

Annual General Meeting of The Taborers Society Held on Friday 15th September 2023 in Grantham

The meeting began at 5.00p.m.

Present

Andy Richards, Fiz Markham, Brad Chick, Lynn Willson, Viv Stamford, Mary-Jo Searle, Bob Tyson, Rebecca Parris, Clive Du'Mont, Bill Tuck, Barbara Segal, Bill Marshall, Mark Perkins, Stephanie Goodacre, Avery Gosfield, Terry Mann, Andy Kelly, Eveline Juten, Michel Bellon, Rob Guest, Gillian Guest

Apologies

Terry Carter, Steve Rowley, Helen Clark, Atsufumi Ujiie, Sachi Ujiie, Peter Barnard, Grace Williams, Jeremy Monson, Gez Pegram, David Bush, Donald Reid, Elizabeth Christina, Peter Kanssen*, Liam Robinson, Jason Tilbrook, Barry Lloyd, Caroline & Chris Shaw, John Puntis, Rachel Cole-Wilkin, George Twitchin, Matt Simons*, Ollie Simons*.

* couldn't attend the AGM but did attend IPATF.

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting on 18th June 2022 were accepted as a true and correct record. (Lynn/Fiz)

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

Treasurer's Report

Rob presented the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023. The Society now has 247 members in 21 countries around the world. He explained that the Society sells about 20 Generation pipes each year all over the world. The aim of the Society in selling these pipes is to encourage new players, and by charging £9.95 the Society makes a slight profit of about 10p per pipe. Our price is significantly lower than other outlets, but with postage increasing we may have to raise the price or alternatively sell at a loss.

Accounts accepted (Bill/MJ)

The meeting expressed thanks to Rob for his work as treasurer.

Chairman's Report

Andy noted again that TTS is very much a team effort, and he thanked all members including Rob, Gillian, Bill, Fiz, Helen, Gez, Elizabeth, Terry Carter, George, Terry Mann, Tim Cranmore, Barry Lloyd, Mark Binns, Steve, Jeremy, Clive, Rebecca, Ollie and Matt among others for their contributions.

The Winter Warmer in Feb 2022 was held in Rotherhithe (thanks to Bill Tuck for his work on this). Elizabeth Christina helped Andy with a highly successful school session the day before, with 90 year 5s piping (15), taboring (21), jig dolls and dancing. We were warmly welcomed by the Norwegian church and they are enthusiastic about us returning there.

The Festival in 2022 was excellent, being held in York in conjunction with the Mystery Plays, when TTS members led specific carts around the stations in the city (thanks to Gez Pegram for his work on this).

Report accepted (Bill/Bob)

Election of Officers

The present officers were willing to continue to serve, and were elected en bloc: (Fiz/Bob)

Chair – Andy Richards

Treasurer – Rob Guest

Secretary – Gillian Guest

Director of Symposium – Bill Tuck

Archivist – Rebecca Parris

Morris liaison – Clive Du'Mont

Youth liaison – Ollie Simons

The business of the AGM being completed, the meeting closed at 5.20 p.m. and was immediately followed by a general meeting of TTS

General Meeting

Present – personnel as above.

A Winter Meet

Gez has suggested this be held in York. The date is not yet fixed, but will be in February. There was general support for this. As Beverley is not too far from York, it is hoped that a visit there can be included to view the iconography.

Future Festivals

The 2024 festival will be held in Gloucester, with the date to be arranged

Any Other Business

T-shirts

It was raised that there has been no progress on this topic. Rebecca said that the logo can be put on Red Bubble with only TTS members able to access it so that they can have it printed on clothing etc as they wish. Rebecca will liaise with Steve about the logo and action this.

Morris Liaison

Clive reported that after the initial flourish, there has been little activity on the Morris directory in the past few years, despite repeated calls. He said he is willing to continue in the role of Morris liaison unless a more energetic person wishes to take over.

Thanks

Avery expressed gratitude that the Society is continuing to flourish, as there is no other equivalent structure elsewhere for laborers to come together.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.40pm.