenance Appeal. This was unanimously agreed. It was recognised by all present that, without the Hall, the VPA would have nowhere for its main events.

(ii) After a brief discussion on the Website, it was agreed we should continue with this and Jenny, with the help of Brian and his daughter Anne, agreed to continue to look after the site.

There being no further business, Paul closed the meeting at 20:20 hours.

Signed:

Date:

**Paul Wilson,
Chairman**