

**Museum of the Broads**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Held by Zoom video conferencing**

**on Thursday 23 September 2021 at 1700**

**Present:**

Henry Cator (Patron), Robert Paul (President, Director and Chair of Trustees), Pamela Masters (Vice President, Director and Trustee), David Talbot (previous Finance Director), Jacqui Griffyth (Director and Trustee), Andrew Farrell (Director and Trustee), Chris Tooth (Director & Trustee), Ruth Briant (Director & Trustee), Lakshan Saldin (Director & Trustee), Nicola Hems (Curator), Gill Austin (Administrator & minutes).

Friends: Trevor Bone, Elizabeth de Iongh, Caroline Male, Jon Male, Malcolm Gee, Jenny Gee, Rod Bryson, Richard Hems.

**1 Welcome by the President:**

The President and Chair of Trustees, Robert Paul, welcomed everyone to the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Museum of the Broads (and the 24th at Stalham). He explained that Charity Commission guidelines enabled charities to hold AGMs later and virtually in 2021 and that hopefully the next meeting would be in April 2022 in person. He greeted Henry Cator and the Trustees and explained the protocol and asked all attending to introduce themselves.

Robert reported that Sir Timothy Colman had died earlier in the year. He had been a supporter of the Museum throughout and was an incredible stalwart of many organisations throughout Norfolk. Sir Timothy had donated *Dabchick* to the Museum. Robert said he was honoured to have met and talked to him, and that he would be hugely missed.

Robert reported that the Museum re-opened in late July 2021. He thanked staff and volunteers for their hard work and support. The feedback from visitors has been very good and it is hoped to remain open until the end of October, as originally advertised.

**2 Apologises for Absence:**

Gillian Jeckells, Maureen Douglas, Doug Fulcher, J. Hibbert, Pat & Richard Reid, M. McCosh

**3 Minutes of the previous AGM held on Friday 25 September 2020.**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes. Lakshan Saldin proposed that these minutes be adopted as a true record and David Talbot seconded the proposal. All agreed and the motion was carried.

**4 Report from the Chairman of the Trustees**

Robert Paul gave a summary of his report, posted on the Friends’ page on the Museum’s website, in advance.

Both 2020 and 2021 had been difficult years because of COVID but the Museum had managed to open in August 2020. Recovery grants had been received from Arts Council England, SHARE and from the Government.

Lakshan Saldin had been co-opted as a new trustee in October and was updating the Business Plan. The Cooke’s building had been developed and was now opened as reception and shop. The Museum had weathered the storm and come out on the other side. The collection of Broads based objects was ever increasing.

Robert thanked the Curator and various members of the Management team for all their hard work.

There were no questions for Robert.

**5 Adoption of Accounts January to December 2020**

Although he had resigned in June as Finance Director, David Talbot had produced the year’s accounts. He summarised the Accounts which were posted in advance on the Museum’s website. Robert thanked David for all his help at a tricky time.

David reported that the most important part was the statement of activity on pages 6 & 7. 2020 had been an unusual year, with £11k of restricted funds from an Arts Council Grant. Unrestricted funds from charitable activities (from the few weeks the Museum was open) amounted to £21k (which was much lower than the £52k seen in 2019). £23k was received through the NNDC and furlough payments also made a big difference

Total income was £66.6k and expenditure £59k giving a surplus of £7.5k shown as funds on the balance sheet.

There was little change in fixed assets and a slight increase in stock.

Creditors (the loan for the purchase of Cooke’s) were owed £40k at the end of year one of the loan.

Total funds were £389k – the bulk being represented by property. General unrestricted funds were £66k.

Richard Hems raised a question relating to examiners points 1,2,3,4. David stated this was just a wording issue.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Trevor Bone and seconded by Jon Male. The motion was carried.

Robert thanked David Talbot for all his hard work and for producing the report.

**6 Election of Directors/Trustees**

At this point Robert asked Pamela to take over the meeting.

Robert Paul retires as a Director and Trustee by rotation and was proposed for re-election as Director and Trustee. He was also proposed to continue as President.

Proposed by David Talbot and seconded by Trevor Bone and Jenny Gee.

All in favour – motion carried.

Lakshan Saldin was co-opted in October. Ruth Briant, Chris Tooth and Andrew Farrell joined the board in July 2021 through filling casual vacancies and co-option and are now eligible for full election to the board.

All recommended to be elected ‘en bloc’.

Proposed by Malcolm Gee and seconded by Caroline Male. All were in favour - the motion was carried.

The new Trustees were formally welcomed to the Board. Robert said he was really delighted to welcome all four who would bring new skills, experience and ideas. There were still some gaps that need to be filled (particularly for Secretary and Treasurer).

**7 Any Other Business constitutionally notified in advance**

There was no advance constitutionally notified items. None were raised at the meeting.

Robert talked about lovely reviews that had been received recently – how visitors had been most impressed by the boat trips especially Falcon; how helpful and efficient the reception volunteers had been, for George and the other crews and helms who were always friendly and knowledgeable and ready to help those with less mobility to board the boats.

Robert expressed his thanks to all volunteers.

**8 Date and Time of next AGM.**

It was proposed by Jon Male and seconded by Pamela Masters that the next AGM be held on Thursday 28th April 202 at 19.00 at the Museum. The motion was carried.

Robert reported that two Trustees Trevor Bone and David Talbot had resigned during the year having worked tirelessly for the Museum for many years, and that there will be a proper tribute paid at the 2022 AGM.

Robert thanked everyone for attending and said he hoped to see everyone in person in 2022

The meeting closed at 19.40.