

**FOLK CAMPS SOCIETY LIMITED**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Held at The Grieg Hall, Alcester on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2003 starting at 3pm

Before the meeting commenced Brian Pollard (Chair) proposed moving item 5 (appointing members to Council) to after item 8 (resolutions) to enable the tellers to take part in item 8. Carried.

**1. Apologies** were received from 20 Governing & Associate members as noted on the appendix to the attendance list. There were 62 Governing and 18 Associate members present as noted on the attendance list. Brian Pollard (Chair) commented on the loss during the year of 2 long-standing members, Janet Leavey and Eric Walton who would be sadly missed.

**2. Minutes for the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> November 2002**

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed (Julian Weaver), 2<sup>nd</sup> (Cat Kelly). Carried.

**3. Matters arising**

Articles of Association – Roger Conway explained the changes proposed. He suggested postponing the item to next year as Council had not had time to review them following the revision of similar items for Halsway Manor Society. The proposed amendments are shown on the website and members are asked to comment.

**4. Appointment of tellers for a ballot**

Dave Bennett, Cecil French & Enid Weaver proposed - Jenny Walton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Alan Corkett. Carried

**6. Adoption of the report and accounts for the year 2002/2003**

Roger Conway reminded the meeting of last year's decision to change the dates for the accounting year. He then presented the Accounts and Annual Report. The increase in turnover to the previous year was as a result of Foot and Mouth receding and the French camp being more cost effective than allowed for in the budget. Increasing costs were due to using a more expensive marquee and the purchase of new equipment. Advertising costs were down due to a change in marketing strategy. Travel costs were up due to holding an extra Council meeting and overseas site hunting. Roger Conway explained that the computer is owned by him and insured under his household policy. The current financial year would run from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2003 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2004 but an un-audited statement would be issued at the end of February. The full audit for 18 months would be taken from the end of August 2004. Acceptance of the accounts and report was proposed by Cecil French and seconded by Faith Kemp. Carried.

**7. Appointment of L.J. Ashman as auditors**

Proposed by Dave Richardson and seconded by Alan Corkett. Carried.

**8. Resolutions for consideration**

1) Amendment of period of notice to be given for AGM/EGM

Roger Conway explained the reasons for the change and the supporting statement.

2) The publicised name of the Society to be Folk Camps Society Ltd. unless otherwise agreed by the members at AGM or EGM.

Judy Pierce clarified the name. Paul Weir agreed that different names should be used for publicity, dependant on the situation, but pointed out that there should be more consistency in the branding. Brian Pollard explained about the Council decision to print two flyers with different branding. Jill Haworth thought the two flyers looked a good compromise. Julian Weaver voiced concern at decisions being taken away from Council and said that Council are elected to make decisions on Members' behalf. Tony Mealings voiced concern about having two different flyers.

The meeting continued whilst the ballot papers for these resolutions were being counted.

Lizzie French then reported to the meeting about the **Development Fund**. She congratulated Pete Hendy on the sale of 750 of his books, the publication of which had been funded by the

Development Fund. Two recent applications had been agreed – a contribution had been made to Anna Tabbush to develop a folk choir and funding to Jay Parrack for a CD. There would also be funding to Mick Davis for research for his music book 'Some more of the nice easy stuff'.

Lizzie also reported that the Development Fund paid for hygiene courses, apprentices and Criminal Disclosure Checks (CRB checks). She asked for more applications to the Development Fund.

Brian Pollard thanked Lizzie for her report. Cat Kelly queried whether the CRB checks carried out in a place of employment could be used. Roger Conway explained that Folk South-West manage the processing and he and Carolyn Robson are authorised by them, to do our document verification. CRB checks already carried out at work could be used but copies of the certificate would need to be seen by Roger. Alison Double queried the length of time the check was valid for. Roger Conway explained that law did not require us to do checks and that they were purely voluntary and done to show 'due diligence'.

The Development Fund committee has Barry Pollard and Lizzie French as non-Council members. Sue Malleson proposed that they should stand again. 2nd by Paul Weir. Carried.

## **9. Discussion items**

1) John Meechan raised his concern about the decision of Council to change the rules reducing the time period of being a Governing Member before applying for a grant. He said that the original rules protected the committee. He asked for Council to re-consider. Sue Malleson supported this and asked for the rules to be printed in Extent and on the web site to make it watertight. Ann Tracey pointed out that careful consideration was always given. Several questions relating to the procedural aspects of the scheme were asked and answered. It was decided that Council would re-examine the rules.

2) John West queried information flows and asked for more on the web site. Agreed

3) Andy Glass asked whether a decision had been made by Council concerning purchasing new PA. Brian Pollard replied that Council would be discussing this at their next meeting.

*To allow for the ballot count to be completed, a short adjournment was called.*

## **8a) Results of the ballot for the Resolutions**

Resolution 1: In favour 116 (86%), against 19. As a change to the Articles, a 75% vote in favour was needed, therefore the vote was carried.

Resolution 2: In favour 85, against 53. The vote was carried. (simple majority required)

## **5) Appointment of 3 members to the Council of Management**

John Dell, Pete Hendy and Judy Pierce were duly elected. Brian Pollard thanked Cat Kelly and Faith Kemp for standing. (59.5% of issued papers were returned).

The Chair thanked retiring members, Carolyn Robson & Christine Corkett for their hard work.

## **10) Any other business**

Much discussion ensued about the problem of the remaining Capers leaflets. Pete Hendy asked if leaflets could be saved until next year and vote on it. There are 15,000 Capers leaflets left which will cost £1000 to replace. Any decision can only now be made at a General Meeting. Council will discuss this.

Brian Pollard thanked John and Faith Kemp for providing refreshments for the day. He also thanked all workshop leaders and musicians.

It was proposed that next year's AGM should be 27<sup>th</sup> November 2004, venue to be announced.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 4.55pm