



VENTNOR BOTANIC GARDEN FRIENDS' SOCIETY

Annual General Meeting – 28 April 2022

held in the Echium Room at Ventnor Botanic Garden at 1900 hrs.

29 Members present

Welcome Chairman John Bagshawe opened the meeting and welcomed the members.

Apologies were received from: Joanna Truman, Linda and Chris Davis, Malcolm Peplow, Ruth Hilton, Bridgette and John Sibbick, Pam and Kelvin Edwards, Mary Edwards, Scott Armbruster, Fiona Stack, Sue Shaw, Caroline Peel, Anne Hornett, Phil and Lindy Le May, Chris Parker, Tom Parker, Nick Parker

The Minutes of the AGM held on 27 July 2021 were approved by a show of hands.

Chairman's Report

John Bagshawe presented his report for the year to 30 September 2021, attached.

Following the disclosure of difficulties with the CIC reported at the AGM in July 2021 he again emphasized the result of the loss of the donations from the CIC and the failure of the RUPA scheme to compensate.

Following the lack of gardeners until January 2022 the Committee voted to cover the cost of Trish to supervise the volunteers and work in the Garden until March 2023.

The Financial Report and Annual Accounts up to 30 September 2021

Members were given a copy of the accounts to be submitted to the Charity Commission and Tim Woodcock, Hon treasurer presented his report, attached. This confirmed the deficit for the year and the Society's worth at £76,904. A vote was taken to accept the accounts and for Roger Sims to continue to independently check and agree the accounts.

Membership Report

Val Pitts presented her report in which she was pleased to announce the difficulties caused by changing the Bank Account (a necessity with the move to a CIC) have resolved and the old account closed. This meant Membership numbers had fallen but new members were joining and the number of volunteers working in the Garden was growing. She reported a job vacancy for her post.

Appointment of Trustees of VBGFS

John Bagshawe and Caroline Peel retired by rotation. Caroline Peel offered herself for re-election and approval was sought by a show of hands.

Trustees of VBGFS:-Tim Woodcock, Jenny Parker, Sally Peake and Caroline Peel.

Election of Officers for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation

John Bagshawe stood down as Chairman and Val Pitts offered herself for election, approval was sought by a show of hands and Val Pitts took over the role.

Other Committee members offered themselves for re-election:-

Vice Chairman Peter Coleman, Hon Treasurer Tim Woodcock, Hon Secretary, Jenny Parker Caroline Peel retired from the Committee but remains as a Trustee.

Sally Peake, Colin Smith, Rosemary Stewart, Ros Whistance and John Bagshawe offered themselves for re-election to the Committee.

Bridgette Sibbick and Anne Hornett have been nominated to join the Committee.

Approval was sought by a show of hands.

The AGM was closed

There followed the presentation of the **Harold Hillier Award** for Services to Horticulture on the Isle of Wight for 2022.

Chris Kidd outlined the amazing contribution **Mike Fitt** had made to horticulture during his career and Val Pitts presented him with the Harold Hillier Award.

Val Pitts then introduced the newly appointed Head Gardener Michelle Cain who spoke about her aspirations for the role.

Chairman