

The Marlow Players' Annual General Meeting 5.7.2022

8 p.m. at The Studio

Present: Olive Smith, Laura Goodband, Brian Couling, Gloria Kendrick, Hilary Cox, Andrew Stafford, Andy Scott, Jennifer Major, Jossy Pearce, Max Sasim

Apologies: Wendy Gammond, Alison Edwards, Becca Jenkins

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

MINUTES OF LAST YEAR'S AGM

Last year's AGM was held on Zoom, due to Covid restrictions. The Minutes were accepted – proposed by Brian and seconded by Hilary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brian reported that, although we made a loss last year, we made a profit this financial year of over £300 by our staging of 'Calamity in the Cloisters' at Liston Hall. We also raised a similar amount for charitable aid for Ukraine from our performance at All Saints Church in Maidenhead. We still have a positive balance in the bank, but need to continue to earn money for the upkeep of The Studio, which is about £1,000 per annum. The Report was accepted, proposed by Gloria and seconded by Olive.

COMMITTEE

The existing committee agreed to remain in place. Andrew is President, Brian – Treasurer, Hilary – Membership Secretary. Ordinary members are Andy, Jen, Jossy, Alison, Gloria

Andrew also takes the Minutes of each committee meeting, Brian does the Newsletter, edited by Jennifer and Jossy sends out WhatsApp reminders of what's on each week.

It would be helpful if someone would take on the role of Secretary. No-one feels able to do this at the moment.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE ANDERSON AWARD AND THE BACKSTAGE AWARD

Andrew and Jossy were nominated for the Anderson Award. It was a very close vote and Andrew won the Award.

Alison Edwards was unanimously voted as the recipient of the Backstage Award.

INTERVAL

Members enjoyed wine and nibbles during the 20 minute interval, as votes were being counted.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The picnic at SAS – aka Wittington House – was very enjoyable. Many of us were unaware of the presence of the beautiful house and grounds there. Thanks to Jen for suggesting the venue and getting permission for us to go there.

Several members intended to go to Hall Barn on 9th July, but, unfortunately, there were no tickets available, so the outing was cancelled.

Brian and Margaret are hosting a BBQ at their house on 31st July, from 2-5 p.m. Our thanks to them for their offer of hospitality.

A canoe trip is planned, weather permitting, on 27th August. Brian will send details nearer the time.

FORTHCOMING PRODUCTION

Jen has agreed to direct 'A Bunch of Amateurs' on 27th November 2022. It will be hard work for cast and crew (one and the same!) to set up Liston Hall for two performances that day as well as act later. Gloria will ask Cindy if there is the possibility of getting into the Hall the evening before, to set up. It will need to be permitted without costs, as we are also paying for the use of The Thames Room as well as the main hall.

MARLOW CARNIVAL

Andrew has asked for help to set up the gazebo on 17th September – sometime from 8.30 a.m. He has also asked for volunteers to man the gazebo during the day. It is a good showcase for our Society and our next production.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Electricity and heating costs have risen sharply, but we need to ensure that The Studio is adequately warm for winter rehearsals. The existing electric heaters have not been too successful and an alternative is either to use the gas heaters or to buy more of the industrial electric units. (We already have one.) Another suggestion was to try to insulate The Studio. No final decision was reached.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.