

LAVANT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Lavant Horticultural Society held on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at Lavant Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence. Sue Clark, Freda Birch, Jane & Mike Evans, Rosemary Collier, Jean Hatfield, Sarah Newman, Eileen & Jim Morris, Lou & Pat Fitzgerald
2. Adoption of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were proposed by Robert Newman and seconded by Peter Doust.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes - the spelling of Terry Wiseman's name had been corrected on the file copy of the Minutes (spelt Terry Wise in those circulated today)
4. Chairman's Report (full report attached)
Pauline thanked the committee for their hard work and support, also the members who have helped in different ways through the year. She reported another successful year for the Society with several interesting speakers including Wolfgang Bopp on the History & Development of the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens. Other successful events included the Buffet Supper, the Plant Sale as well as the plant sale for Lavant Fete and, of course the Annual Show where special thanks were given to Roger Hart and his helpers. Pauline said that she will now be taking a back seat having been on the committee since 2004. She thanked retiring committee members Eileen Morris and Jill Christison and also those members who had agreed to be nominated as officers and committee members for the coming year. Pauline presented a gift to Jill Christison on her retirement and held another for Eileen Morris on her return from holiday.
5. Programme Secretary's Report (full report attached)
Robert started his report with thanks to Jane Evans for compiling the programme for 2017 which was varied and interesting and he gave a resume of the talks we had heard. Looking forward to 2018 he said that Roger Parsons, the sweet pea expert will be talking to us in January and that our summer outing will be a full day to Mottisfont Abbey in June.
6. Treasurer's Report and adoption of Accounts (full report and accounts attached)
Lesley reported that the Society's accounts are in a healthier position than this time last year due, mainly, to the increase in annual subscription to £7 and the increase in takings at the Annual Plant Sale in terms of plants as well as teas. There was additional expenditure in relation to Cups which were re-valued and it was necessary to add some additional silverware on one to accommodate prize winners' names and a new base to another. Lesley thanked Terry Wiseman for kindly auditing the accounts hoping that he would do it again next year. Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Pauline Williams and seconded by Peter Doust.
7. Membership Secretary's Report (full report attached)
Michael Kingsford reported that we currently have 144 members - last year the figure was 147. However there are 4 potential new members who have indicated they will join at the beginning of the new year. He urged all members to recommend the Society to friends and neighbours. Our average attendance at meetings is 42 so if each person could recruit just one member that would have a large impact on our membership. He thanked those who collect subs and hand out new cards and

requested that members attending the December meeting should bring their sub of £7 in an envelope with their name on it and in exchange they will receive their new membership card for 2018.

8. Show Secretary's report (full report attached)
Roger reported that the level of participation in this year's show was the highest of recent years. Individual entries 397, in previous years this had been nearer 300. In 2015 40 people entered, in 2016 44 and this year 54 people entered. There were a few more entries in the Junior classes and we will be working hard to encourage more junior entries next year. Roger thanked the Show team for all their hard work and those running the Raffle and teas.
He reported an excellent showing of Camellias at the Spring Flower Competition and an impressive showing of dahlias at the Autumn Flower Competition.
9. Election of Officers.
The following officers and committee were proposed and seconded and agreed by a show of hands by everyone present.

Chairman	Michael Kingsford
Secretary	Margaret Rhodes
Treasurer	Lesley West
Committee members	
Programme Secretary	Robert Newman
Show Secretary	Roger Hart
Social Secretary	Liz Hewitt
Other committee	Pat Riches
	Pam Sharrod
10. Appointment of Auditor
Terry Wiseman was nominated and approved by all
11. Any other business
Pauline confirmed that Jim Sharrod was the LHS representative on the Lavant Hall committee
Michael Kingsford reported that Petworth House Garden is looking for volunteers and that there were a number of perks associated with the role. Rosemary Collier is the local contact regarding this.
Michael presented Pauline with a beautiful camellia plant in recognition of her years of service to the Society

The business meeting was followed by wine (or a soft drink) and a finger buffet provided by the Lavant Horticultural Society