

## Independent Association of Hobbyists

### Annual General Meeting.

**Minutes** of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at the Rugby Club, Ambleside, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014 at 14.00 hrs.

**Present:** 26 members.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Gary & Donna Telfer, Trevor & Claire Barden, Cliff & Jo Anthill and Peter & Mary Boylan.

The Chair, Mr Tony Charity, welcomed everyone to the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting at this year's rally at Ambleside, attended by 13 vans in all. He extended a special welcome to Joan and Rex Wade (Founder Members), Jean Horsfall and Mike Brunt, Mike incidentally, still recovering from a recent operation, and new members Richard and Françoise Faulkner.

#### **Minutes of the last AGM:**

The minutes of the last AGM had been previously circulated by email and hard copies were available for those who had not seen them for any reason. It was proposed by Mike Woodhead and seconded by Steve Phillips that these minutes were a true record of last year's AGM.

#### **Chairman's Report:**

The Chair stated that he had been away for the majority of the past year and had moved house, hence his reluctance to take the post on at the last AGM. He stated that the Committee had, nevertheless, been active and thanked Ed and Vera for acting as intermediaries between the IAH and Clement Media Design. He also thanked Dave and Christine Lawson, who had actively pursued the instigation of the forthcoming new website on behalf of the IAH.

The Chair stated that he was stepping down, as were Doris Adam and Ken Cookson. Doris volunteered to be Secretary last year, which was very admirable as a new member, thus helping the Club through a difficult period. Ken had taken our website to a new level over the past few years but it was felt that nobody would have his expertise to take it on should he have to leave or be unable to continue. This was one of the reasons it was passed to an outside agency. The IAH is very grateful to both Doris and Ken, and the Chair expressed thanks on behalf of the IAH.

The Chair stated that the Committee last met on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2014 and had produced minutes for that meeting, previously circulated. It had been decided that the term 'rally' would be replaced by 'meets' or 'meetings' and that the Committee would organize four

meets this year, but with the onus being on members to find future locations. The next meet would be on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at Spring Valley, East Riding of Yorkshire.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer, Dave Lawson, read through the notes to the accounts which had previously been distributed. No questions were asked and the Accounts Examiner, Steve Phillips, stated that all had been checked and was in order. The Examiner recommended acceptance, seconded by Janet Charity.

A full report can be viewed via the attachments.

#### **Membership Secretary's Report:**

Christine Lawson stated that we had 68 members, including two Honorary Members and three new members. Of the fourteen recent new members only two had been seen. Christine also stated that she would be standing down at the next AGM.

#### **General Secretary's Report:**

Doris Adam reported that an Exemption Certificate renewal would have to be applied for as it expires later this year, and that the Club Liability Insurance would have to be renewed. Doris reiterated that she would be standing down due to personal reasons. The Chair confirmed how grateful the IAH was at her standing in at such short notice, especially being a new member at the time of the last AGM.

#### **Website Officer's Report:**

It was agreed at the last AGM that the IAH would seek an outside source to continue with the upgrade of the website. Clement Media Design was recommended by members in the local area, and it had been previously arranged that Liz Clement would attend at the conclusion of the AGM to go through the website with members and answer any questions.

Ken Cookson, the Website Officer, stated that the new site would give us the facility to connect tablets and mobiles, and would make it easier to submit content. He emphasized that the website would still need input from members to continue to be of interest to everyone.

A discussion took place about the ownership of the domain and whether adverts from other companies should be placed on the site. Rex Wade confirmed that his son owned the domain name at the inception of the Club and that the original idea was to be independent of any franchise or company's interest. However, if any member had good or bad experiences with any club/franchise, then there was nothing to stop members sharing their

views on the blog. Ken confirmed that the IAH had control over our website address and that we could move it to another media source should the need arise.

Rex Wade also informed the members that the reason for calling the Club 'Independent Association of Hobbyists' was that Hobby Holland threatened to sue if the word 'Hobby' was used in the title of our Association.

It had been previously circulated that news and photographs were needed for the new website, but only one reply was received.

Concern was raised by Steve Phillips in respect of privacy on the website, as photographs had been on the site and in the Club 'Photo Book of Memorabilia' showing his residence from some years ago. His concerns were noted and the offending photographs had been removed by the Website Manager and Ed Watson, the Club Photographer. It was agreed that a new Club Post should be created to reflect the managing of the website by an outside source. This person would have the responsibility of liaising with Liz Clement to provide continuity and vet all submitted material. It was agreed that although the website will have a members' area, the public visiting it should be able to see some material showcasing the Association and what it does.

#### **Election of Committee:**

<b>*Chair</b>	Jean Horsfall	Proposed and seconded by Jan Charity & Vera Watson
<b>*General Secretary</b>	Mike Brunt	Proposed & seconded by Dave Lawson & Ed Watson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dave Lawson	Proposed & seconded by Tony Charity & Rex Wade
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Christine Lawson	Proposed & seconded by Pat Miller & Janet Charity
<b>Accounts Examiner</b>	Steve Phillips	Proposed & seconded by Janet Charity & John Anderton
<b>Moderator</b>	Françoise Faulkner	Proposed & seconded by Tony Charity & John Anderton.

\*Please note that at the time of the election of the Committee nobody came forward for the Posts of Chair and General Secretary. It was only after the outgoing Chair advised that

all members would have to be informed that unless volunteers came forward, the Association would need to hold another AGM and dissolve the IAH. It was at this time that Jean and Mike came forward, before the Members dispersed, and were voted onto the Committee.

The meeting closed at 15.30 hours.

The Members then dispersed for a break prior to Liz Clement arriving, who then gave a presentation of the new website.