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|  | Carnon Downs Drama Group Annual General Meeting - MINUTES |
| Date & Time | Sunday 4th October 2020 at 4pm |
| Location | Online via zoom |

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| Present: David Ivall (Chair), Mark Breach (Treasurer), Zoe Vale (Secretary), John Frankland, Paul Barker, Charlotte Padmore, Paula Wellings, Tracey Holmes, Pam Furnish, Chris Breach, Nicholas Vale, Colin Groom, Ann Lejeune, Elaine Gummow joined later.  **Meeting at quorate** |

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| 1. **Welcome & Apologies:**   **The Chairperson welcomed all present. Apologies were received from:**  Miriam Loosemore, Moo Burnett, Gina Walkey, Elaine Gummow, Linda Barker, Malcolm and Ann Grimsley |
| 1. **Request AOB**    1. **One act play**    2. **Consultation with hall** |
| 1. **Minutes of last AGM –Wednesday 17th April 2019**   **Any Matters Arising- None**  Colin proposed and Mark seconded. The adoption of the minutes; carried. |
| 1. **Chair report 2020 – presented by David Ivall (includes youth group update)**   This afternoon I’m reporting to you on the Group’s activities since April 2019, which now seems a very long time ago!  At the AGM held in that month Zoe was re-elected as Secretary, Mark as Treasurer, together with all the ordinary committee members (a singularly inappropriate adjective). No Chairman was elected, but the committee easily resolved this at their first meeting by co-opting John as chairman until November, when I succeeded him. May I say what an honour I consider it to have been chosen as chairman of a Group of which I have now belonged to for thirty nine years.  In August 2019 Nick and Zoe Vale held a Play in a Week course at the barn for our junior members; I missed the performance, but I did visit during the week and could appreciate the talent and enthusiasm of the participants, and the hard work of the organisers.  In October Nick directed Agatha Christie’s *And Then There Were None*. This was a production of a very high standard, and I would like to pay tribute to the cast, the director, and all backstage, especially those involved with constructing the impressive set and the table. Audiences were satisfactorily large and appreciative.  We continued to seek to be involved with the local community during the year; we now have three members on the Perranwell Centre committee. We put on an improvised performance at PerranFest and had hoped to stage a murder mystery evening as part of the Big Village events, but it proved impossible to find a cast. Monthly play readings continued over the year, but generally with low attendance.  Then came 2020 – our fiftieth anniversary year! Originally the pantomime in January was intended to be *Sleeping Beauty* from Gummow-Barker Productions, but the team had to withdraw as Elaine required an operation during the rehearsal period. Fortunately another of the committee proved to have a *Sleeping Beauty* script already written, with original songs and tunes, which were turned into proper music by our talented musical director Peter Smith. This pantomime had on stage fifteen adults and twenty three junior members, our largest cast for any production in recent years, which was reflected in the size of the audiences. It was, if I may say so, very successful.  In March we held our fiftieth anniversary dinner dance at Penmorvah Manor, with 56 people present, including representatives from every decade of the Group’s existence. I would like to thank Elaine and Linda for organising that very enjoyable event. Shortly afterwards some members, led by John, collaborated in a murder mystery at Merchants Manor in Falmouth and a book launch at Waterstones in Truro, helping to raise the Group’s profile.  And then the heavens opened, the foundations crumbled and the walls fell! Covid had arrived.  What should have happened in the current year was that we presented Alan Ayckbourn’s *Sisterly Feelings* at the Minack in May directed by John Frankland; Karnon Kidz were to perform *Alice in Wonderland Jr* at the Perranwell Centre in July, directed by Sam Rogers; there was to be an anniversary Barn Painting and Barbecue over the summer; performances of *Pop Goes the Patient* (repeating our first ever production) and the winner of an original one act play competition in October directed by John and Nick; and the pantomime *Aladdin* with original script from Joyce Bassett and Pam Furnish in January. Clearly we have had to put all of those activities on hold, the first two after rehearsals had already commenced. As things stand, the whole programme has been transferred to 2021/22, with rights secured and bookings made, but all I can really say is ... watch this space.  However we have not been inactive over the last six months. Committee meetings have continued via Zoom, the Prompt has been issued regularly (thank you, Ann) and online quizzes and play readings have been held to keep our membership engaged during lockdown and beyond. Thanks to John, Zoe and Mark for facilitating those activities, which we will continue in proportion to the demand.  I would very much like to thank all the members of the committee for their input over the past year: John, Zoe, Mark, Ann, Charlotte, Elaine, Moo, Nick, Pam, Paul and Tracey. Zoe is having to stand down as Secretary at this meeting, for happy rather than sad reasons, and Charlotte is standing down as Membership Secretary; I’d like thank both of them for their efficient work over the past few years. Volunteers for either post would be extremely welcome, otherwise the jobs will have to be covered by the existing officers, which is not the most efficient way to go forward.  Finally, please will all members keep their fingers crossed for a brighter future, when we can meet face to face once more and do some drama!  David Ivall |
