

Minutes of the LLTC Annual General Meeting held on Friday 26th July 2013 at Little Brickhill Village Hall at 19:30

Committee members present: -	Circulated to: -
Paul Wheeler (<i>Chairman</i>) Sarah de Rousset-Hall (<i>Treasurer</i>) Josh Kay (<i>Secretary</i>)	All present

Item	Description	Action
1	CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME/APOLOGIES	
	<p>The meeting commenced at 19:05; PW welcomes all members, patrons and guests to the AGM – there were 20 people present.</p> <p>PW/JK announce apologies from the following: Simon Willis, Rachael Broughton, Alan Stevens, Deryn Rhodes.</p>	
2	MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM	
	<p>These were accepted as true; this action was proposed by John Drinkwater and seconded by Maddy Toye.</p>	
3	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE (Action points held over or outstanding:)	
	<p>None.</p>	
4	COMMITTEE REPORTS	
a)	<p><u>Chairman's Report for AGM 2012</u></p> <p>I intend to keep this brief, as there is little to reflect upon from a performance point of view. A rest is what we said we would have and in the main a rest is what we have had. It has given time for recuperation and reflection.</p> <p>For some of us it has given us the time to reflect on what life is like without the constant pressure of all that goes on when mounting and running a production. For others I'm sure it has given them the opportunity to try other things.</p> <p>As a caretaker committee we have regularly met since January to explore the options going forward. We did hold an open evening in April to gauge the level of interest and it was heart warming to see so many and the level of interest.</p> <p>However we did also say that the group could only really get back on it's feet if others were prepared to step up and take on some responsibilities. My email earlier this month asking for nominations has seemed to fallen on deaf ears which does not give me much encouragement that things have changed.</p> <p>Alan has given us notice on the storage on his property and I would like to put on record a big vote of thanks for the support he has shown to the group over the years. I quite understand his desire to call time on the arrangement and I would also like to thank all those that helped move the scenery to the secondary store and vindicates the foresight in building it. But it was the old faithful's that did this and for me that speaks volumes.</p> <p>For a production to be mounted we need a strong committee dedicated to carrying the group forward to bigger and better things.</p> <p>You will recall we explored the possibility of doing A Christmas Carol. However, theatre availability put paid to that. There is another round of RSC Openspaces to which the closing date is fast approaching. Although the application has to be in, in less than 2 weeks the performance has to be from 2014 onwards.</p>	

We had one of those legendary meetings at Janthea's to thrash out ideas and I think we came up with something. Maybe it is the project we are looking for to commence in 9 months time for a performance in September / October next year?

Maybe more rest is required?

Or is it the case that we are prolonging the agony and we should recognise what the tealeaves are telling us and call it a day.

So in closing I would ask you to consider the future options carefully
A continuance of the caretaker committee and the status quo.
Or vote for a full committee in order to mount a production

It has been a privilege to serve the group and I hope that some way to continue is found, even if this means the society developing into a different form.

Paul Wheeler
LLTC Chairman

b) **Presentation of Accounts**

Copies of the accounts were distributed at the meeting.

The total account stands at £14,181.03 (including assets).
A total loss over the financial year of £1,297.15.

c) **Questions to the Committee**

A letter was received from Alan Stevens' regarding the future of the society – the letter is reproduced in full below:

LLTC AGM

To One and All,

As you know I am away at present and will be for the weekend (shed party take note.)

I regret missing such a crucial AGM which could see LLTC on the brink of demise. I fervently ask all those present to consider stepping up to the plate. After all, to see The Company die, and me being a life member, could have serious repercussions.

Please think **LLTC** in different ways:-

Lets Learn To Communicate, applies to many of us, but most recently to the clearance of the shed. Had you chosen to previous weekend I would have stopped you for family reasons. As you have to continue this weekend, please no unattended fires! Thank you.

Electronic communication is ok but a phone call can give both parties the satisfaction of knowing the message has got through, (and it is so much nicer).

Let's Listen Then Cooperate. We are all busy people but there is a future for this group if only we can all pull together, I am still a member and will help in any way I can.

Let's Learn To Capitalise on what we did best. We are amateur and I believe trying to be too professional is part of what has caused the apathy that is so prevalent. You have taken all the fun out of it!! No one wants to rehearse for 10 to 12 hours at a time. Go Back top straight forward acting!! With comedy or thrillers. Going back can be a way forward if you have the courage. We owe it to your founders who kept it going for thirty years!!

