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|  | **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****Held via ‘Zoom” on****THURSDAY, 27 May 2021** |

25 Members joined the meeting.

Tim opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.

1. **Apologies for Absence**  were received from Andy Soar and Brian Moyse.
2. **Welcome by Chairman**

Frank welcomed everyone to the AGM.

1. **Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on 2 July 2020**

The Minutes of the last AGM were unanimously agreed.

1. **Chair’s Report**

Frank thanked the Officers individually and the Committee for their efforts and support over the past six years. Special thanks to Tim who by being our ‘Zoom-Master’ has enable the Club to successfully continue during Covid.

Frank advised that he has thoroughly enjoyed his time as Chair and having been in the role for longer than anticipated he resigned from the post.

All present expressed thanks to Frank for his enthusiasm maintaining a friendly atmosphere in the Club.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Wendy had circulated the Summary of Income and Expenditure 2020-2021 ahead of the meeting.

The closing balance of £3788.18 is the result of having very little expenditure this year – only speakers/judges, Zoom and no Hall fees. If we were meeting in the Hall we would probably have broken even.

No update regarding the St John Ambulance Hall. Wendy did have an agreement of £12 per hour until June 2021 with St John but is not expecting this to stand if and when they open the Hall.

Wendy advised that she has been Treasurer for the past six years and resigned from the post.

All present expressed thanks to Wendy for all her efforts in keeping the Club financially secure.

1. **Secretary’s Report**

Viv advise we have practically maintained our membership. We had 44 members pre Covid and now have 39.

As Arlesford and Harwich and Dovercourt Clubs were unable to continue during Covid we did invite them to join us on Zoom. Unfortunately neither responded.

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1. **PDI Secretary’s Report**

Tim reported a very busy year with 8 competitions, including Image of the Year, all PDI’s on Zoom. 48-50 entries, restricted to 2 images each, for each competition.

We participated in two external competitions;

1. Graham Foulger Trophy between five Clubs and hosted by East Ipswich – we came 4th.
2. Two-way Competition (No Arlesford this year) between Harwich and Dovercourt and ourselves.

 20 images each – 10 colour and 10 mono. Harwich beat us on both with total score overall of

 339 to 311.

Tim showed the League Table which had previously been circulated to members.

1. **Programme Secretary’s Report**

Colin explained that 2020-2021 had been a challenging and interesting year as not all judges were happy to change to Zoom. We had eight competitions, eight presentations and one Christmas Quiz. Due to Zoom we were able to use judges/speakers from outside our initial catchment area.

Colin had received positive comments from judges and speakers about their experience with our Club.

Overall a balanced programme with a good number of members joining for both competitions and presentations. The Programme for 2021-2022 had previously been circulated to members.

The Programme for 2021-2022 was issued with the Agenda for this meeting.

Colin was thanked for all his efforts in completing this year’s and the coming year’s Programmes.

1. **Election of Officers:**

Chair: Tim Proposed – Frank Seconded – Harvey

Vice-Chair: Harvey Tim Jenny

Treasurer: John Ian Wendy

Secretary: Viv Tim Margaret

Programme Secretary: Colin Harvey Viv

Print Secretary: Jill Jenny Rachel

PDI Secretary: Tim John Jill

Publicity Officer/Web Manager: Ella Wendy Jenny

End of Year Auditor: tba

Committee Members: Anne, Ian and Rachel Frank Tim

Tim advised he is happy to take on the role of Chair and combine this with PDI Secretary and Zoom duties for the next year.

The above was unanimously agreed.

Frank, Wendy, Chris, Margaret and Martyn resigned.

1. **Membership Fees**

After discussion it was agreed to return to a single payment rather than two instalments as last year. As we are continuing on Zoom it was agreed to keep the subscription fees the same £40 single member, £20 Spouse/Partner.

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1. **Way Forward**

We now have a Programme which combines local and more distant experienced judges/speakers and agreed we will continue on Zoom for the coming year.

We may need to seek another venue when we can meet physically again if St John Ambulance decide not to open their hall. Frank is exploring the Mistley/Manningtree area for possible halls with storage.

1. **Summer Programme June – August 2021**

Colin had prepared the Summer Programme and this had been previously circulated to members.

Jill kindly offered the use of her Beach Hut at Wrabness on Saturday, 26 June. Details to be finalized and circulated to members.

Place for Plants visit – Tim to organize hopefully for Saturday, 12 June.

1. **Any Other Business**
	1. **Proposed Selection of Entries for Inter-Club Competitions**.

Ann explained the our entries are currently drawn from winners of themed competitions and do not seem to do well in external competitions.

It is proposed that we need a ‘pool’ of images, not just winning photographs, on which to draw and to set up a small group of people to facilitate this lead by Ann and assisted by Harold, Tim and Ian. They would critique the images, offer suggestions to tweak if necessary. Images would need to follow the guidelines regarding sizing, naming and tips previously provided by Tim and which can be found on our website. Members can submit 2/3 of their best images (mono and colour) for selection – PDI’s only at present due to Covid restrictions, prints will also be required but at a future date.

All successful authors will be notified before image(s) are entered into any inter-club competitions.

Unanimously agreed.

Ann to send full details to Viv for circulating to members.

In order to inform ‘Rookie Workshops/Training Sessions’ Ann is proposing to send a survey out to establish which software members are using and how they use it.

13.2 **Photography Marathon**

Harvey raised the possibility of Marathon this year.

 Rachel is happy to organize one for September when we will hopefully be able to do it face to face.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

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