

Spring Grove Fringe
Annual General Meeting
9th October 2019

Present: Sandy Gavshon (Chair), Tony Tresigne (Treasurer), Nigel Duffin, Mark Springthorpe, Keith Glenny, Sandie Glenny, Beth Birley, Jayne Britten, Jonathan Rollason, Jacqui Rollason, Nigel Bellwood, Daisy Jones, Adrian Treloar, David Hamilton, Debbie Pukham (non voting), Laurie South, Veronica Birley, Karina Ramnarain, Janice Smith, Helen Dawson.

Apologies: Jo Need, Ross Jones, Chris Brookes, Roger Chown, Amanda Shaw, Nick and Leo Sheldon.

Sandy welcomed everyone to the meeting. She said 2018/19 has been a fantastic year for the SGF and expressed her thanks to actors, directors, technical crew and caterers for all their hard work. Shows have mostly been sold out with a record £4250 being donated to various charities.

Minutes of the last Meeting: Beth Birley proposed and Jonathan Rollason seconded that the Minutes were accepted. Agreed nem con.

Matters Arising from the Meeting: The ticketing system has been changed to Ticketsource. This is proving to be more efficient with the added benefits of being slightly cheaper and producing more accessible reports.

Safeguarding our young people who are involved in performances: Lynn Charlton has written a policy which is going to be uploaded to the website.

Treasurer's Report: Tony reported that we have had an interesting year with four extremely successful shows including the most profitable panto for years! The three other shows grossed superbly with Lady Windermere's Fan grossing £3000 alone although it must be noted that it was also the most expensive to produce.

Bar profits were also good in all shows.

However Tony also pointed out that this year the SGF has spent more than we earned, to the tune of £500. This is due mainly to the fact that we are now paying considerably more for the hall and we have made significant donations to various charities this year totalling £4250 which is £2500 more than we have done in previous years. Tony assured the meeting that these figures are acceptable to him as we aim to keep £1500 in reserve for unforeseen costs and some of the donations were carried forward from last year.

Tony also said that total charity donations from the Fringe are approaching £50000!

Jonathan, on behalf of us all, thanked Tony for his hard work over the past year.

Please see Treasurer's Report attached.

Trustee's Report: This report will be sent to the Charities Commission. Nigel talked through the Report which is produced to satisfy the requirements of the Charity Commissioners. He said the Report is self explanatory and gives a summary of the Fringe's achievements. The Report lists the charities that have received donations. Most shows were sold out this year including the panto. Gift Aid will be collected on subscriptions. The Report will be uploaded onto the website. Please see Trustee's Report attached.

Elections of Officers: Mark proposed and Bethany seconded that the current Committee and Trustees be re-elected for the current year. These proposals were agreed by the meeting nem con.

Tony has decided to stand down from the role of Treasurer as of November 2019. Sandy thanked him for his "fantastic stint" in the role. Tony will remain on the Committee.

Keith Glenny proposed and Sandie Kenny seconded Jayne Britten (our current Accounts Examiner) to take over the role of Treasurer. Jayne was elected as a Trustee, Treasurer and Operator of the Bank Account nem con. Jayne has vast experience and we are very grateful to her. She will attend the next Committee meeting for the Accounts to be passed over.

This appointment now means we need a new Accounts Reviewer and Jonathan Rollason has volunteered to undertake this task. Everyone thanked him for this kind offer.

Forthcoming Productions:

November: 29/30th will see a production of some of Michael Frayn's Matchbox Plays. Nigel will oversee this generally, with individual directors directing a couple of playlets each. There are lots of parts to be filled and enthusiastic participants, both on stage and off, are required please!

February: is panto time and this year it is Jack and the Beanstalk. Lynn Charlton will direct, assisted by Amanda.

May : Jo Need may be interested in directing a production.

Sandy said going forward we always need lots of ideas for productions. We need to encourage new members, directors and backstage crew. Bethany suggested an evening of storytelling and poetry, she would be happy to direct and would like a companion director to help her. Sandy thanked her and asked her to outline her ideas in an email and encouraged anyone with ideas to do the same so that they can be put before the Committee to discuss.

Play reading will take place again next summer as it was very successful this year.

Bar: It has been a very profitable year for bar takings and they are a significant help to our overheads! Very kindly Rod Gavshon has been overseeing the bar and doing the accounts and Jenny has been storing stock but we do need someone to take over this role. Daisy suggested someone who is possibly willing to do so! Sarah lives in Lingfield Avenue and we are inviting her to the next Committee meeting later in the month to discuss this further. Grateful thanks to Daisy.

Any Other Business:

Christmas Party: this will be held on the 6th December and Daisy will kindly host at Picton House, Thames Ditton. Amanda will oversee the food for which there is a charge of £5 per head and please bring a bottle to aid the hilarity.

Sandy sent out a request for fabulous performances for the Annual Oscars and remembering the Coatgate situation last year please can everyone arrive AND LEAVE in their own outerwear! Thank you!

The Spring Grove Fringe's Got Talent: Daisy apologised for not sending out an email to thank everyone who was involved. She said it was a real team effort and thanked cast, backstage and lighting crew, catering and programme producers. She thanked Karina for providing sandwiches and for organising the cheese board after the performance.

As a rider: Tony pointed out that it was the first time in 30 years of involvement that he was a paying member of the audience!

All expenses should be scanned and sent to Tony for reimbursement.

Nigel has uploaded photos of the last production onto the website.

Ticketing: Veronica said that she doesn't think that Ticketsource's system of showing how many tickets are still available for shows is very good. It could be off putting if people think not many tickets have been sold. Nigel said he will contact Ticketsource to discuss whether this feature can be disabled in some way. Tony reiterated that he had had very positive feedback from users of Ticketsource.


Sandy presented Tony with a small gift from the Spring Grove Fringe in recognition of the work he has carried out for us as Treasurer. She thanked him on behalf of us all.


Storage of Costumes and Props: this is now costing the Fringe £1200 per year. We desperately need a cheaper storage facility but despite sending out a plea to all members and audience members we have no alternative as yet.

David suggested Big Yellow Storage or similar but this avenue has already been explored and found to be even more costly unfortunately.

Adrian suggested that maybe we could always hire costumes but this is very expensive (Lady Windermere's Fan costume costs were £1000 for instance) and Nigel pointed out that it is not only costumes we store there and that the clothes and props in the garage save us a lot of repeat expenditure. Any ideas please contact one of the Committee.

Sandy thanked everyone and the meeting closed at 8.05pm.


CHAIR.


SECRETARY.