

NEWARK & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Newark and Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society, held on Monday 5 December 2016 in the Lady Eastwood Centre on the Showground, commencing at 7 pm.

PRESENT:

Mr A D Allen, Mr A Aspbury, Mr G Bond OBE DL, Mr J P Brydon (Chairman), Mr N L Crockford, Mr P Croft, Mrs J Farr MBE DL, Mr T Farr, Mr F R Forshaw, Mr C R Hall, Mr R Jackson, Mr A M Johnston (CEO), Mr D Lambert, Mrs E Lambert, Mr C C S Lawrence, Mrs J M Lewis, Col R Merryweather TD DL, Lady Helen Nall, Mr R E Pykett, Mr F A Reynolds MBE, Mr D Rhodes, Prof J Saint OBE DL, Mr R A Sheldon, Mr R H Sheldon, Mr M B Sheldon, Mr J W Squires, Mr P G Staniforth, Mr C A Strawson, Mrs C Thomas, Mr C White, Mrs C Cree, Mr R C Hallam, Mr W F Whysall, Mr J M Walker, Mr D Pick, Mr E Ellison.
Also in attendance were Mr S Eccleston, Mrs S Hughes and Mrs U Palin Mr G Taylor (Minutes).

APOLOGIES:

Mr C I Applewhite, J N Clarke, Mr N Crockford, Mrs A R Gascoine, Mrs A Hardstaff, Mrs E Hawthorne, Mr C C S Lawrence, Mr T Hounsfield.

ITEM 1 CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

1. The Vice-Chairman, Roger Jackson, explained that the Chairman had been delayed because of a traffic accident and bad weather and welcomed everyone to the AGM on the Chairman's behalf. Mr Jackson read out Mr Brydon's address. The Society had had a good year with over 700 events held on Newark Showground. He thanked Mr Sheldon and the Show team for managing the Nottinghamshire County Show. Thanks went to Jayne Olney. Nina Coverley had left after a short time. Re-organisation of staff. George Taylor and Harriet Aram's experience and skills are retained on the Show team and Una Palin has been brought in as Administration Manager. Just over 7,000 attended the MMS with 250 trade stands which it is hoped to increase to 275 next year. Thanks to Bob Sheldon for such a successful show. Attendance was down at the VTS but it was still a very successful show despite the poor weather on Saturday.
2. Roger Jackson thanked the CEO and DCEO and the staff for the day to day running of the Showground. The income from the trading side helps to promote the Society's own three shows. Thanks also to Nottinghamshire County Council and the Eastwood Foundation for their support in transforming the LEC into the marvellous building that it now is.

ITEM 2 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2015

3. Robin Hall proposed that Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 December 2015 were received and adopted which was seconded by Caroline Cree and unanimously approved by the meeting.

ITEM 3 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 2016, TOGETHER WITH THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL AND OF THE AUDITORS

4. Bill Whysall had pleasure in proposing that the accounts are received and adopted. The resolution was seconded by Jim Squires and the meeting unanimously accepted the proposition.

ITEM 4 TO PROPOSE A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT, GEOFFREY BOND OBE DL

5. Bob Sheldon said it was a privilege and a pleasure to be asked to propose a vote of thanks to the outgoing President. Mr Bond and his wife, Dianora, had conducted themselves brilliantly around the Showground and he spoke to nearly everyone at the Show at one time or another. The livery companies that Mr Bond had invited had been great and had contributed to the success of the show. The President had spent weeks working on and promoting the apprenticeship awards which, with his help, would continue for the foreseeable future. Mr Sheldon had enjoyed the company of Geoffrey Bond who he said 'knows all of the farmers around Southwell' and he said that his only worry now was that he had been a very hard act for the incoming President to follow. Richard Sheldon seconded the proposal and endorsed everything that had been said adding that having the President sitting attentively at every Show Committee meeting throughout the year had kept him on his toes. He thanked the President for his contribution.
6. Geoffrey Bond said that it had been a privilege to be the Society's President. As a local who came to the show as a boy and young man, he never thought he would one day become the President. He said he had enjoyed support from the Adrian Johnston and Una Palin and had welcomed the opportunity to get the apprenticeship scheme going. He extended every good wish to Frank Reynolds in his year.

