

Minutes of the Friends of Lytham Hall AGM held on 19th October 2022 on Zoom at 6.30pm

Present: L. Dopping-Hepenstal, T. and S. Jones, K. Smith, R. Smith, P. Beeden, M. and D. Coupe, M. and I. Hargreaves, M. Smith, J. Hornyak, E. Guffogg, A. Joynt, S. Havenhand,

H. and D. Clifton, B. Hankinson, D. Leyland, P. Smith, M. Blaauboer, P. Watson, C. Bennett, J. Farley, L. Matham, and A. Wilde.

Apologies were received from:

D. Kitt, J. and J. Edwell, P. Hart, D. and B. Bradley, G. and F. Wilson, and P. Edwards.

Minutes

Under 'Membership Benefits', Marion Blaauboer should read 'Marianne'.

Acceptance of the 2021 AGM minutes was proposed by M. Hargreaves and seconded by S. Jones.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

A copy of the full report is filed with these minutes.

Charity Objectives

1. To preserve for the benefit of the local community and the nation at large, Lytham Hall together with its works of art, furniture and contents.
2. To ensure that the Hall is used primarily as an art gallery, museum and visitor centre and to provide other amenities of a similar character for the benefit of the public.

Fundraising, June 2021 – May 2022

With fewer Covid restrictions, events went ahead; Halloween, Christmas Cheer and The Easter Bunny Trail were all successful – Halloween in torrential rain, and the Easter Bunny in glorious sunshine.

There was no Snowdrop shop as the Old Kitchen is now in use, but we did have a stall selling cards and calendars.

Sales - Harry Clifton and JT Clifton books, and the Lytham Hall Calendar and second-hand books.

Zoom Talks for members

Our Monthly Zoom talks on the history of the Hall and Clifton family have been popular and are set to continue.

Income

Income came from:

Membership fees, events, sales and donations.

Theatre refreshment stall - £600, Halloween - £4,800, Christmas Cheer - £3,800,

Easter Bunny - £3,200, Bookshop - £6,400.

Donations

Restoration of the Diana statue in the Parterre.

Purchase of two cake fridges for the Tearoom.

Ongoing Projects

Eleanor Cecily book.

Hall Guide book [the first print run]

Upgrading the Stables Car Park, with the aid of a Fylde Community Projects Fund grant.

Bookshop

The second-hand bookshop in the west wing continues to bring in a steady income, thanks to a very efficient team of volunteers. Jim and Joan Edwell have organised this for the last six years and have now retired. Our thanks go to them for all the hard work they put into making this such a success.

Next Events

Halloween – 30th October

Christmas Cheer – 2nd December

Coffee Morning with LSA Civic Society – 13th December.

Zoom Talks by Thomas Hewitt, John Hornyak and Denise Hadley.

Communications

Kath Smith continues to edit the quarterly Newsletter.

A. Joynt keeps the Facebook page up to date. We now have 1,300 followers.

L. Dopping-Hepenstal manages the Website.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, T. Jones, presented the accounts, a full copy is filed with these minutes.

Current Assets:	Bank current account	£ 77,894
	Deposit Fund account	£ 10
	Cash in Hand	£ 0
	Total	£ 77,904

The accounts have been inspected by an independent examiner, Rev. A. Clements.

Acceptance of the Annual Report and Financial Statement was Proposed by R. Smith and seconded by M. Smith.

T. Jones raised the point that some fundraising exercises involve a lot of effort for the amount they bring in, e.g. sale of bags and calendars.

The net profits from sales to be shown on future notes to the accounts.

M. Blaauboer asked if there was any obvious reason that 'donations' in 2021 were significantly higher than this year. 2021's accounts included donations from other sources towards the restoration of the Diana statue.

Marianne also made the point that the sale of bags and calendars etc. may not bring in much income, but are a reminder of the Hall and good publicity.

When asked why Gift Aid was zero on 2021 and 2022 accounts, T. Jones explained that some clarification is needed on the rules of Gift Aid and benefits offered with membership.

M. Blaauboer suggested investing in some advice.

D. Coupe [President] offered to research Gift Aid rules without charge.

D. Leyland asked if there are plans for using the funds. The Chairman explained that we are trying to get HTNW to identify suitable projects.

Membership

P. Beeden reported that the number of members continues to grow and J. Hornyak has persuaded many to become Patrons, qualifying for free parking. A couple of recruitment drives helped to boost numbers and we should consider repeating these next year.

Election of Committee

Marion Coupe, a founder member of the Friends is retiring from the committee after 26 years. She has been invited to become a Vice President of the Friends and has accepted.

Under the rules of the constitution, T. Jones, P. Beeden, P. Hamilton and J. Hornyak were retiring from the committee this year. They all offered to stand for re-election - proposed by R. Smith and seconded by M. Blaauboer, and were re-elected en bloc by a unanimous vote. There were no new nominations for committee.

The Chairman has been in post for 13 years and is looking for someone to take over.

The re-election of Honorary officers was proposed by M. Smith and seconded by P. Smith. Carried by a unanimous vote.

A.O.B.

- L. Matham [Bookshop team] asked if an email could go out to members requesting book donations as stocks are running low. A. Joynt to add an appeal to the Facebook page.
- The 2023 Calendar will be out shortly, with the photography competition winning picture.

D. Coupe [President] thanked the Friends and committee for all their hard work.

The Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and support.