



## **MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF ST ANNES LIBRARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING St Annes Library, 21 April 2022**

**Present:** Barbara Mackenzie, Pam Foster, Allan Foster, Annette Ford, Tony Ford, Olga Depledge, Tony Depledge, Jean Wilkinson, Marilyn Silcock, Alison Levi, Jane Annison, Anne Fielding, Jacqui Smith, Alan Mackenzie, Marie Taylor, Rowland Taylor, Sylvia Stagg, Jean Wardle, Ron Spencer, Angela Jaques.

**Welcome by the Chair:** Barbara Mackenzie extended a warm welcome to everyone at the meeting.

**Apologies:** Meg Greenfield, Roy Winter, Diane Harris.

**Approval of the Minutes:** as this was the first Annual General Meeting since before Covid there were no minutes to approve.

### **Chair's Report:**

- Events have been severely restricted over the last two years because of the pandemic
- A Coffee Morning & Bake Sale, February 2020, raised more than £100
- A Christmas Quiz was planned for December 2022 (it was previously cancelled in December 2021 due to Covid restrictions)
- The Friends held their first committee meeting in November 2021 and have continued to meet regularly
- As from August 2021 the Garden Gang has met regularly on Tuesdays
- The Knit Together group has been up and running again since August 2021.

The Chair listed some of the projects FOSAL money had been spent on:

- Halloween/Christmas/Easter material for library events
- Father Christmas outfit
- Bird boxes for children to decorate
- Badge making apparatus
- Plants for the garden

FOSAL membership currently stands at 39

Barbara thanked the Committee members for their hard work over the year. Thanks were also offered to the Library staff, in particular to Aileen, for her helpful, cheerful and inspirational enthusiasm for FOSAL projects. FOSAL members were also thanked for their continued help and support.

### **Treasurer's Report - Presentation of Accounts for the period 1 January 2020 – 30 April 2022 (28 months)**

The Treasurer, Allan Foster, presented a summary report of the accounts for period 1 January 2020 – 30 April 2022. The report covered a period of 28 months as the financial year had been extended to be brought into line with the AGM, due to the effects of the pandemic:

- With no revenue earning events, the overall financial position of the Friends had inevitably deteriorated given some 'fixed costs' such as website hosting etc. The Friends also purchased an item of equipment for badge making
- In relation to income, the principal source had been small *ad hoc* donations by library users, plus a generous gift of £100 by the Arts Society Fylde, directed towards the Library's creative work with young people
- Future events are at the planning stage and these will generate revenues to be re-invested in support for the Library
- It was decided to resuscitate a small annual membership fee (£5.00) which will also help. A volunteer has offered to take over the membership function and we are confident that this will enable the numbers to grow
- Whilst the Friends activities were suspended for two years, the Library's work went on in a more limited way and some expenditure, principally on activities with young people, assisted this
- Overall, there has been a deficit of £423 in the Friends' accounts over the 28 months. It is expected that an active programme of events will enable this loss to be staunched and financial stability restored
- The Treasurer explained that these accounts were currently unaudited.

### **Closing:**

- Library Manger Aileen Smedley thanked the FOSAL members and committee for their hard work and emphasised that funds raised made a big difference to what the Library could offer.

The meeting was followed by a talk, *A Brief Tour of St Anne's Without Leaving Your Chair*, by Tony Ford, which provided a virtual tour on the history of the town.