| 1. **Treasurer’s Report presented by Mark Breach**   **Treasurer’s Report – Financial Year 2019**  This is my 5th year as your treasurer.  The accounts have been independently examined and signed off by Tony Wright, a previous treasurer of Carrick U3A. No adverse comment was received so I take it that he was content that the accounts have been properly managed and presented and give a true reflection of our financial position.  You have seen a copy of the end of year accounts. The bottom line is that our net worth at the end of the year is that we had £10311 in the bank and cash.  That bottom line compares with the equivalent amount of £8318 at the same time last year. So, we are up £1993 compared with our last year’s equivalent position.  Last year in our shows: Toot made a profit of £952; Little Mermaid made a profit of £282; Play in a Week made a profit of £334 and And Then There Were None made a profit of £934. Overall, that’s a profit of £2502. Shows are not our only source of income, or more importantly, our only source of expenditure.  At the end of the year which was before performances, Sleeping Beauty was down £1295 and Alice in Wonderland was up £854 and Sisterly Feelings was down £9. These figures are not unreasonable for shows in preparation.  Subs were up £280 on the previous year which reflects new people who joined us for And Then There Were None and for Play in a week and Sleeping Beauty.  On the expenditure side a couple of big swings merit comment. The Miscellaneous/General Expenditure is considerably down, and again, reflects partly different accounting and fewer big expenses. Site rentals now includes rental of the barn which is £1200 a year plus water and electricity. That means that individual shows do not get charged for rehearsal space there. But the barn costs, in practise do need to be covered by show profits or other new income.  As reported on the annual return to the Charity Commission, in round numbers, £2726 went out of our accounts and £4719 came in. That reflects the increase of £1993 I mentioned earlier.  During the year our finances bottomed at £6960 in the run-up to Toot and topped at £ 12,809. That’s a swing of £5849.  As have said before, we are in show business where outgoings are relatively predictable, but income isn’t. This year has been relatively stable. But my conclusion is similar to that of previous years. Although our current assets are up a bit, they are no more than adequate for us to be able to be in a position to absorb an unexpected, but quite possible, big hit to our fortunes. I am mindful that next year we have a big show at the Minack; that will mean big expenditure, before, we hope but cannot guarantee, bigger returns. Bottom line in the short term, in my view, we need to keep a watchful eye on our assets and do all we can to avoid a serious and expected loss.  So, we must continue to control our outgoings and take a rigorous review of show budgets and on the other side improve our audiences, and as we know, the majority of our audiences come in because of personal contact with members of our group so we all have a part to play in promoting our shows whether we are in them or not.  That’s the formal report for the year 2019, but I think it appropriate to update you on where we stand now, especially in the light of recent circumstances. Alice and Sisterly Feelings have not happened so we have made claims on our insurance for abandonment, that’s abandonment of the planned performances rather than abandonment of the productions. So the claims do not include the royalties that we have paid. I have notified the insurance company that, if we are not able to mount either or both of those productions in the future, then we will amend our past claims to include those losses. The insurance company seems to have accepted that position.  While on insurance, I have renewed both our group and committee insurances up to October 2021, but it is worth noting that the insurance company has added a new exclusions clause that relates to abandonment. We can only now claim for abandonment with respect to specific diseases. This include the unlikely events of Anthrax, Cholera, Leprosy, Plague, Rabies, Yellow Fever and others but not Covid. So we will need to bear that in mind with respect to expenditure on future shows.  Thanks primarily to Sleeping Beauty, we are still in a reasonable position with £10,500 in the funds and some credit with the Perranwell Centre for accommodation that we have booked and paid for but, because of Covid, have been unable to use.  **Accounts approved –**  **Proposed – Nick and seconded – Paula**  **Vote of thanks from David to Mark for not only keeping accounts but sorting out all of the insurance claims which have come with this year!** |
| 1. **Awards Report**   *Mike Hewitt Trophy* , *Wilhelmina Groom Trophy* ,*Turner Prize*  Nominations and award winners  Mike Hewitt – Charlotte Padmore  Nominated – Zoe & Nick, Ethan Kent, Mike Padmore, Mark Breach, John Frankland  Wilhelmina - Bethan Robinson  Nominated – Megan Johns, Megan Laval, Joe Lessifer, Millie Padmore  Turner Prize – Mark Breach  Nominated – Sophie Quick, Gemma Wright, Colin Groom |
| 1. **Policies and procedures**   Not introduced any new policies or procedures but have tightened up on child protection – For Sleeping Beauty the CP policy was given to and all adults signed they had read it. |
| 1. **Committee positions to be elected.** Members standing for re-election are:-   Chair – David Ivall  Treasurer – Mark Breach  Secretary -  Members:  Ann Lejeune (Prompt Editor)  Tracey Holmes  Moo Burnett  Elaine Gummow  Pam Furnish  Paul Barker  John Frankland  Youth Members (non voting) – Abi Holmes  **Nominated committee members: Colin Groom – co-opt at the first meeting**  **The post of secretary will be covered by Zoe in the short term, handing over to other committee members in November.**  **Abi is happy to continue as the youth member – channel of communication etc.**  **All re-elected – thanks to the non-committee members for supporting is in being re-elected!** |
| 1. **50th Anniversary**   Got the dinner dance in!  Move all to next year – 50 +1 |
| 1. **AOB –**   **One act play competition** – all read! John, Zoe and Nick meeting next week to decide on the final 14 to pass to Waterstones, Helen from the HfC and the author.  294 plays received! A vote of thanks for reading these!  **Redevelopment of the Perranwell Centre** – consultation meeting with the hall trustees tomorrow night via zoom. Anyone is welcome – contact John, Stage 2 report discussed at last committee meeting with ideas on how it can be improved. John has consulted with Mike Meers and Clive Buckingham both of whom have come up with interesting thoughts to share tomorrow. Mark, Colin, David and John will be at the meeting – all will be reported back at the next committee meeting. All to do with reconstruction of the Perranwell Centre – watch this space for interesting developments.  **Thanks** to Mike Padmore for distributing the prompt.  **Thanks** to David Ivall for his leadership in this crazy year!  **Sad news** – David Faulkner who played the judge in And Then There Were None last year sadly passed away on Saturday 12th September 2020. Zoe and Nick were able to attend his funeral. |
| NB to Secretary– set the date for the committee meeting of the newly elected committee.  Meeting closed: 16:40 |