

Folk Camps Society Limited

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on Zoom on 20th November 2021

The AGM was declared open at 14.05 by Marcus de Frettes in the chair.

Present: 47 Governing Members including 9 Council Members and 4 Contractors

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes for November 2020
3. Matters Arising
4. Adoption of Report and Accounts 2021
5. Appointment of Accountants
6. Council
7. Council Appointments
8. Managing Covid 19 Risks
9. 2022 Programme
10. Any Other Business

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from 6 Governing Members

2. Minutes for November 2020

Anne Guthrie proposed that the minutes be accepted. Seconded by Jacqueline Beattie. Carried unanimously.

3. Matters Arising

There were none.

4. Adoption of Report and Accounts 2021

Marcus de Frettes gave explanations about the accounts followed some discussion.

The electronic voting closed at 14.25 and the result was 100% in favour (34 for) to adopt the report and the accounts 2021.

5. Appointment of Accountants

Marcus de Frettes explained why Council proposed changing to Lightwater Accountants for the new financial year.

The electronic voting closed at 14.25 and the result was 100% in favour (33 for) to appoint Sarah Hardy from Lightwater Accountants.

6. Council

Marcus de Frettes and Mel Horton are standing down from Council this year.

The current Council were thanked by Marcus for their work in this difficult year. Patrick Self thanked Marcus de Frettes for everything he has done in his 6 years on Council. Thanks were expressed for Mel Horton; Mel has played a major part especially regarding Covid -19 and Outreach. Marcus de Frettes said the success of FC depends on so many people and it is a massive collaborative effort.

7. Council Appointments

There were 2 vacancies and 2 candidates, so therefore there was no election. Liz Cooper and Sarah Richardson were appointed to council.

8. Managing Covid 19 Risks

Rebecca Boram introduced and spoke about the massive impact that Covid has and might have, followed by a lively discussion. Points made and questions asked by various people included:

Campers should feel safe.

A suggestion of a lateral flow test at the beginning and in the middle of the week.

What is Council position on unvaccinated people?

It was suggested that campers and staff would have to either self declare they are fully vaccinated or have recently taken a test.

Council were urged to consider if their current policy is in the spirit of Folk Camps.

It would be easy to lie to get into somewhere. Folk Camps should create their own rules.

Asking for proof of a negative test is not too much to ask. Lateral flow tests are cheap and easy.

Hygiene will be especially important.

Cold weather could mean being in a closed marquee.

The situation is still developing rapidly. Lots of trust in council in coming up with a good policy.

Having a risk assessment template would be a good thing to do.

Is it possible for Council to let campers and staff know what to expect in advance?

Are campers able to contribute to the discussion?

Council should consider doing a poll in April or May to assess the mood.

Does there need to be a policy before Symonds Yat?

What are the financial risks involved in running a camp?

Comments from various Council members included:

It is a very fluid situation, so Council has to make educated decisions.

Council hopes they can run camps as normal and safe as possible, but the situation will change as time goes on so impossible to take firm decisions now.

Council will communicate and ask for everyone's support.

There will always be some level of risk.

There will be much more discussion on Council. Whatever Council decides, there will always be a risk that someone will feel excluded.

9. 2022 Programme

Folk Camps are planning basically the same programme as was planned for 2020 and 2021:

A 1 week hall camp at Welbourn, and 4 marquee weeks at Rolvenden in Kent plus 10 weekend camps. Deposits are not due until 28th Feb 2022.

10. Any Other Business

Patrick Self presented the Development Fund & Bursary Committee report. There were 2 projects that received funding: a Touchstone CD and a tune book from Chris Jewell and Alastair Gavin. There were no bursary places in 2021. A legacy of £1000 was received from Terry Rutter.

Mel Horton presented the Outreach Working Group report. The members have held quite a few meetings. Two applications are being considered. One is based around teaching and Party Band, and the second aimed at preserving Folk Camps Songs. Cat McGill has been helping. The next stage is to move on with both of these projects and to hopefully get some funding.

Claire Mycock reported on the Party Band. Council invoked the break point for the project and is really pleased the band will be promoting Folk Camps with 5 events this coming year. Council thanked Jenny and the FCPB members and wished them continued success for 2022.

Cat McGill asked if the 'Making Music' insurance was looked at. She mentioned it at the AGM in 2019.

Council will investigate.

Judith Jenkins thanked everyone who has been involved with Lockerdown. She said it had been an excellent bit of Outreach. There are now nearly 600 people in the Lockerdown group on Facebook.

Jacqueline Beattie thanked Council for all their hard work and especially Marcus over the last year. An obituary for Terry Rutter should be on website, with a formal recognition of what Bill and Terry Rutter achieved.

30th anniversary presentation material should be published online.

Jenny Newman and all at Folk Camps wanted to express love and support for Doug Brown who is recovering from an accident.

Richard Hicks wished to thank the Council.

Marcus de Frettes encouraged people to come forward and help Folk Camps as Folk Camps are always looking for volunteers. He added his thanks to the contractors.

Meeting closed 15.25.