

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
of the Newbury and District Agricultural Society  
held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

**Mrs A Brown, Chairman of the Board extended a warm welcome to all members present. She confirmed that the meeting was quorate.**

<b>1</b>	<p><b>To receive apologies for absence</b></p> <p><i>Dr Rex Walters, Mr Edward Dann, Mr Anthony Rowberry, Mr Nigel Massey, Miss Amy Kimber, Ms Fiona Mundy, Mrs Margot Holroyd, Mrs K Loyd, Mr C D'Olley, Mr A Shildan, Mr P Carter, Mr Binky Wells.</i></p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>To approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b></p> <p><i>Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM was proposed by Mr S Pallett and seconded by Mr A Chandler. The motion was approved and the Minutes, therefore were signed as a true record by the Chairman.</i></p> <p><i>Matters arising item amendments:-7 retiring President should be Mrs Loyd not Lloyd. Item 8 President-Elect should be Dame Theresa Sackler not Teresa. Item 11 (i) Seconded by Mr J Read not Reid.</i></p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>To receive the Statement of Accounts for the period ending 31 December 2018</b></p> <p><i>Mrs Brown introduced Mrs Fiona Hawkins of James Cowper Kreston.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs Hawkins reported to the members that the audit of the financial statements had been completed and the audit report was unqualified (give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position for the period to 31 December 2018). The Audit went very well despite changes to Finance team and reported nothing arising.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs Hawkins drew the members' attention to the key point that it was a good year for income and very similar to last year. The spend on charitable activities was down on the previous year which covered a 14-month period which explains the significant amount of drop. Overall the net expenditure was £18,000. The Charity continues to have a very strong balance sheet. Reserves continue to be a slight concern as reserve assets are below 200-400 K. Some work needs to be done on increasing the unrestricted reserve. The Trustees report shows the Board is aware of this and steps are in place to adjust this. The show income and lettings income have both increased.</i></p> <p><i>At this point Mr J Balsdon stated that in his mind the figures didn't relate to anything positive and wanted to talk about the cost of membership. Mrs Hawkins said that the figures are set out as the statutory requirement. The financial statements present figures in statutory format, which does not necessarily show the details of individual items. This detail is available to Trustees and management via the management accounts. If members have specific questions about membership matters, they should raise these with the Society.</i></p>

	<p><i>Mrs Brown confirmed that management accounts could also be presented at the AGM if required.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs Brown will take note.</i></p> <p><i>Mr A Scrope suggested that these comments were taken up at the end of the meeting in AOB.</i></p> <p><i>Mr J Drew said that the cash flow statement shows how everyone is trying to put their effort into this.</i></p> <p><i>Mr M Kimber asked what the situation was with the cattle building and how much has been paid off. Mrs N Redmond replied there was £295,000 outstanding on the loan against the building. In terms of income there was a good let to the Scouts for their European Jamboree. There is a need to work on making the building pay for itself.</i></p> <p><i>Mr J Drew said that the maintenance of the building was costly (£4,000 to £5,000 per month) and this needed to be looked at.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs P Marks said there is significant interest in the building but the design as a cattle building poses limitations and there are restrictions under section 106</i></p> <p><i>There were no further questions raised on the financial statements.</i></p> <p><i>Mrs A Brown thanked Mrs Hawkins and her team for all their hard work preparing the financial statements and their ongoing support of the Society.</i></p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b><i>Election of one member to the Board of Management of the Society</i></b></p> <p><i>Mr C Turner said that only one name had been put forward that of Mrs Brown and he thought it was helpful to keep consistency in the Board of Management.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Mr C Turner. Seconded by Mr I Brown</i></p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b><i>Vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman of Shows Council</i></b></p> <p><i>Mr C Turner thanked Mr I Wilson for his hard work and dedication as chairman of the show and listed all the events which had been organised during Mr Wilson's year as Chairman, starting with the Hounds meet in the cattle barn , Rogation Sunday a day of lovely sunshine at the Carlisle's farm ,Stable tour – Sam Wilson stepped in to lead, Members visit to Ramsbury Brewery, Summer Party at the Carlisle's farm- the cabaret singer was enjoyed by all, and ending with the ploughing match which had brilliant weather and was well attended. The Show was a fantastic weekend with excellent weather and increased attendance.</i></p> <p><i>Mr I Wilson then wished Mr C Turner all the best for next year.</i></p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b><i>To elect the President</i></b></p>	

