

Annual General Meeting of The Taborers Society
Held on Saturday 11th July 2009 at 4.00pm in Lichfield

Present

Pete Taylor, Terry Carter, Andy Richards, Geoff Huggins, Charles and Kathy Wells, Bob Tyson, Rebecca Parris, David and Sheila Wright, Chris Walker, Mark and Yvonne Gallon, Clive DuMont, Rafel and Teresa Mitjans, Rob and Gillian Guest, Frances Tucker

Apologies

Steve Rowley, Gwilym Davis, Bill Tuck

Because of Steve's absence through illness it was agreed that Rob would take the chair.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record (Bob/Terry)

Matters Arising

(3) Rob confirmed that the society has Public Liability Insurance through National Farmers Union.

(4) The society bought a box of 40 Generation pipes over a year ago for resale, and has just bought a second box. Interest via the web seems steady.

(7) The Morris workshop arranged for 26/10/08 did not go ahead due to insufficient interest.

(7) TTS met twice with the organisers of the Lichfield Mystery Plays to try to arrange for TTS to be involved, but this was unsuccessful. There was a new organising committee for the plays who were still feeling their way.

Treasurer's Report

Rob presented the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2009
Accepted (Terry/Charles)

Chairman's Report

Steve was absent through illness and had been unable to present his report

Election of Officers

Chair

It was noted that at the 08 AGM Steve had expressed a desire to stand down as chair. In view of Steve's absence from the 09 AGM, no notification of resignation, and the fact that no prior discussions had taken place, the meeting felt that no changes could be made at this time. It was therefore agreed to ask Steve to remain in post for the time being. It was noted that Steve has been heavily involved in the early discussions and organisation of the 2010 Festival.

Treasurer – Rob Guest (Terry/Chris)

Secretary – Gillian Guest (Terry/Frances)

It was agreed that further committee members should be co-opted as and when necessary.

Andy Richards proposed a vote of thanks to the officers for running the society.

Activities in 2009 – 2010

Bob suggested that an informal P&T gathering be organised for a weekend, to be less of a public event than the festival, and more of a session to meet and play. The meeting felt this was a good idea. Bob agreed to work on this.

Frances suggested that it might include a recording session with videos to add to the archives.

David suggested that members could run small workshops at other folk festivals. Andy has done this successfully at Sidmouth. David will enquire about prospects of doing this at the Chippenham festival.

The York Mystery Plays are due to be performed in 2010 but this has not yet been confirmed as funding the Olympics in 2012 has severely reduced money available for the Arts. If the plays are performed TTS would be welcomed as musicians.

P&T Festival 2010

This is being organised in conjunction with the Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester 13-15 August 2010. Three Choirs stretches for 9 days over 2 weekends, but our core festival will be for the usual 3 days. Three Choirs are very keen for TTS to be involved and a timetable is being arranged which will raise the profile of the p&t. Workshops and daily beginners' workshops during the week are planned.

Any Other Business

Frances spoke about her work in documenting the p&t with the aim of raising its profile. She noted that the archive should be published on the web or in paper format or both and hoped that it might be possible to apply for a grant to achieve this. Frances is also working on updating the website and requested that members assist her for example with writing or editing. Offers of help were made by Bob, Andy, Clive, Rafael and Teresa.

The question of the 3 web sites was raised. Members thought that it would be better for files to be on TTS website rather than the yahoo discussion groups as this would avoid confusion. Rod Stradling who runs the TTS site has done a great job in improving the site, and the meeting requested that the gratitude to him for this be recorded. He also runs Green Man's Morris website which has secure members-only files. The meeting decided that Rod should be asked to advise us on the technicalities of moving the files to a members only area on the website, and agreed that reasonable costs should be paid to achieve this.

Membership leaflet

It was suggested that a small membership leaflet listing TTS' aims and with website details etc would be a useful resource to hand out. Gillian agreed to prepare a draft.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 4.35pm