

Waveney & District Woodturners Annual General Meeting 2018 Minutes

Held 11th January 2018 1900hrs Mutford Village Hall

36 members attended, with apologies from Paul Sharman, Paul Maulden, Robin Evans & Robert Bellar.

The Chairman, Andrew Platt, welcomed everyone and presented certificates to the prizewinners chosen by Tom Kittle at the Woodchoppers Ball on 14th December. He sought approval of the 2017 AGM minutes: proposed by Ken Rodgers, seconded by Chris Petch, approved by show of hands.

AP gave his Chairman's report, detailing high points in the year's demonstrations and training sessions. A very good year's programme all round. He also mentioned the exhibition ODF member's work in Lowestoft Library which had elicited much interest directly and also via favourable reporting in the Lowestoft Journal, before commenting on the Club's excellent new website. The Secretary, Paul Sharman, had resigned during the year and Andrew Bigg had been co-opted to serve in his place until the AGM. He reported that a vacuum cleaner had been purchased to help perfect our cleaning up after practical sessions after a complaint by the hall management committee, and that the two committees were due to meet later in the year. He recorded grateful thanks to David Ritchie (events), Len Stout (website), Nick Shore & helpers (teas), Jean Huish (supplies), Paul Sharman & Andrew Bigg (secretaries), the members who helped during the training sessions and all those who help to set up & to clear up at our meetings. He commented on the high standard of work shown by members at meetings.

AB reported a slight rise in membership during the year (45 have paid up for 2018 so far) and a rise in attendance rates at meetings. Also that the club's electrical equipment had been PAT tested again and the risk assessment document updated.

Chris Petch reported that the club's finances were in good order, the cash reserves having increased very slightly during the year to just over £3000: total income £4212. He mentioned that Len Stout had been assisting him by setting up new financial spreadsheets.

David Ritchie gave the events secretary's report: in addition to successful programmes of monthly meetings and training events, Gary Rance's full day demonstration was a great success. A Birthday Grant from the AWGB had reduced the cost to attendees to £10 each: we won't be eligible for a similar grant from them this year, so the cost of Les Thorne's full day demo in May will be around £15 per head but will still include lunch & refreshments. Another training day with Paul Howard is planned in January and is fully booked again.

The Christmas buffet had triggered much favourable feedback due to the food and the entertainment provided by Rachel Duffield.

Committee members had promoted the Club at Southwold Fair, Oulton Broad Fun Day and Raveningham Country Fair and with the library exhibition. The age profile of the Club could be described as mature, and we need to go on recruiting fresh blood if the Club is to thrive and survive.

Len Stout reported on the website - new this year, and which now provides a window to the world for the Club. He requested more feedback and suggestions from members (the site has had over 1200 hits and has generated many compliments from non-members). It is becoming an excellent reference resource with detailed illustrated descriptions of Club events, photographs of members' work and turning-related links. He offered to give any interested member(s) an introduction to

setting up and maintaining the website and promised to look in to a suggestion from the floor about advertising members' work and equipment for sale.

The committee stood down at this point. LS chaired the election of the chairman: Andrew Platt was re-elected unopposed, proposed by Robert Bruce, seconded by Chris Petch.

Andrew Bigg was proposed for secretary by David Sharpe and seconded by Len Stout.

Chris Petch was proposed for treasurer by Roger Lowry and seconded by Brian Moan.

David Ritchie was proposed for events secretary by Nick Shore and seconded by Len Stout.

John Peek was proposed as equipment guru by Roger Lowry and seconded by David Sharpe.

All were elected unopposed.

Len Stout was confirmed as Web Master.

Darren Breeze's offer to act as event secretary understudy was gratefully accepted.

AOB - Mr Roy Edmonds, one of the longest serving Club members, presented the Club with an inscribed trophy to be awarded for the best miniature turning in future competitions. AP thanked him on behalf of the Club.

- CP's proposal to leave membership and attendance fees unchanged was accepted.
- AP informed the membership that the committee had embarked on a partial revision of the Club's constitution, particularly with regard to safeguarding. He gave an example which was accepted and promised to report back to the membership in due course. A wide-ranging discussion ensued which included the possibility of the Club approaching local secondary school woodwork teachers to promote the club further.
- The committee undertook to consider possible changes to the presentation of information for election of members for 2019.

The meeting was closed at 2045hrs.