

Winchester Photographic Society
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
31 May 2016

1. Welcome and Apologies

Steve Green welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. Apologies were received from Geraldine Guthrie, Roger Buchanan, Glyn Paton, Viv Brett, Geoff Sharman, Sarah Strange and Nick Townley

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 26 May 2015 were accepted. Proposed by John Greenwood and seconded by Martin Farrow.

3. Matters arising

There were no outstanding matters from the previous AGM.

4. Reports from Officers:

4.1 Steve Green [Note name corrected at 2017 AGM] gave the President's report which included a summary of the individual reports and a summary of key events from his year in office.

4.2 Ann Erkut presented the joint Secretary's and Communications Secretary's report as she holds both positions. Newsletters continue to be produced on a weekly basis and the total has now reached 75. These are all on Dropbox. Ann stated that more will be done next season to further encourage the use of social media across the Society as an additional form of communication.

4.3 Graham Barber presented the Treasurer's report, both a summary of the accounts for the financial year ending 31 March 2016 and an update on membership. In addition, Graham highlighted the key points from the new business plan for 2016-17 which was distributed to the membership in advance of the meeting. The plan provides a formal budget for next year and an overall forecast for the next 3 years. The plan also covers the investments for next season based on the results of the membership questionnaire carried out in March 2016. Graham offered a vote of thanks to the independent examiner of the accounts, Elizabeth Hake FMAAT, for reviewing and signing off the accounts.

4.4 Two motions were proposed and seconded:

- Subscription fees remain frozen for the forthcoming season
- The 2016-17 business plan was approved

4.5 Gordon Brown presented the Competition Secretary's report. The first section was an overview of internal and external competitions. Points to note are the inconsistency in the number of entries in the Beginners Class versus 90% of

Advanced Members who enter on a regular basis. Gordon was keen to emphasise the progress the Society has made in both the PDI and Print SCPF leagues. The Society will start the 2016-17 season in Division 1 for both sections. Gordon also noted that the Society gained first place for the print panel in the SCPF Exhibition in January 2016. A further success is the Society's placing in the Victory Trophy competition. Following a change of rules which Gordon instigated two years ago to make the competitions more open, Winchester has won the last two competitions and is now in the position of having to defend the trophy again next season.

- 4.6 Gordon gave an overview of his approach to appointing judges for the 2015-16 season. His philosophy is to appoint the best, the level 3 judges for the important competitions and to extend invitations to other levels including newly qualified judges to give all levels an opportunity to practice their art.
- 4.7 In closing his report, Gordon, who has successfully and diligently filled the role for the past three years, recommended to the committee that in future the role would be better served with a small team of people lead by an overall Competition Secretary.
- 4.8 The Committee would formally like to thank Gordon for his sterling work over the past three years and the effort that has gone into running the competitions, securing the judges and selecting the best images for external competitions. The success the Society has had in SCPF league competitions and the Victory Trophy is in part due to the way he has fulfilled his role.
- 4.9 Jason Reeves presented the Programme Secretary's report. Jason began by thanking his predecessor, David McKibbin for the high calibre of speakers the Society enjoyed in the 2015-16 season. Jason has confirmed the majority of speakers for the 2016-17 season. The final programme will be published in the Members' handbook.

5. Election of Officers

5.1 The following members were elected unopposed into the vacant positions:

Candidate	Position
Eric Blake	President
Nick Townley	Vice President
Peter Orr	Competition Secretary

5.2 Members were asked to cast their vote for the Member Representatives. There were four candidates:

- Linda Carlin
- Derek Hickman
- Glyn Paton

- Sarah Strange

The successful candidates are: Derek Hickman, Glyn Paton and Sarah Strange.

6. Scoring for competitions

6.1 Gordon ran through the four options which members were asked to vote on:

- Option 1: status quo
- Option 2: current plus 'tweak'
- Option 3: multiple held back rows
- Option 4: marks out of ten

6.2 Following a vote, option 2 was the preferred option by a large majority.

7. Any other business

7.1 No further points were raised from the floor. Before commencement of the Social Evening and Prize Giving, Steve Green called Barbara Lambert to the floor to present a certificate of honorary life time membership to Phil George, as she was President when he retired as Competition Secretary. Steve Green then presented similar certificates to Barbara Lambert and Anne Ruffell for their contribution over a number of years to the running of the Society.

The AGM closed at 8.50pm