

COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN TRUST LIMITED

MINUTES OF THE 12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY HELD

AT THE BEAR HOTEL, COWBRIDGE,

ON WEDNESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2017 at 6.30pm

In attendance: Chairman: Jo Homfray

Trustees:

Martyn Hurst	Vice Chairman
Graham Duffield	
Genevieve Thomas	
Val Caple	
Gillian Griffiths	

Members:

Dan Clayton Jones	Michael & Catherine Clay	Robert Cope
Elaine Davey	Sue Duffield	Lin Edwards
Peter & Collette Evans	Rebeca Exley	Rose Clay
David & Chrissie Evans	John Foster Thomas	Mary Gowen
Francis & Sue Hayes	Andrea Harries	Sheila Hobbs
Margaret Helliwell	Barbara Jones	Colwyn & Pam Jones
Lady Inkin	H.O. Jones	Leo Meredith
Suzie Morel	Pamela Robbins	Jill Roberts
Pat & Brian Swain	Colin & Rosemary Ryland	Hilary Thomas
Carys Whelan	Teresa York-Wade	Christine Hughes

1.Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the members for their attendance and support.

2. Apologies

Trustees: Mary Wallis
Pamela Haines
Linda Osborn

Members: Roger Bird
Chris & Tony Gill
David Jones
Derek & Ann Morgan
Derek Osborn
Andrew & Nina Parker
Steven Thomas

3. Minutes of the A.G.M. 2016

The chairman asked that the notice of the meeting and the minutes, which have been available on the website, be taken as read.

This was approved by the meeting.

The Minutes were approved and accepted.

Proposed by John Foster Thomas
Seconded by Graham Duffield

4. Chairman's Report

Jo reported that it had been yet another very successful year with many visitors to the garden and tour groups from afar arranging visits, some of which had been seeking advice and information on the medicinal properties within the beds, in particular the Shakespeare Garden Project headed by Glyn Jones to which the volunteers have been invited to visit in June. Two accolades have been received from the Green Flag Award and the RHS Wales in Bloom and have been received on behalf of the garden.

A very generous bequest has been received from the late Douglas Turner which will help to carry out the laying of new paths and renovation of the leadwork to the fountain. Jo thanked the members for their continuing support by way of membership income which maintains the garden.

A book '10 years of spadework' was produced last year in celebration of our 10th anniversary and has been a great success much to the hard work of Linda Osborn, Sue Duffield and Robert Moore. Robert is stepping down as a founder trustee this year and we are deeply grateful for his commitment and hard work and beautiful photographs which feature in the book.

Jo expressed her gratitude to the Trustees for the continuing smooth running of the garden thanks to their commitment to the garden; Martyn for advice and support as Vice Chairman and the Marketing and Publicity team; Genevieve for diligently and expertly managing the accounts and finances; Graham for the hard work of the maintenance team; Mary/Gillian for the Horticulture Group and volunteers without whom there would be no garden; Peter Clinton for opening and closing the garden every day of the year (Christmas being the only exception!); Rebecca/Carys/Sue/Tina for all their precious time given guiding tours in the garden; Stephen Mayled for his Independent Examination of the accounts.

5. Re-appointment of Trustees/Directors retiring by rotation

It was resolved that the following who are retiring in accordance with the Articles of Association be and are hereby re-appointed as Trustees and Directors of the Company:

Mrs Josephine Homfray

Proposed by:
Seconded

Lady Inkin
Dan Clayton Jones

Mrs Genevieve Thomas

Proposed by:
Seconded

Rose Clay
Mike Clay

6. Accounts for the year ended 30 June, 2016

Genevieve spoke of a very successful year. Total income for the year was a record of £57,959 of which 84% was from Membership, Donations and Legacies, which included the magnificent legacy from the late Douglas Turner of over £35,000. 15% comes from other trading activities (that is functions and sales, including the new book) and the balance was investment income.

The total expenditure, before depreciation, was £17,904 of which 81% was for Charitable Activities (that is upkeep and promotion of the garden) and the balance was the costs of raising funds from functions and sales. This gave a record net surplus for the year before depreciation of £40,055 but as the garden is being depreciated over the term of the lease, there is depreciation of £10,983 to be deducted. The final result is net income of £29,072.

Net current assets at the year-end were £116,000 - £111,000 of which is on deposit but we do have some more maintenance projects to be carried out over the coming months. The balance is held in reserve for the future maintenance of the garden.

Finally, Genevieve thanked Stephen Mayled and his associate Inga van den Broek for being so helpful in reviewing the accounts and helping with the changes required to comply with current legislation.

It was resolved that the Accounts for the year ended 30 June, 2016 be and are hereby received.

Proposed by	Elaine Davey
Seconded by	Dan Clayton Jones

The Chairman recorded thanks to Genevieve for her continued efficiency and diligence in preparing the accounts as Treasurer of the Trust and to Stephen Mayled for his independent review.

8. Reports were given by:

Martyn Hurst, Vice Chairman, Marketing and Publicity

Martyn thanked all his enthusiastic team members for the work they undertake and carry out so well which over the past year had included the new book 'Cowbridge Physic Garden – 10 years of Spadework' which is a great achievement. The summer Garden Party celebrating the 10 anniversary went smoothly and enjoyed by all. The RHS have invited the garden to have a stand at the Cardiff show 7-9 April in the 'Discovery Marquee' and offers to cover a time slot on the stand would be much appreciated which includes free entry to the show.

Gillian Griffiths, Trustee (Horticulture)

Gillian spoke of the Box Blight in the garden which has been caught in time and sprayed with no loss. In future the Box will be sprayed annually as a precautionary measure. It is planned to coppice the Hazel in the Dye Bed – this will need to be carried out every 7-10 years – next coppice to be in 2024!! The Lavender by the pathways has grown woody and will be replaced with the variety Lavandula Augustifolia Vera, meanwhile the Horticulture Group and volunteers are preparing for the Plant Sale to be held on 29th April in the Old Hall Grounds and donations of plants would be very gratefully received in the garden on Thursday mornings.

Graham Duffield, Maintenance Group

Graham thanked his maintenance team for all their hard working during the year which includes provision of gazebos for events and numerous tasks. Graham recorded particular thanks to Roger Helliwell who sadly died and will be very much missed – he was particularly enthusiastic over the lawn mowing rota which will never be the same again! DJ Services have carried out the painting of the pediments to the summer houses and have colour matched work very well and have re-pointed the pergola slabs. Looking ahead the fountain plinth lead sheeting needs to be replaced and enquiries are being made into suitable new path surfaces, possibly resin bonded and quotes and ideas have been requested. The large double gates by the plant sales area are due to be renovated.

The Chairman thanked the trustees for their reports.

9. AOB

The meeting closed at 7pm.

Signed.....
Chairman