

Leicestershire & Rutland District Folk Committee

Annual General Meeting September 8 2012

Pat Crane welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies were received from Chris Cawte, Roy and Norma Garrington, Alice Little, Corinne Male and Doug Weston.
In attendance were Margaret and John Pollard, Keith and Mary Oughton, Jenny and Geoff Weston, Ian and Patsy Paterson, John and Pauline Osband, Richard and Elizabeth Spendlove, Jenny Crane, Pat Crane, Mike and Dianne Bird, Pauline Kinch, Natasha Woodward, Josef Bojarowski and Pat Gibbs.
2. Minutes from the AGM of Sept 5 2011 had been circulated and were accepted as a true record.
3. Matters Arising; NYFTE did not take up our offer of a venue(AOB point 1).
4. Treasurer's report
The Financial statement was submitted showing an increase in net funds of £478.69 for the year. All events showed a surplus except the Day of Folk, which was due to the low attendance at the evening dance because of the snow. John Osband proposed and John Pollard seconded the adoption of the statement; carried unanimously. Hard copy of the accounts and the treasurer's report are in the minute book.
5. Secretary's Report
Geoff Weston read out his report in which he outlined the events of the year and commended those involved with their organisation. The events were Symonds Yat weekend, Christmas Mix, Day of Folk, Schools dancing, newsletter and the website. Hard copy is in the minute book.
6. Membership Secretary
Pat Crane, the membership secretary, reported one less personal membership(73) but two more ceilidh bands than last year.
7. Club reports were presented from, Elmsthorpe, Friday Folk, Glenfield Folk and Quorn dancing groups. Jon Pollard will send a report from Burton Overy for inclusion in the website.
8. Election of Officers and committee members.
Pat Crane proposed and Geoff Weston seconded that Keith Oughton be elected treasurer and this received unanimous agreement. Keith was thanked for the very efficient way he handled the accounts.

Pat Crane and Richard Spendlove do not wish to stand again for the committee but the remaining members are willing. Patsy Paterson proposed and Margaret Pollard seconded their re-election en masse and this was passed unanimously. No further nominations or volunteers were forthcoming so, at the moment, the committee consists of Geoff Weston, secretary; Keith Oughton, treasurer; with members Mike Bird, Keith Clifton, Jenny Crane, John Pollard and Doug Weston. It is preferred that each club has a representative on the committee and clubs not represented are asked to raise this matter with their members.

9. Planned events and other activities were discussed. The most imminent is the Playford Ball for which only 35 tickets have been sold. Keith Oughton asked club representatives to canvass their members to make sure that they are aware of the event and that tickets are still available. Geoff Weston reminded those present about the 2012 Christmas Mix tea dance and distributed posters and tickets.

10. Any Other Business

- Day of Folk

There was a general discussion of the day of folk, now that Patsy Paterson will no longer be leading it. The next one would normally take place in 2014 and could take any of a wide variety of forms. Nevertheless, if it is to continue, it is essential that a lead organiser comes forward.

- Schools' programme

The committee proposes to commit about £1000 over the next two years to schools' – based folk activities and this was ratified by those present.

- Maypole activities

Patsy's report (distributed with the AGM notice) was discussed and she and all the others involved were thanked for their efforts.

Natasha Woodward reported that she has also been involved in maypole and a range of other folk activities including one day rapper workshops. Natasha can be contacted on Natasha.woodward@live.co.uk.

- Website

Keith Oughton was congratulated on his webmastership of our site and the meeting agreed to renew the subscription at a cost of \$258.

- Tourist information

Patsy and Ian have produced a poster publicising folk activities in the county which will be given to the tourist information centre in Leicester along with leaflets listing clubs and activities. The poster uses the Olympics legacy theme, but can be easily altered after an appropriate time.