## **East Grinstead War Memorial Ltd**

Registered Charity No. 305211 Company No. 468425

## MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at 7pm on Wednesday 22ND JUNE 2016 at the Rehearsal Room, Chequer Mead Community Arts Centre, De La Warr Rd, East Grinstead, RH19 3BS

Present: Christopher Nunn (in the Chair)

Graeme Stagg (Vice Chairman)

In additional 30 members were present in person and 12 had submitted forms of proxy. Apologies for absence were received from 18 Members

#### 1. Introduction

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, made introductions and dealt with necessary admin matters.

## 2. 2015 Report and Financial Statement

The report and statement had been distributed to members before the meeting.

The first 7 paragraphs on the Review of the Charity's Activities referred to events leading up to the previous AGM on August 5th 2015. The Chairman suggested to the meeting that these should be taken as read as they had been well discussed at the previous AGM. This was confirmed by consensus.

The Chairman then expanded on the content of the remainder of the Review, which focused on events between the last AGM and the current day. At each stage comments or questions were invited from the members, and the following points were raised:

- A member asked if the SANGS status was now official. The Chairmans said he was unsure and would pursue a definitive answer on this from MSDC
- If the Country voted to leave the EU the following day, would this affect the status of Ashdown Forest, and hence the SANGS designation? The meeting felt that this was an unanswerable question at this time.
- EGTSC reported via their Chairman that there had been no further progress with the potential parking arrangements with QVH. EGTFC's Chairman though said there was a 3 month trial due to start on 4th July
- A member recommended that the Council talk to Ashdown Forest Conservators about the difficult issue of boundary infringements
- It was suggested by a member that there ought to be more publicity about the SANGS to achieve the objective of attracting people away from the Ashdown Forest
- It was also suggested that contact be made with other SANGS around the country, to compare notes
- A member complimented the new circular path, but asked when access paths to it would be improved. The Chairman stated that this was on our list of priorities to pursue with MSDC
- Another member asked if we were taking any action against the Ambulance station, whose staff were currently parking on our grass on the opposite side of the road. The Chairman said we would follow this up.

In summary, the Chairman hoped that the Members could see that the Council had addressed their concerns raised at the last AGM, to keep the pressure on MSDC, and to improve internal communication.

The Treasurer, Nigel Davis, then explained some aspects of the Financial Statements for 2015. A discussion followed as to whether we should have a formal audit, but the consensus of members was that this was not necessary and would be a waste of money.

There being no other questions, the Chairman then asked for acceptance of the 2015 Report and Financial Statement. This was proposed by Penny Fisher, seconded by Richard Sweatman and approved by a unanimous show of hands.

### 3. Reappointment of Company's Accountants

The Treasurer reported that he felt Brooks and Co did a good, and cost-effective job preparing our Annual Financial Statement and suggested they be reappointed and that Council should be authorised to set their fees. This was formally proposed by Tanya Hayman, seconded by Richard Tramontin, and approved unanimously by a show of hands.

#### 4. Election of Chairman

There being no other nominees, Christopher Nunn was duly declared re-elected as Chairman

#### 5. Election of Vice Chairman

There being no other nominees, Graeme Stagg was duly declared re-elected as Vice Chairman

#### 6. Election of Council Members

By rotation, 4 Council members had resigned and offered themselves for re-election. There were no other nominations for these positions, so Tanya Hayman, Mike Funnell, Shirley Baker and Anthony Fisher, all of whom had offered themselves for re-election, were duly declared re-elected.

# 7. Close of Meeting

The Chairman wished to acknowledge the effort and input from the Council Members, the Members, and the volunteers at Ashplats Conservation Group for all the hard work they put into the Company and it's Estate. The Vice Chairman also wished to acknowledge the efforts of the Chairman. The members were pleased to support these remarks.

There being no other business, the Chairman duly declared the Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed:

Name: C.Nunn

Position: Chairman

Date: 21st September 2016