

THE WELSH SOCIETY OF KINGSTON-UPON-HULL

Notes of Annual General Meeting held on 20 May 2011

1. **Present** – 18 members and 10 apologies.
2. **Meeting Venue** - All the possible alternative venues suggested at last year's Annual General Meeting had been investigated. They were either not up to the required standard, not available on Friday evenings or more expensive. In view of this the Committee recommended that we continue using the current venue for meetings, using the upstairs room if possible. This was agreed.
3. **Treasurer's Report and Accounts** - The Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 had been previously circulated which showed that the Society was clearly in a sound financial position. It was agreed that the Accounts be accepted and approved. The Budget for 2011/12 had also been previously circulated. The Committee recommended that the subscription remain at £15.50 per person for 2011-12 and this was agreed
4. **Officers** – The following were elected -
 - President – Mark Morgan
 - Chairman – Nesta Merrells
 - Vice Chairman - Vacant
 - Secretary – Marian Muzaffer
 - Treasurer – John Butler
5. **Other Committee Members** – The following were elected leaving two vacancies
 - Janet Arrowsmith, Jo Harding, Suzanne Marshall, Rob McAdam, Marilyn Roberts
6. **Appointment of Auditors** –
 - Doreen Evans, Eddie Evans
7. **Honorary Vice Presidents** - In view of their considerable contributions to the Society over many years the Committee had nominated Doreen Evans, Eddie Evans and Margaret Williams to be Honorary Vice-Presidents. This was unanimously agreed.
8. **Changes to the Constitution** –
 - 8.1 Change of Name

It was recognised that a few years ago the City Council dropped the "*Kingston-upon-*" part of its title and now referred to itself simply as *Hull City Council*. It was suggested that the Society should follow suit. However, it was pointed out that the majority of members now lived outside Hull and, if the Society's name was to be changed, this should also be taken into account. After a lively debate it was agreed that the name of the Society should be changed to *Welsh Society of Hull & East Yorkshire* and that paragraph 1 of the Constitution be amended accordingly.
 - 8.2 President's Term of Office

It was noted that the President's term of office was normally two years whereas for all other Officers and Committee Members it was one year. It was agreed that this should be reflected in the Constitution and that paragraph 4 be amended as follows-

"The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President (tenure 2 years), Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (tenure 1 year) to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Other Committee Members, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, shall serve for a minimum of one year. The Vice-Chairman of one year shall become Chairman in the following year under normal circumstances. If, during the year, a vacancy occurs amongst the Officers of the Society, the position shall be filled from the Committee or, failing that, from amongst the members of the Society.

8.3 Committee Quorum

There was some confusion in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Constitution regarding the quorum for Committee meetings. It was agreed that "seven -" in paragraph 6 be deleted to make it clear that a quorum is one third of the Committee membership.

9. **Programme of Events 2010/11** - Members were asked for suggestions for consideration by the Committee, which produced the following -

- Antiques identification evening, hands-on
- Whittles' Wales, illustrated talk
- Welsh music, illustrated talk
- Dave Thomas and Friends
- Ten pin bowling
- Quiz night

10. **Any Other Business**

- 10.1 An email enquiry had been received from a company, SMSR Ltd, who may be working on a long-term police contract for a Welsh authority with the opportunity to outsource translation work to Welsh-speaking individuals. Anyone interested should contact Darren Hornby direct on 01482 301041.
- 10.2 This year's summer outing was to be a visit to the BBC Studios in Queen's Gardens, Hull on 10 June.
- 10.3 It was reported that Society members had been invited to join the Welsh community in Nottingham for a BBC Welsh programme similar to Question Time but, in view of the distance and timing, there was no interest from those present.
- 10.4 A very amusing note from Bill Ramsay was read out reminiscing about an occasion when he and Gwenda met Sir Geraint Evans after a concert performance. As soon as Sir Geraint set eyes on Gwenda he walked up to her and embraced her very warmly indeed while Bill was left to watch in amazement. Apparently Gwenda had known Sir Geraint very well in her teens and their respective choirs had even competed against each other.

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