

Radley Village Shop Association Limited

Minutes of AGM held on 1 June 2022 at 7 pm in Radley Village Hall

In attendance:

Chairman Bob Earl
Treasurer Lynda Pasquire Crowley
Secretary Joyce Huddleston [in the absence of Stephen Ewens, Company Secretary]

Plus 31 Members of the Association and 4 non-members

1. Welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM, noting it was good to be able to again meet in person.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Stephen Ewens, Dot Hewlett, Margaret Lovell, Michael Slay, Graham Steinsberg, Mel & Liz Turner.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 19 August 2021

These were approved as a correct record (proposed: Andrew Walker; seconded: Yvonne Milward).

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. Chairman's report

Once again I would like to thank the shop manager, John Goodenough, and all the volunteers who have worked hard during the last year to keep the shop running. The earlier closing time of 5 pm instead of 6.30 pm introduced when Covid restrictions were lifted last May has proved more manageable with our reduced number of volunteers: customers have adapted to the new hours and it is likely that they will continue. However, some volunteers have worked many extra shifts and it is not easy to keep the rota filled. More new volunteers are needed: the worst case would be that the shop has to reduce its opening hours due to a lack of volunteers. The shop social event, for volunteers and partners, at The Bowyer Arms in October was well attended and enjoyed by all who came along. A number of five- and ten-year certificates were presented.

John G and the operations team have continued to work hard to keep the shop well stocked. We are seeing weekly price increases from our suppliers which have to be carefully monitored and sale prices adjusted accordingly. We are in the process of switching from Bookers, our long-standing main wholesaler, to Batleys of Swindon (part of the Bestway group) due to difficulties with Bookers. The shop retained its five-star rating following a Food Safety and Hygiene Inspection earlier in the year. As the shop is now 15 years-old it is inevitable that mechanical things will start to go wrong and break down. One example is the water heater. Another is the air conditioning system, which has served us well but is becoming troublesome; a new system will be installed on 14 and 15 June.

The time has come for both myself and my wife Pat to stand down from the committee. I am pleased to say that Andrew Walker has agreed to become the new chairman and Sally Mulholland to take over from Pat to work with Iain Winton in operations. Pat and I have been involved with the shop since the day it opened; Pat has been a committee member for 13 years and I have been chairman for 11 years. Joy Riley has also decided the time has come to stand down from the committee and I'd like to thank her for her work over many years as a committee member. Finally Stephen Ewens has resigned as company secretary, a role he has held for many years and we record our thanks to him for the work he has done. Joyce Huddleston has offered to add this role to her portfolio and will be duly elected by the committee after this meeting.

6. Treasurer's report

Although the surplus of £5,957 for the year to 31 December 2021 might appear disappointing when compared with the 2020 surplus of £10,799, 2021 saw a return to normal purchasing patterns as lockdown restrictions were lifted; 2019, which saw a surplus of £3,229, is a better year with which to make comparisons. The turnover in 2021 was £26,827 less than in the Covid year, but we still saw a satisfactory return on our purchases, albeit with lower margins. Supply chain difficulties made some purchases more costly as alternative sources had to be sought and sold at lower gross margins to remain reasonably competitive. Reserves at the year end were £175,916 compared with £169,949 in 2020. Grants paid out amounted to £1,823 with a further £1,000 reserved for distribution in 2022.

Graham Cole from Wenn Townsend has retired and we extend our thanks for his support over recent years. Another partner, Andrew Rodzynski, will take over as Examiner. We are grateful to Wenn Townsend for continuing to provide this service on a reduced fee basis. My thanks are also extended to Joyce Huddleston and Sue Ward who assist me in the post of Treasurer to an enormous degree. Graham Steinsberg deserves our thanks for his continued overview of our Financial Accounts.

7. Adoption of the Financial Statement

John Huddleston proposed and Andrew Walker seconded the motion to adopt the financial statement. This was carried unanimously.

8. Appointment of Auditors until the conclusion of the next AGM

Pat Earl proposed and Mike Sadler seconded the motion to appoint Wenn Townsend as Auditors. This was carried unanimously.

9. Adoption of recommendation that there should be an Accountant's report instead of a full Auditor's report

Iain Winton proposed and Ann Blake seconded the motion to adopt the recommendation. This was carried unanimously.

10. Adoption of recommendation for grants

(i) Payment of grants: Dian Slay proposed and Judy Harris seconded the motion to adopt the recommendation. This was carried unanimously.

(ii) Management committee authority: Amatsia Kashti proposed and Pat Earl seconded the motion to adopt the recommendation. This was carried unanimously.

11. Election of Management Committee until conclusion of next AGM

Bob Earl, Pat Earl and Joy Riley stood down from the committee at the AGM. All other members of the Management Committee were eligible for re-election. Sally Mulholland and Carol Webster had been invited to join the committee. Joy Riley proposed and Yvonne Milward seconded the motion to elect the remaining members of the Management Committee plus Sally Mulholland and Carol Webster for the next year. This was carried unanimously.

12. Any other business

(i) In response to a question from Mike Sadler, the treasurer explained that the item of £613 in the accounts under 'Volunteer Recruitment' was primarily the cost of the volunteer social event.

(ii) A vote of thanks to Bob and Pat Earl for all the work they had done behind the scenes proposed by Mike Sadler on behalf of the floor was warmly endorsed by those present.

(iii) Jackie Walker, Unit Leader of 8th Abingdon Rainbow Guide Unit, thanked the Association for the grant made to the Unit without which its trip to a local event would not have been possible.

(iv) A number of five, ten and fifteen long service certificates were presented to qualifying volunteers.

(v) Pat Earl was presented with a bouquet of primarily blue and yellow flowers by the committee in appreciation and thanks for all her hard work over many years as part of the operations team.

The meeting ended at 7:20 pm.