

Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

Minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 5 January 2022 5pm at Queen Alexandra's House

Present: Sue Price Chair (SP); Joanna Clark (JC); Simon Cox (SC); Lynden Easton (LE); Tina Higginson (TH); Carol Joseph (CJ); Christina Shiatis (CS); Simon Walton (SW).

Members present: Five members attended.

Apologies from trustees?

Apologies from non-attending members: Ann and David Mauleverer, Kenneth Stern, John Harkness, Lorraine Buckland.

Welcome: SP welcomed all trustees and members.

1. Approval of the minutes of the AGM 30 November 2020

These were agreed. Proposed by TH and seconded by JC.

2. 2020 Annual statement of Accounts and Trustees Annual Report

The accounts were approved at the AGM of 30 November 2020. The annual report was now accepted. Proposed by SC and seconded by SW. The accounts will now be filed with the Charity Commission.

3. Election of Trustees

SP and SW retired after serving for three years and were duly re-elected. Proposed by SC and seconded by CS.

New trustees were appointed – Carol Joseph (CJ), Jil Leuw (JL) and Christina Shiatis (CS). Proposed by SH and seconded by LE.

4. Amendments to the Constitution

The rules for having an AGM were changed under covid restrictions to give a temporary extension to the charity's end of year formalities and the way they were executed. Changes to the way the AGM or other meetings may be run in the future have now been incorporated into the charity's constitution under clause 11 through the following amendments.

1. "give the address at which the meeting is to take place and/or provide details of the electronic means by which members may participate in the meeting".

In future AGMs or other meetings they could be held in person, via zoom or a mixture of both.

2. "contain a statement setting out the right of members to appoint a proxy pursuant to subclause 11".

Members will have the right to vote on behalf of other members not present at the AGM.

3. "to make a technical amendment to clause 22".

This allows for the proceedings of the meeting to be upheld despite any member not receiving information about the meeting either through accidental omission or an electronic communication failure.

Trustees and members voted unanimously to approve the three amendments, proposed by SP and seconded by JC. They take effect when accepted by the Charity Commission and filed within 15 days. The next AGM must be held within the next 15 months and is expected to held sometime in 2022.

5. Any Other Business

A member asked if meetings in future might be of the hybrid type, ie some face to face with members also joining in electronically. SP agreed that this may well be how future meetings are run.

A member reported that she volunteered at one of the park's kiosks but had to work with another person. If her partner was unable to attend, the kiosk was not allowed to open. Working in pairs was also required for volunteer gardeners. These rules are stipulated because of health and safety requirements and insurance cover while volunteering in the royal parks.

6. **Date of Next Meeting:** 23 March 2022 at 5pm. Venue to be arranged later.