

THE CLAPHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of The Annual General Meeting 2017

The 54th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at 9.00 pm on 23 October 2016 at Omnibus, 1 Clapham Common North Side, SW4. The Society's President, Martin Drury, took the chair and 49 members were present.

1. The Acting Secretary had received apologies for absence from Andrew Summers. The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (24 October 2016), which had been previously circulated, were unanimously approved.
2. The Chair, Annabel Allott, presented the Annual Report, which had been circulated with the October newsletter (Issue 401). She reiterated her thanks, made in the report, to all those who helped with the running of the Society, particularly Phil Ashford, who had resigned as convenor of the Planning sub-committee. Phil had been replaced by Sarah Bridger. Andrew Summers had taken on the role of convenor of the Common and Open Spaces sub-committee (C&OSSC). Both individuals were welcomed to the sub-committees. Yet again, the Chair encouraged members of the Society to offer their services to the Society by joining the main Committee or the various sub-committees. A lively discussion about events on the Common followed, with many members expressing concern about the frequency and duration of certain events often resulting in damage to the Common. The forthcoming Winterville Fair was a source of concern, particularly the legality of advertised private hire events within the fair. The Chair undertook to check into the legality of private hire but emphasised the high cost of seeking external legal advice and any litigation. The volunteer members of the Committee and the C&OSSC worked hard to protect the Common. However, further support from members, particularly individual written representations to the Council would be greatly appreciated. One member observed that it seemed that only adverse publicity swayed the Council. The Report was unanimously adopted.
3. The Treasurer, David Brown, presented the Financial Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017. He observed that the Society's reserves continued to be depleted by the insufficiency of income to cover expenditure. Following an interesting discussion about increasing subscription rates, for which there was overwhelming support amongst members, the Treasurer agreed that the Committee would study further and in full various subscription rate options and report back to the members during 2017. However, as it was unlikely that the subscription rates could be increased sufficiently to cover all costs and retain all existing members let alone attract new members, members were encouraged to continue to make donations to the Society. The accounts were unanimously adopted.
4. The following were elected as officers for the year 2017 – 2018:

Chair Annabel Allott	Solicitor Daniel Dovar
Treasurer David Brown	Membership Secretary Jennifer Everett

Also elected as **Committee Members** were: Christine Armstrong, Sarah Bridger, Bill Emmett, Mark Leffler, Andrew Summers and Alyson Wilson.
5. Anna Long FCA was thanked for her work during the last year and reappointed as **Independent Examiner**.
6. There was no other business.

FEMSullivan
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