	<p><i>Mr C Turner said he was pleased to confirm that Dame Theresa Sackler was willing to stand for the office of president for the forthcoming year and is more than generally interested in the show and has given him great support.</i></p> <p><i>Dame Theresa said that she is very much looking forward to the year and the forthcoming events.</i></p>	
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b><i>Vote of thanks to the retiring President</i></b></p> <p><i>Mr Wilson thanked Mr Carlisle for his support. 2018 was certainly a year of challenge. Regarding the events there was a good turnout for the hounds, the showground said goodbye to Laura and Natalie and welcomed Patricia and staff, Rogation Sunday, the Challenge at Mary Hare School, the Summer Party- a super event with excellent food, a busy run up to the show, we have not had a wet show since 1999, dogs welcomed back to the showground, the visits of Michael Gove on the show Saturday and Claire Moriarty on the Sunday along with the vet from Queensland, the delegation of Japanese pig breeders were among the highlights of the show weekend, the ploughing match and finally the carol service at East Ilsley church.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Wilson presented Mr Carlisle with a framed collage of photos depicting some of the more memorable events during 2018</i></p> <p><i>Mr Carlisle thanked Mr Wilson for his support during the year and wished Dame Theresa and Mr Turner the best of luck for their year.</i></p> <p><i>Dame Theresa thanked Mr Turner and everyone for electing her as President and feels sure it will be a great year. There is a calendar of old and new events.</i></p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b><i>To elect President- Elect</i></b></p> <p><i>Mrs N Redmond said she would like to introduce and propose David Bruce for the position of President Elect and President for 2020. David Bruce is an entrepreneur within the brewery industry and is the Chair of West Berkshire Brewery. He is also the chair of a food and dining company- Cobb's farm shop and vineyard. He is also a trustee of a charity and involved with Newbury CIC promoting Newbury as a host for business. Mr Bruce lives in Kintbury and is a great advocate for the show.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed: Mrs N Redmond. Seconded: Mrs R Balsdon. Carried unanimously.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Bruce said it was 53 years since he became a brewer at Simmonds in Reading. He hopes he can bring his entrepreneur and charity skills to the show helping to promote it.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Turner said that Ms Mundy has a potential President for 2021 – James Astor.</i></p>	
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b><i>To elect Honorary Officers for 2019</i></b></p>	

	<p><b>Hon Treasurer:</b> Mrs Brown told the members that there is currently no treasurer for the Society and there is difficulty in finding one. Now looking for a financial officer to sit on the Board. If anyone knows of someone who could sit on the Board as a financial trustee please contact the Society. There are six meetings a year.</p> <p>Mrs N Redmond said they would need to be experienced in a financial role with the ability to interpret balance sheets.</p> <p>Mrs Marks said the time commitment each month would be about three hours.</p> <p><b>*Hon. Veterinary Surgeons: Larkmead Veterinary Group</b> Proposed: Mrs R Balsdon - Seconded: Mr J Balsdon. <b>Donnington Valley Vets</b> Proposed: Mr A Chandler - Seconded: Mr M Crockford</p> <p><b>Hon. Joint Chaplains: Revd. Richard Littledeall and Revd. Miriam Keene</b> Mr I Brown asked permission to have two clerics for one year. Proposed Mr I Brown - Seconded: Mr M Farmer.</p>	
9a	<p><b>Year in the Life of the Society</b> Mrs P Marks said that she was a guest at the 2018 AGM but had now been Chief Executive for eleven months. The Society is about Education and rural craft as well as agriculture. Mrs Marks said that there had not been a sales team when she arrived but now thanks to Dame Theresa we have a dedicated sales team. Mrs Marks then did a presentation on the main events during 2018 and early 2019. She then spoke about the future – what are we going to do with the cattle building? The secondary education had been nominated by LEAF for an award. There is a need to think about driving income. The cost of membership is £15,000 - this is more than it brings in. How are we going to generate funds and attract more members? Mrs Marks said she would like to leave the show in better shape than when she arrived. We have to accept that it is going to be different.</p> <p>Mrs Brown thanked Mrs Marks for an inspiring talk.</p>	
	<p><b>The floor was then opened for any questions from members</b> Mr J Balsdon said he would like to have some thoughts about membership. Discussions followed around the merits of membership. Mrs Marks said that the Board had approved for a letter to go out to all life members.</p> <p><b>The meeting was closed at 9.10pm.</b></p>	