

ALFORD CORN EXCHANGE COMMUNITY GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE ALFORD CORN EXCHANGE 7.30PM FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER 2024

Present: N O'Farrell (Chairman), J Hynes (Vice-Chair), H Dewick-Eisele, J McHamilton, L Laquaniello, June Husband, Mike Vickers

In attendance: Andrew Hill

J Hynes welcomed all those present

1. To record attendance and receive apologies

Apologies were received from Neil Calvert, June and Den Husband, Andy Taylor, Graham Hounslow, and David Allen

2. Approve the minutes of the previous AGM held on 13th October 2023

It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the minutes as presented be approved.

3. Receive the annual audited accounts for the years ending 31st March 2024

Copies were made available to all present and noted. Thanks were given to Jenny Cooper for auditing the accounts and to Linda Croft for preparing them and for providing book keeping services for free throughout the year.

The accounts were approved

After looking after our accounts for a few years (on a volunteer basis) Linda has now stepped back and the Trustees expressed their thanks to her for a hard work; a gift has been presented to her by way of thanks.

Welcome was also made to Caroline Wheatley, our new book keeper

Andrew noted that the hall is continuing to get busier over time, however although income has increased, so too has expenditure, with several large expenses over the year – including sanding and polishing the floor, fixing the boiler etc. – putting pressure on the bank balances. A question was raised from the floor around the wages figure – this was £11,133 last year but there is no figure for this year. It was noted that this figure has been included within the management and cleaning headings

4. Receive the Trustees' Annual Report and Update from the Chairman

I started by reading last year's minutes to familiarise myself. "It has been a good year at the Corn Exchange and the outlook going into the New Year is good." I can repeat that for this year.

We have finally installed the acoustic panels and I can breathe a sigh of relief as they are working well and all the comments from various different users have been positive.

New lighting is next on the agenda to complete the stage.

Thanks go to my fellow trustees, especially John, my vice-chairman for his continuous support. A big thank you to our team of volunteers. We wouldn't be there without them.

A special thanks to Linda Croft who is retiring after several years as our volunteer bookkeeper. This means we can welcome a new member of staff, Caroline Wheatley, as our bookkeeper.

We now have three members of staff. Paddy has settled in well as our caretaker and Andrew continues to prove he is indispensable.

We have a great team but we can always find room for more. If you feel you have something to offer either as a volunteer or a trustee, please get in touch.
Apologies to anyone we have missed

5. Retirement (and re-election) of one third of the trustees.

We have not had any applications for new Trustees. It was noted that we are open to new approaches, and if anyone was interested, they can visit John at Tinn Criddle or Andrew at the Corn Exchange.

John Hynes, election officer explained that as per the constitution 1/3 of the trustees were required to stand down. Mike Vickers, Lucy Laquaniello and John Hynes retired as Trustees. It was proposed, seconded and resolved to accept their retirement. It was further proposed, seconded and unanimously voted that they be re-elected.

The remainder of the Trustees also confirmed that they were happy to remain as Trustees.

6. Any other business appropriate for an AGM.

Nick made reference to a folk music event taking place the following day, organised by Andrew Skinner. This should be a great evening, with three excellent acts performing. There is also a Live & Local event, The Tim Kliphuis Trio, taking place on the 8th November; tickets are now on sale.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.48pm