

Romsey Opportunity Group
Annual General Meeting
1215, Tuesday 14th January 2020
Held at the Appletree Centre

MINUTES

Present – Helen Rogers (Chair), Dick Hewett (Treasurer), Ruth Martin (Trustee), Sue Fisher (Trustee), Mark Cooper (ROG Patron), Lyn Bird, Carol West, Anna Baker, Annie Hewett, Caroline Wheatley, May Sherwood, Kate Ward, Angela Brentnall, Maggie Johnston.

Apologies – Maggie Poland (Vice chair), Sue Tippett (ROG Patron), Mavis Watts, Claire Topp, Sue Geraghty.

Welcome: Helen opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Minutes of AGM 31st January 2019: agreed.

Matters Arising:

Helen was pleased to announce that the Trustees have managed to complete the Policy Review that was mentioned in last year's minutes. The Policies have now been put into a Cycle of Review which will mean the process is easier to manage in the future.

No approach has been made to Children In Need this year. Consider in due course.

Dr Susan Tippett's offer to assist Lyn with assessments was noted again.

Chairperson's Report

Helen thanked everyone for attending – our patron, staff, volunteers. She welcomed new volunteers and thanked all volunteers for their ongoing support of the group: the group simply would not exist without them! Helen also thanked the community for their continued support, their ongoing fund raising is deeply appreciated.

Helen went on to thank the Test Valley Mayor for our free let of Crosfield Hall in September 2019. The Hint of Vintage Fair and the Fish and Chip supper raised £2,000, and Helen thanked all involved.

Dick is taking the lead regarding this year's fund-raising event which will take place on May 9th. This will be in the form of a concert – Beggar's Belief and the Romsey Singers performing with drinks and nibbles in the interval. Tickets will be £10. We might try to pursue a local business to match fund any profit from this event.

ROG will be celebrating our 50th year in existence, and we hope to recognise this during the let of Crosfield Hall on May 9th. Sue will lead on this.

Safeguarding Training took place at the beginning of the year, and all staff and volunteers have been trained in basic safeguarding. Safeguarding is now included in the new staff/volunteer pack.

Treasurer's Report

Dick reported on a good year financially:

Income was £22,584, with expenditure of £14,574. ROG received a donation of £10,000 which made a huge difference. ROG also received donations from the Test Valley Mayor and Folklights. Folklights are no longer in existence, but the Romsey Ukulele Group have taken over in regards to fund raising for us, which is wonderful.

Men's Shed have worked on bringing the play train and other aspects of the play equipment up to meet H&S standards, charging ROG for materials only. We are very grateful of their support.

Dick reported a balance of £20, 358 (July 2019) which is healthy.

Dick is forecasting an end of year balance of around £16,000 for July 2020.

All the Trustees believe ROG to be on a good financial footing.

Election of Trustees

Presently there are 5 trustees, which is the constitutional minimum, so we would welcome new members.

All 5 current Trustees were willing to stand again. Lyn asked for nominations and seconders for all 5 trustees to continue in their present roles. Anna Baker nominated for all 5 trustees to be re-elected, seconded by Annie Hewett.

A unanimous show of hands confirmed the re-election of all 5 trustees, with Helen continuing as Chair, Maggie as Vice Chair and Dick as Treasurer.

Calendar of Events

All events (social and fund raising) are put on the ROG calendar which is on the website and also in regular Newsletters (produced by Carol), and Helen encouraged people to attend and support events whenever possible.

If anyone has an idea for any fundraising events, the Trustees would ask that person to take the lead on this.

AOB

None.

Helen closed the AGM at 12:50.