

Godmanchester Community Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

held at the Salvation Army Hall on 24 February 2004

Those present were: Gordon Allgood, Stuart Bond, Shirley Brown, Nina Collier, Harry Foren, Helen Galer, Bridget Gaskill, Carol Godley, Lynda Heseltine, Alan Hooker, Elwyn Hughes, Patrick Hull, Ann Hyams, Colin Hyams, Judith Kay, Geoff Larcombe, Alison Leggett, Ted Malone, Chris Mosley, Beverley Robilliard, Stephen Spencer, Mary Stokes, Mike Westcott Rudd, Christine White, Roy White and Sue Young.

Apologies for absence were received from: Fred Carter, Roger Coxhead, Verna Hayes, Ann Looker, Charles Looker, Peter Moger, Roy Norris, Charlotte Oldwood and Nicola Rule.

President's Comments

The President, Harry Foren, paid tribute to the immense amount of work done by the Chairman, Stuart Bond and the Treasurer, Alan Hooker. He made specific mention of the efforts of the treasurer on Fireworks Night.

He informed the meeting that Fred Carter had been forced to resign from the Association by ill health. Fred had been a stalwart of the Association for many years. He had been responsible for the introduction of the Gala Day procession. His presence would be sorely missed.

Minutes of the last AGM

Copies of the previous year's minutes were circulated. There were no questions raised.

Stephen Spencer proposed that the minutes be accepted and this was seconded by Alison Leggett.

Chairman's Summary

The Chairman felt that it had been a busy year. For the benefit of new members, he gave a brief overview of the activities of the Association.

Gala Day had gone very well. He paid tribute to the part played in that success by The Sealed Knot and the sponsorship of Campbell's Estate Agents and Twigden Homes.

He explained that Picnic in the Park was sponsored by the Town Council but organised by the Association, noting many of the team were present.

Fireworks Night had been very successful as well. He thanked the volunteer stewards for their attendance at the event and Alan Hooker for his essential contribution.

The Bridge magazine was delivered to all households in Godmanchester, some 3,500 copies. He thanked Nina Collier for organising their distribution and Lynda Heseltine for taking on the organising of the Affiliated Groups.

If anyone had a suggestion for additional events which could be added to the list of activities, there was a need for volunteers to organise them, but this would be most welcome.

Audited Accounts

Copies of the accounts were distributed and explained by the Treasurer. There was a surplus over the year of £2,279.86, largely due to the profit on Fireworks Night of £2,062.02, compared to a small loss the previous year. This meant that the Association had total funds of £16,592.90.

Mary Stokes asked whether the Association shouldn't consider using these funds for the benefit of the community.

Colin Hyams said that another tour of historic Godmanchester would be appreciated.

Patrick Hull explained that Picnic in the Park was funded by the Town Council. The idea was, he said, to provide a free concert which appealed to all ages. He said that stewards were needed on the day, not for the entire afternoon but for an hour or so, looking after specific functions and areas. He also suggested that an idea first mooted by Stephen Spencer for an event similar to Last Night of the Proms could be usefully investigated. This was, he felt, an ideal event for a new member to take on as they wouldn't be restricted by the weight of tradition.

Ted Malone said that there would be an event for pre-school children again, organised by Charlotte Oldwood along the lines of Tot's Teddy Time, with fun and games as 2003.

Nina Collier asked for volunteers to help distribute copies of The Bridge, and a number of others were gratefully received.

Any Other Business

Stephen Spencer had brought a copy of the Town Guide along to the meeting. Copies were available from the Town Clerk or the Tourist Information office for 50p. It was suggested that copies could be on sale on Gala Day.

On behalf of Charles Looker, the Chairman said that there were going to be vacancies on the Town Council in June and that Charles was encouraging people to come forward. He also appealed for volunteers to help with events being held for the young people of the town to assist in addressing the issues arising in recent months.

No further items were raised and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and formally closed the meeting.

**The next meeting of the Association will be held at the Comrades Club
on Thursday 11 March 2004**