

WHEATLEY WINDMILL RESTORATION SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Coffee Room of the Merry Bells, Wheatley, on Wednesday 24 March 2010 at 7.30 pm

Present: Caroline Dalton (Chairman), Edward Hess (Treasurer), Janet Redfern (Secretary), Donald Gray, Adrienne Ham, Sally Humphrey, Kevin Heritage, Susan Prest, Mark Turner; Gillian Gray, Myles Hartley, Bernard Hickey, Terry Hood, David Hughes, Rosemary Littlehales, Arthur Maddocks, Gillian Sleight

Apologies were received from Roger Bell, Wendy Benson, Marian Brown, James Dalton, Freddie Drinkwater, Sarah Gray, Tom Hassall, Brian Lowe, Julian Money, Anne Purse, Mavis Ramsden, Billy Stanier, Barbara Wallis

1. **Minutes of last AGM held on 31 March 2009** were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
2. **Matters arising from minutes:** There were none.

3. **Chairman's report**

The Chairman reported that it had been a very busy year. The sail cloths had been put on for a test in May on an extremely windy day, and on the last Open day in October when there was hardly any wind. The next stage will be a test milling to be done before National Mills Weekend (8-9 May), and it was hoped to have demonstration milling on both 8 and 9 May, depending on wind. The Committee has been working hard on practical tasks, e.g. risk assessment, a new shed, improvements to the electrical system, overhauling the existing fire extinguishers; and another fire extinguisher is to be purchased so that there is one on each floor. Items for sale had been updated, in particular a new history leaflet. The only remaining task is balancing the stones.

4. **Treasurer's report**

The accounts for the year ended 31 January 2010, which had been audited by Mr Christopher Shelley, were circulated. It was noted that over the period of restoration approximately £100,000 had been received, largely due to the enormous amount of work done by Caroline Dalton to obtain grants. Susan Prest proposed, Arthur Maddocks seconded, and all agreed that the accounts be accepted.

5. **Change of Society's name**

The Chairman explained that, now that the restoration work is virtually completed the Society's name is no longer relevant, and the Committee therefore wished to change it. The following resolution was proposed by Adrienne Ham, seconded by Gillian Sleight, and agreed *nem con*:

“That, with immediate effect, the name of the Society be changed to Wheatley Windmill Preservation Society”

6. **Election of officers and committee members**

The Chairman reported that since the last AGM three members had been co-opted onto the committee: Sarah Gray, Adrienne Ham and Kevin Heritage. Three members wished to resign from the committee: Edward Hess, Susan Prest (who was completing a second term on the committee), and Mark Turner. She herself did not wish to continue as Chairman, but was willing to take over as Treasurer. There were no offers to take the chairmanship. Susan Prest proposed, Gillian Sleight seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the following be elected:

Chairman	Vacant
Treasurer	Caroline Dalton
Secretary	Janet Redfern
Members	Donald Gray, Sarah Gray, Adrienne Ham, Myles Hartley, Kevin Heritage, Sally Humphrey, Mavis Ramsden

Arthur Maddocks spoke warmly about the enormous amount of work done by Caroline since she took over from him as Chairman in 1993, and in particular her success in fundraising and obtaining grants from various organisations. All those present agreed, and added their heartfelt thanks.

7. External Inspector of Accounts

It was agreed to ask Mr Christopher Shelley if he would audit the accounts again next year.

8. Celebrations on 8 - 9 May

Caroline reported that the mill will be open on both Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm, and that at 12 noon on Saturday the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire will declare it open. He will meet the millwrights and other people. Gareth Morris will bring the Wheatley Boys Morris side to perform on Saturday. Susan Prest explained that children at local schools (Wheatley Primary, Horspath Primary, and Wheatley Park) have been invited to draw a picture or make a model; entries will be judged by the committee, and the winning entries will be on display. Kevin Heritage reported that a raffle has been arranged and prizes promised by a large number of local businesses; tickets were now available and he urged members to take some to sell.

After the meeting refreshments were served.