

**MINUTES OF THE 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of Members & Supporters of the Museum
- and the second AGM of the Museum as a CIO -**

**held online on 12th July 2022 at 7.30pm
in the Garden Room, Liston Hall, Marlow**

Present: Mike Hyde, MMCP Chairman(MH); Rick Krajewski, Treasurer (RK); Della Fitzgerald, Secretary, (DF); Cllr Alex Collingwood; Cllr Roger Wilson (RW); Caroline Wesson; Jim McMaster; Alan Fitzgerald; Tony Mitchelmore; Geoff Wood; Ross Niven.

Apologies: David Part, Vice Chairman and Schools Liaison (DP); Alison Rae; Barbara Wallis (Rota); Peter Borrows; Teresa Ray; Ann Pitwell; Jacqueline Roberts; Cllr David Johncock; Cllr David Brown; Philip Kersey.

1. Introduction: The Chairman (MH) welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Secretary read the brief list of apologies.

2. Chair's report to the Members: MH stated that we were not quite back to normal, ie pre-Covid but were making progress. He praised the 'Duke of Clarence' medieval day organised by DP in November and DF's newly-opened Platinum Jubilee exhibition '70 years Ago - Marlow in the 1950s'. He regretted the passing of three well-regarded stewards Jan Caddie, Barrie Lea and Keith Ray and noted that we had received generous donations from Jan's funeral. We had acquired the Hunt's delivery bicycle, courtesy of the Marlow Society, and through the generosity of the Clare Foundation and CloudyIT, we had received a new (reconditioned) laptop. He looked forward to seeing members again in the museum.

3. Trustees' Annual Report: This had been circulated and included the next item.

4. Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts to 30 April 2022: The Treasurer displayed a slide of the Income & Expenditure report and drew attention to the operational deficit of nearly £5000 for this year. The previous year we had received a Covid grant to tide us over and so had a £15000 surplus at the end of the year. If we didn't do anything now to correct the situation we would be trading at a deficit. With our current reserves we could survive for four years but we could not continue like this.

Our regular annual expenditure was £8500 but, other than during Covid, we had never received income of more than £7000. The costs of paying an intern had been balanced by a grant from the University of Reading. The single biggest cost was rent. However private donations, visitor donations and sales were up. Quality stewards and quality booklets were making a difference.

AC suggested doubling membership subscriptions to £20 and giving a free booklet. MH wanted to get the Bridge Evening going again and have more card readers for the street collection. A

fundraiser was needed and someone to liaise with local businesses. Geoff Wood (GW) suggested an enhanced membership with brochures and a social opening with being shown round the exhibition. Ross Niven complained that Marlow didn't have a Tourist Centre but AC said the library performed that function and at the weekend the museum *is* the tourist centre. It was suggested that the museum needed a sponsor like Costa coffee, but this was not well received.

4. Election of Trustees, Officers and members of the Management Committee

All proposed trustees, officers and members of the Management Committee were elected with no objections. Proposed MH; seconded GW.

5. Election of Independent Examiner of Accounts

Roger Smith was re-elected with no objections.

6. AOB

- 1) Alan Fitzgerald asked about the fluorescent tubes in the museum which need replacing with LED directional lights. MH replied he had asked PK for ideas and then we would cost it. AC suggested just doing it.
- 2) Caroline Wesson suggested more publicity was needed such as a banner on the gates to Higginson Park. Larger notices were in any case needed. People were still saying 'Has Marlow got a museum?'

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.