

Minutes of 31st AGM of The Torrington Players held at Torrington Conservative Club on Tuesday 12th July 2011

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| Present: Chairman | Bill Grainger |
| Vice-chairman | Steve Tubb |
| Treasurer | David Childs |
| Secretary | Jean Evans-Loude |
| Membership Secretary | Sarah Tubb |
| Committee members | Chris Keeley, Jo Fallaize, Ian Newman |

In total there were 22 members present

1. **Chairman's opening remarks.** The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

2. **Apologies:** Carol Ryan, Barry Neal, Ruth Neal, Mike Ferry, Joe Umpleby

3. **Minutes of AGM held on 14th July 2010.** These were agreed and accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed David Rowe seconded Jo Fallaize

4. **Matters Arising.** It was noted that The Stuart Rickard Award had not been placed on the agenda. It was agreed that it will be a committee agenda item in future two meetings before that AGM. Members present were reminded of the criteria for the award and that any member can make a supported nomination to the committee.

5. The chairman brought forward an item of **AOB:** If there were no nominations for Membership Secretary, he proposed that the offices of Secretary and Membership Secretary be combined. Seconded Steve Tubb. Agreed unanimously.

6. **Chairman's Report.** There was no written report. The Chairman said that it had been a very good year for the Players with two successful productions, both directed by new members of the society. Both companies were congratulated and applauded. Once again the play readings had been very successful. There had been one offer for the Autumn Production: Hobson's Choice again by a member new to the society. Volunteers will be needed as soon as possible for Stage Manager and Producer. NODA is running relevant courses for Stage Managers and Producers at Bicton on 23rd July. Should anyone wish to attend, The Society will provide the funding, including overnight accommodation if necessary. It was agreed by all who attended that the Autumn Social was most enjoyable. Simon Mathews has kindly offered the venue again and it was agreed that we should repeat the evening. The Chairman will liaise with Simon re dates. The writing workshop run in autumn was most successful. It was noted that it was attended by a pleasing mixture of Players and others and there was a wide age range in attendance. This September the Society is offering a creative movement workshop.

7. **Treasurer's Report.** The accounts were presented as provisional - they will be checked in the near future. It has been a financially successful year with both productions making a profit. There was some discussion about how the accounts were laid out. Clarification was given by the Treasurer. The Treasurer thanked Tony Easton for stepping into the breach when the Treasurer was unwell earlier in the year.

8. Membership Report. The Membership Secretary reported that the current membership is 53. She thanked members for completing a questionnaire to indicate in which areas of productions they were interested in participating. She reminded members that the annual subscriptions are now due.

9. Election of new President. David Rowe proposed by J.Evans-Loude, seconded by Steve Tubb. Elected unanimously

10. Election of Officers and Committee. President David Rowe took the chair for the election the **Chair**. There were no nominations. One nomination for **Vice –Chair**: Bill Grainger. Proposed by J.Tyler seconded by T.Easton. Unanimous. One nomination for **Treasurer**: David Childs proposed by Bill Grainger seconded by Ian Newman. Unanimous. One nomination for **Secretary/Membership Secretary**: Jean Evans-Loude. Proposed by Stef.Easton. Seconded by Kathy Childs. Unanimous. Only three nominations for the Committee: Chrisitne Keeley, Ian Newman, Frank Allen. The retiring Committee members were thanked for their hard work.

11.. Re-election of Honorary Members: Kay Abbott, Bernice Kendall-Goodeve, Mick Knight, Allison Moore, Jill & Dennis Rex, John & Lorna Webber. Proposed David Childs Seconded Tony Easton. Unanimous

12. A.O.B

- i) Desert Island Plays. Stef outlined her idea for this. It was greeted with enthusiasm
- ii) New website . B.Grainger outlined the steps taken to update the website. R.Lessiter has agreed to take the work forward and demonstrated the new site. Members were asked to forward comments/ideas to Ron via the 'Contact Us' icon on the website. These will then be discussed with the committee. He explained that there will be a permanent link to Ray Ridgewell's site: this was applauded by members. It was agreed that Ray's hard work had given the Society a website which had served the society very well for many years.
- iv) Thanks to the good offices and negotiating skills of T.Easton, the Society now has storage facilities and work space for scenery etc at the Torridge Vale Social Club.
- v) Tony Easton suggested that more members may attend the AGM if all information appertaining to it is sent out prior to the meeting by post rather than by email. This was agreed.

13. There were no closing remarks

Jean Evans-Loude
Secretary