

Winterbourne Bassett Community Pub Limited

Minutes of Annual Members Meeting

29th March 2021

Via Zoom Webinar

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from the following members: Angela Bewsher, Mick Cooper, Jim Gunter, Peter McCluskie, Nick Walduck, Howard & Stephanie Witt.

Attendees

The following members were present at the meeting: David & Pat Salter, Gerald & Glynis Long, Carol Jones, David Squire, James O'Shaughnessy, Alan Davison, Andrew Simmonds, Damian & Claire Le Gresley, Colin & Jacqui Webb, Malkit & Parmjit Banga, Phil & Lesley Catling, Adrian Smith, Lynne Chidgey, John Austin, Steve & Alison Windel, Martin Knight, Graham & Sheree Wilson, Claire Stiles, Beverley Margerison, Malcolm Bennett, James Hussey, Paul Harrison, George & Gill Horton, Phil McCaffrey, Stella Hopkins and Deborah Young.

Also present as guests were our tenants Roger and Emie Hawkshaw.

Chairman's Welcome

Pat Salter opened the meeting at 7:05pm and welcomed everyone, apologising that due to the ongoing circumstances this year we could not gather in our pub, The Winterbourne, for the meeting

Chairman's Report

Pat presented key points from her report and thanking, in particular the committee members who had served over the last year which had been dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic, plus everyone who had supported the committee, the society and the pub business during an exceptionally difficult year. Committee members who had retired during the year were thanked, especially Howard Witt for his service over a number of years and with great success in winning us vital grant funding. She thanked Parmjit for volunteering to serve on the committee and acknowledged the skills and experience she brings.

For much of the time since the previous Annual Members' Meeting the pub had been unable to trade at normal levels due to the infection prevention restrictions and had been at various times able only to operate as a food take-away or at reduced capacity with strict rules limiting social interaction for customers. Limited income for the business

had meant the committee had had to reduce the rent charged to our tenants and thus the society's income was much less than had been planned for. A grant from Power to Change that allowed this reduction in income to be offset with the result that the society had been able to be supportive to our tenants and their business at an extremely challenging time while not putting the financial position of the society at risk. In order to maintain appropriate reserves, with the lack of access to the building, and uncertainty as to priorities, customer expectations and regulatory compliance requirements post-pandemic, plans for significant projects such as the porch and toilet renovations had been largely put on-hold for the time-being. The focus was now on recovery as restrictions are, hopefully irreversibly, gradually lifted, supporting the possibly now quite different needs of both the pub business and the society going forwards.

Treasurer's Report

Damian Le Gresley presented the treasurer's report and Annual Accounts of the Society. Interest will be paid at £7 per share to Series A share holding members only this year.

Damian asked all Series A share holding members to complete the form at the back of the annual report and return to him by the end of April to allow interest payments to be made as necessary. Any member who does not indicate their wishes by this time will be assumed to have the same preference as for 2020 and either have their interest payment made to the same bank account as last year or will donate their interest payment to the society.

Roger and Emie had issued discount cards to all members. Once the pub is fully open again the discount can be redeemed simply by presenting the card in the pub – no registration is required.

Membership Report

Adrian Smith presented the membership strategy and reported success in the membership remaining stable in number, maintaining a healthy geographical spread and share capital value. 2 members are standing to be elected or re-elected to the management committee. He welcomed the members' discount card initiative from the pub business and thanked Roger and Emie for recognising society members. A refresh of the now "out-of-date" share offer would be a priority for the new committee in order to continue to attract new members.

Resolutions

Members were asked to indicate their responses when instructed for each individual resolution by typing the words yes or no in the Zoom chat box as desired once for each member on the call with them. Members on the call with another member were asked to identify themselves so that multiple votes from that account could be counted. An abstention was registered if a member that had joined the call did not indicate either yes or no for that resolution.

Accounts

Adrian explained that this year the committee again considered it unnecessary to obtain an audit of the accounts but that this will continue to be kept under review with a formal audit expected perhaps next year or at least the following year. Members returned votes as follows:

Resolution 1: To adopt the Financial Accounts for year to 31st January 2021
Carried unanimously (27 “yes”, 7 abstentions, 0 “no”)

Resolution 2: To authorise the Management Committee to substitute an accountant’s report in place of a full audit of the accounts for the year to 31st January 2021, as permitted by the Rules and applicable legislation.

Carried unanimously (27 “yes”, 7 abstentions, 0 “no”)

Election of Management Committee

Pat explained that Adrian’s initial 3-year term had reached its end but he was happy to continue if members agreed. Parmjit had volunteered and been co-opted by the committee during the year but it was now up to members to elect her if she was to continue.

Members present voted in each case as follows:

Resolution 3: To re-elect Adrian Smith to the management committee for a 3-year term.

Carried unanimously (27 “yes”, 7 abstentions, 0 “no”)

Resolution 4: To elect Parmjit Banga to the management committee for a 3-year term.

Carried unanimously (27 “yes”, 7 abstentions, 0 “no”)

The three mandatory positions according to the rules of the society, of chairperson, secretary and treasurer would be chosen by the elected committee at their first meeting.

Members' Questions

Why does the tenants' deposit rise? The tenants are paying their deposit in monthly instalments until a threshold value of two months rent is reached.

Close

Pat Salter closed the meeting at 7.40pm