

**RUSLAND READING ROOM COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON 23RD MAY 2013**

1. In attendance:

Mr Gordon Wilkinson
Mrs Elsie Wilkinson
Mrs Ann Robinson
Mr Colin Barr
Mrs Mandy Lane
Mr Giles Wingate-Saul
Mr Angus Adams
Mrs Annie Meanwell

Apologies received from Reverend John Dixon, David Robinson and Michael Benham

2. Minutes

Minutes of the last AGM held on 10th May 2012 were approved.

3. Appointment of officers and committee members

Colin Barr stated that because of time constraints and pressures of duties elsewhere he would have to resign. Gordon Wilkinson said he was extremely sorry to hear this and thanked him on the committee's behalf for his work and input during his time on the committee.

With regard to committee members Mandy Lane stated she was willing to join the committee – Giles Wingate-Saul proposed that she be invited to join and this was seconded by Angus Adams. Unanimous approval was given.

Chairman – Gordon Wilkinson reluctantly agreed to carry on for another year. He had hoped to pass on the position to a younger member. He was re-elected again unanimously.

Vice Chairman – It was proposed by Elsie Wilkinson that Michael Benham be asked to stand as vice chairman. This was seconded by Giles Wingate-Saul.

Secretary, Angus Adams, and the Treasurer, Giles Wingate-Saul, were re-elected unanimously.

4. Financial Report

Giles Wingate-Saul produced his accounts which also provided comparison of this years figures with last. Broadly the income was the same although the polling station fees had been lost there were a good number of regular and occasional users. In 2012 there had been some

unusual expenditure in having the electrical installation checked and carrying out consequent work particularly earthing. It will be difficult to make further economies. The cost of electricity had come down. Also there was a fair amount of oil left to date in the tank. The surplus for the year to 31st March 2013 of ordinary income over ordinary expenditure was £917.00.

On the capital front grants had now been obtained for the new roof work. Giles Wingate-Saul and Mike Benham had been seeing the various builders who have given quotes and would have a further meeting in a week or so. It was likely that Martin Hool would be appointed. As things stand there should be approximately £8,500.00 in reserve over and above the quotation. The timing of the work was crucial as certainly at the beginning of the work it would be difficult to allow any use to be made of the Rooms. As it was a condition of the grant money that it be used only for the roof expenses all agreed with Giles Wingate-Saul that money should be used before any other source. The accounts were approved unanimously (proposed Elsie Wilkinson, seconded Annie Meanwell).

On the income front Mandy Lane advised the committee that the cinema club still hoped to have supper specials as before and the Reading Room will continue to be used for these events although if the Cart House was completed, as is likely, normal evening shows will be held there.

5. Fabric report

Mandy Lane emphasised the importance of insulation in keeping costs down. This would also help with alleviating cold and condensation. There are various new methods such as those that can be fitted inside either by boards or roll on materials. All walls and ceilings could be treated. It would be worth looking into the availability of grants. All agreed that this would be beneficial and she agreed to do further research. After completion of the insulation and roof work full decoration should be carried out.

6. Charges

Generally it was felt that outsiders should be charged more. The fees for a full day for outsiders should go up to £65.00 from £50.00 but all other charges to be left the same for now. Giles Wingate-Saul said he would prepare a new notice.

7. Past events

All agreed the Spring Show had been worth doing despite the difficulties encountered by the wintry conditions.

8. Future events

- i. Colin Barr mentioned that Jim Newby was back in harness after a recent operation and he would contact him regarding the proposed valuation event. After discussion it was thought mid-November (17th?) would be a suitable target date. Entry fees would need to be decided and perhaps some competitions could be laid on.
- ii. Other ideas – Ann Robinson mentioned a concert by Rod Dove & Taxi, perhaps in July. Annie Meanwell and Elsie Wilkinson also brought up the idea of a Lakeland evening and food with traditional music.

After discussion it was left that Ann Robinson and Mandy Lane would approach Rod Dove to see if the taxi event could be organised say for July. The Lakeland evening would perhaps be better left for later in the year or early next year.

- iii. Provisional dates for the Spring Show next year were 5th/6th April though the school term times need to be checked.

9. Chairman's Report

Gordon Wilkinson said he would miss out his retirement speech! He had already mentioned most of the things that he thought should be stated. Overall it had been a good year and thanked all members for their help and support.

10. Any other business

Elsie Wilkinson again stated that she wished to retire from the cleaning. Mandy Lane suggested that a checklist of points for users including in particular a general clean up after use, might help. Elsie Wilkinson would continue to take bookings though and Gordon will continue to do the heating.

Mandy Lane reported that the Parish Council Notice Board is to be replaced – perhaps in a new position. It is being made by Peter Helm and will probably have three sections providing a section of the Reading Room on which advertising could be placed.

11. Date of next meeting

22nd May was the favoured date.