These are my own opinions and I am grateful to Joan for conveying them to you. No doubt if I were there you hear more from me, but please keep this Company alive (if

	<p>struggling)</p> <p>Sincerely</p> <p>Alan</p> <p>PW noted that this was a matter of great importance to the caretaker committee and opened the floor to preliminary discussions about the future. It was suggested we take another year out as a resting group, or we bite the bullet and commit to a full production with a full committee.</p> <p>David Hughes believed it was all or nothing, Carl DeFriend advocated smaller shows with allocated productions teams, Ann Skelly suggested a smaller scale of show in village halls.</p> <p>d) <u>Adoption of Reports</u></p> <p>The committee reports were proposed by John Drinkwater and seconded by Sarah de Rousset-Hall (with the amendment that Treasurers Report now factors in £30 owed to Paul Wheeler</p>	
5	CONSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER PROPOSALS	
	<p>a) <u>Proposal for Change to the Fee Structure – July 2013</u></p> <p>The following information had been submitted to all members and patrons of LLTC one month before the AGM date:</p> <p>It was recognised at the 2012 AGM that the amateur theatre circuit is becoming increasingly difficult for people to maintain their time and commitment to – previous amendments have been made to LLTC membership fees in an effort to involve members and potential performers closer to the backstage elements of the shows they are involved in.</p> <p>These have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the LLTC members to £5 per person, but creating a £30 show fee that members must pay in order to be cast/perform per show. • These show fees are then waived if the cast member is willing to take on a significant role in the running of the company i.e. a role on the committee or a strong production team role. <p>Unfortunately we still have a situation where many members are unable to commit their time to the “get in’s” and “get out’s” of our set construction/deconstruction days – to that end, we propose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The show fee will be maintained at £30 – however, if cast members are able to and are involved in either a “get in” or “get out” as described above, for a period of at least 5 hours, they will receive £10 of their show fee back. • If cast members can be involved in both the “get in” and “get out” as described above, for a minimum of 10 hours, they will receive £20 of their show fee back. <p>This is not an amend to the company’s constitution – more of a change to its operating procedures which we would recommend the members of the AGM meeting ratify – it is our hope that this will go a long way towards encouraging members of the group to become more involved, and less distanced from the backstage procedures.</p> <p>Josh Kay Secretary LLTC</p>	

	<p>This action was proposed by Josh Kay and was not passed – Mick George stated it would make little difference to most having an extra £10 back or £20, and John Drinkwater stated it was against the constitution to pay members for LLTC performances.</p>	
6	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOR MEMBERS AND PATRONS	
	<p>Item 6 was proposed to move to later pending the vote for the new committee – proposed by John Drinkwater and seconded by Paul Wheeler.</p>	
7	PLANS FOR 2013/14 SEASON	
	<p>The committee elaborated on plans for:</p> <p>Scenery Store – Patron’s Place, Alan Steven’s storage site, will soon be cleared and no longer be used for scenery storage.</p> <p>A Christmas Carol production – unfortunately there was no availability for the Chrysalis Theatre this year but Paul Wheeler proposed the show was a definite possibility for next year due to high interest.</p> <p>RSC Open Stages 2013 – a proposal had been put together for a Blind Date style compilation of Shakespeare’s work, to be written by Steve Brigden and directed by Janthea Brigden. Paul Wheeler is to complete the written proposal and send off to relevant organisation.</p> <p>Mr Cinders – the committee suggested a show for January, directed by Janathea Brigden. A male version of Cinderella that she once starred in the West End, a play with musical numbers.</p> <p>Murder Mysteries – LLTC has received requests from two organisations for murder mystery nights.</p>	
8	ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE 2012/13 SEASON	
	<p>A brief reminder of the changes to the constitution from last year was given and that, as discussed, the committee could only necessarily move forward with productions if the full quote of 6 members was reached:</p> <p>Paul Wheeler announced his intention to step down from the committee as Chairman.</p> <p>Voting for committee posts took place as follows:</p> <p>CHAIRMAN/CHAIRWOMAN Maddy Toye Proposed by Paul Wheeler Seconded by Liz Rhodes There being no other nominations, Maddy was elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>SECRETARY Josh Kay Proposed by John Drinkwater Seconded by David Hughes There being no other nominations, Josh was elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>TREASURER Sarah de Rousset-Hall Proposed by Josh Kay Seconded by Liz Rhodes There being no other nominations, Sarah was elected by a show of hands.</p>	

	<p>SOCIAL & MEMBERSHIPS SECRETARY Liz Rhodes Proposed by Paul Wheeler Secoded by Sara Wheeler There being no other nominations, Liz was elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATOR David Hughes Proposed by Sara Wheeler Secoded by Ann Skelly There being no other nominations, David was elected by a show of hands.</p> <p>PRESS & PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER None There being no nominations, this role remains unfilled.</p>	
9	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<p>Maddy Toye, as the Chairwoman for 2013/14 season asks for A.O.B with the exception of the adoption of fees...</p> <p>There being no other business, the meeting was ended at 20:40 and Sarah de Rousset-Hall accepted fees of £5 from those wishing to remain members of the group.</p>	PW/JK/ SDH