



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE IPSWICH ARTS ASSOCIATION
HELD ON THURSDAY 18th OCTOBER 2018 at 7:30pm AT THE KEY, ST MARGARET'S PLAIN, IPSWICH IP4 2BB**

Present:	Professor C. Green	Chair IAA
	I. Gilson	Treasurer IAA
	M. Odam	Secretary IAA
	Mark Beaumont	Public
	Edward Colthorpe	4 Seasons Theatre Group/IAA
	Joan Colthorpe	4 Seasons Theatre Group
	Andrew Garforth-Cox	Suffolk Organist Association
	Wendy Missons	IAA
	Pat Peddie	The Orwell Singers
	Beverley Ruddock	Trianon Music Group
	Gordon Scopes	CLO/Suffolk Concert Band
	Gwen Scopes	CLO/Suffolk Concert Band
	Alison Smyth	Tower Street Print Project/IAA
	Al Smyth	Tower Street Print Project
	Simon Snowden	Ipswich Choral Society
	Ernest Thomas	Ipswich Film Society
	Robert Waller	Suffolk Organist Association

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from: Jonathan Armitage (Wolsey Orchestra), Nicola Brand (Ipswich Arts Centre Memories and Recollections Project, Ed Broom (IAA), Terry Cloke (Ipswich Film Society/IAA), Natasha Free (Felixstowe Musical Theatre), Pat Grimwade (Ipswich Orchestral Society/IAA), Diane Ingledew (Ipswich Hospital Choir), Mary Payne (Stowmarket Chorale), Christine Pearce (Ipswich Choral Society/IAA), Roy Preston (Newsletter editor), Emma Seggar (Suzuki Group), Beverley Vankoningsveld (Suffolk Singers)

2. To receive and confirm the Minutes of previous meetings:

i) Annual General Meeting: held on 23rd October 2017

The minutes were agreed as correct – proposed by Beverley Ruddock, seconded by Edward Colthorpe, and signed as a correct record.

ii) General Meeting: held on 19th June 2018

The minutes were agreed as correct – proposed by Alison Smyth, seconded by Pat Peddie, and signed as a correct record.

3. To receive the Chair's Report:

Professor Green gave his report (attached).

He added that, as of 5th November, the EADT was cutting its arts coverage. There will be no music coverage, due to staffing reductions. Arts Scene will cease to run after 40 years, and there will be no reviews or previews. There will be a recommended event each weekend which is defined to be the one expected to attract the largest audience. The whole Arts supplement will be reduced to 4 pages, including the *What's On* pages.

Alison Smyth asked whether Chris Green had spoken to Andrew Clarke, the Arts editor, as he had planned. He replied that he had spoken to Andrew, but before this news broke.

It was suggested that this reduction had been mooted some 12 months ago. It was thought to be due to a fall in distribution. Wendy Missons felt that there must be other routes to communicate with people if the press is not supplying a forum.

Ivan Gilson corrected a point in the Chair's report: there were four venues at Ipswich Music Day, as Christchurch Mansion was included.

Simon Snowden asked what the requirements of a trustee are? The Chair explained that some trustees advise about certain genres, and provide a report once or twice a year. Others have no particular remit, and are there to take an interest in the actions and direction of the Association. Someone is particularly needed to take on the website at present. There are three General Meetings with Executive meetings in between. There is currently one person who has said that they are prepared to be co-opted.

4. To receive the Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer gave his report (copy of the accounts attached).

It was explained that receipts were up from last year. Payments were down due to the major expense of the Charter Hangings books. This expense will be recovered over time as the books are sold – an estimated four years.

Chris Green explained that the accounts had been independently inspected by Carole Cowgill CA at the last minute, as the auditor's father was critically ill. Thanks go to Carole Cowgill for this.

A question was asked about the profit margin on the books. It was explained that this depends on the margin wanted by the sales outlets. Outlets buy a quantity of books which they then sell.

Edward Colthorpe asked about the Corn Exchange organ. The anticipated showing of a silent film has not happened. An organ recital took place, but it did not appear to have been as expensive to run as anticipated – although the final cost is not yet known.

As regards the silent film, the video equipment in the Corn Exchange is not suitable, and the intended organist proved too expensive. A young organist from Essex has now agreed to play, but the film equipment is still needed. The organ requires a lot of work and this requires money.

Edward Colthorpe asked whether it was worth spending the money on the organ. Chris Green explained that there are IBC locality funds which could help.

The Suffolk Organist Association thinks it is worth repairing. Ipswich should be proud of having an organ in a public space. Chris Green suggested that more use could be made of it by having play-ins on Heritage Days.

The recital in August had been well attended, and it was asked whether there could be more recitals. The cost of staffing and the hire of the hall make such events costly, and the Association relies on the contributions from the Concerts and Lectures to help keep subscriptions low. There is no organ recital planned for 2019..

Simon Snowden asked whether there could be evening events. Chris Green felt that a lot of people are unwilling to venture out in the evening, but Simon Snowden felt that this only applied to the older population, whilst the Association should be encouraging younger people.

5. Presentation and adoption of Accounts for the year ended 31/08/18

Proposed by Edward Colthorpe, seconded by Wendy Missons and agreed unanimously.

**6. To recommend that subscription rates for 2019/20 remain as:
£50 for societies with over 80 members and £25 for societies with under 80 members**

Proposed by Beverley Ruddock, Seconded by Gordon Scopes, and agreed unanimously.

7. To approve the appointment of Philip Keeble, Chartered Accountant for the year 2018/19

Philip Keeble is prepared to continue, and the Treasurer recommended that he be asked to continue.

Appointment proposed by Alison Smyth, Seconded by Beverley Ruddock, and unanimously agreed.

8. To elect the Officers for the year 2018/19

The Secretary took elections for the Chair

Chair: Professor C. Green

Proposed by Wendy Missons, seconded by Mary Odam and carried unanimously

Professor C. Green took elections for all other posts

Treasurer: Wendy Missons

Proposed by Terry Cloke, seconded by Mary Odam

Secretary: Mary Odam

Proposed by Chris Green, seconded by Terry Cloke

Publicity Officer: Terry Cloke

Proposed by Alison Smyth, seconded by Ivan Gilson

Election of the four officers was proposed by Gordon Scopes, seconded by Alison Smyth and carried unanimously.

9. To elect four Executive Committee members for the year 2018/19

Alison Smyth: Visual Arts

proposed by Wendy Missons and seconded by Caroline Fish

Christine Pearce: Music

proposed by Wendy Missons and seconded by Caroline Fish

Edward Colthorpe: Drama

Pat Grimwade: Music

proposed by Wendy Missons and seconded by Mary Odam

Proposed as a composite by Wendy Missons and seconded by Al Smyth and agreed unanimously

10. To note there are five Co-opted places.

Ivan Gilson is to be co-opted. Alison Wheeler, former Chief Executive of Suffolk Libraries, has been proposed and has agreed to become a trustee, although no form has yet been received.

There are still three vacancies.

Alison Smyth reported that she had had a very positive meeting with a potential trustee who will speak with Chris to find out what is involved.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm

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Refreshments were to have been followed by a talk from Nicola Brand about the Ipswich Arts Centre Memories and Recollections project, but unfortunately she was unwell and so could not attend