ITEM 5 TO WELCOME FRANK REYNOLDS MBE AS PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING 1 JANUARY 2017

7. Roger Jackson said that Frank Reynolds doesn't need any introduction as a well-known local farmer who enjoys shooting and supporting local events. He has been involved in the Southwell Ploughing Match where he has been President which has given him an excellent 'apprenticeship' for the role of Nottinghamshire Show President. Mr Jackson was confident that he would be able to 'fill Geoffrey Bond's boots' and said it gave him great pleasure to welcome Mr Reynolds who he believed would be a great ambassador for the county show.
8. Roger Merryweather endorsed all that Roger Jackson had said and believes Frank Reynolds to be a most worthy candidate for President of this Society. He has already given exceptional service to the Society as well as to his local

community and the county in so many different ways. Col Merryweather was delighted to second the welcome and believes Mr Reynolds will be a superb President. Geoffrey Bond handed over the President's Badge to Frank Reynolds.

9. The new President said that on the days of the Show he never saw Geoffrey Bond, or his wife, without broad smiles on their faces and he thanked him very much for the support he had given him. He said that his sister, Sheila Davies, will be his Lady and commented that she and Dianora had been at school together. He hoped to be able to help the Society in way that he could during his Presidential year and was really looking forward to being President.

ITEM 6 TO ELECT THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY, MR TIM FARR

10. The Chairman, John Brydon, said it gave him great pleasure to propose Tim Farr at Deputy President and it was especially good to be able to do so in the presences of his wonderful mother, Jenny Farr, Patron of the Society. Mr Brydon said that Tim had read History & Law at Downing College Cambridge and then decided to work for Home Brewery for several years before buying Hall Farm in 1987. He now successfully farms over 1200 acres or primarily arable land. He has been President of Southwell Show and hosted the show on the farm at Kirklington which he will be doing again in 2017. Tim Farr has been on Newark Internal Drainage Board as a member and as Chairman for many years and had served for eight years until July 2015 as Chairman of DEFRA's 12 Regional Flood and Coastal Committee.
11. David Rhodes seconded the proposal and said that Tim Farr would be a fine man to do the job.
12. Mr Farr thanked John Brydon and David Rhodes very much for their comments and said he was looking forward hugely to the role. He said he was very impressed with the work that the Society does and the way that it goes about it and the qualities that its people bring to the job. Mr Reynolds handed on the Deputy President's Badge to Mr Farr.

ITEM 7 TO RE-ELECT MEMBERS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF THREE YEARS

13. Peter Croft proposed that the following people be re-elected for a further three years: Messrs; A Aspbury, N Clarke, F R Forshaw, Mrs E Lambert, Mr C C S Lawrence, Mrs J Lewis, Messrs R E Pykett, P Staniforth and Mrs C M Thomas. Jenny Saint seconded the proposal saying that these were sterling volunteers and the life-blood of the Society and that the Society should be grateful to them for putting themselves forward again. All were unanimously voted for by the meeting to serve a further three years.

ITEM 8 TO ELECT THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO COUNCIL

15. Richard Sheldon proposed Edmund Ellison as a new member to Council and said it gave him enormous pleasure to do so. The Ellison family has a very long association with the Society and Edmund's father is still very actively involved. To have three generations of the same family serve the Society is a great achievement. The proposal was seconded by Liz Lambert who was pleased to see younger members coming on to Council and was hopeful that it might encourage more young people to get involved.
16. Bob Sheldon proposed David Pick who is well known to many on Council. Mr Pick, who lives at Upton, has been coming to the County Show for over 50 years and for many years has been involved in stewarding the Show car parking as a member of the Newark RFC. David Rhodes was delighted to second Mr Pick's appointment and all voted unanimously for both new members to be elected to Council. The Chairman welcomed both new members.

ITEM 9 TO RE-APPOINT STREETS & CO AS AUDITORS AND TO AUTHORISE COUNCIL TO FIX THEIR REMUNERATION

17. Lady Helen Nall proposed that the Society retained Streets as its auditors and that Council was authorised to fix their remuneration. Tony Aspbury was pleased to second the proposition which was unanimously passed by the meeting.

ITEM 10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

18. There being no further items of business, the Chairman apologies for being late due to the accident on the A52 and thanked everyone for attending. The formal part of the meeting concluded at 7.55pm.