

WHEATLEY WINDMILL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Coffee Room of the Merry Bells, Wheatley, on Wednesday 6 April 2011 at 7.30 pm

Present: Caroline Dalton (Treasurer, in the chair), Janet Redfern (Secretary), Donald Gray, Myles Hartley, Sally Humphrey, Ash Lenton, Mavis Ramsden; Roger Bell, Lawrence Brown, Rebecca Brown, Janet Carr, Gillian Gray, Peter Harding, David Harverson, Terry Hood, Catherine Hughes, David Hughes, John Kirchhoff, Arthur Maddocks, Andrei Nazarov, Neil Ramsden

Apologies were received from Wendy Benson, Marian Brown, James Dalton, Freddie Drinkwater, Kevin Heritage, Julian Money, Anne Purse, Gillian Sleight, Carol Sprent, Billy Stanier, Barbara Wallis, Annette Wright

1. **Minutes of last AGM held on 24 March 2010** were agreed and signed by Caroline Dalton.

2. **Matters arising from minutes**

Minute 8: Caroline reported that despite cold, wet weather the celebrations on 8-9 May 2010 had been very successful, when the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire had “opened” the mill, and Wheatley Morris boys had performed.

3. **Treasurer’s report**

The accounts for the year ended 31 January 2011 were circulated. The Treasurer reported that she had failed to ask Christopher Shelley to audit them, but that she had approached David Harverson who had agreed to do so. Ash Lenton proposed, Myles Hartley seconded, and all agreed that the accounts be accepted.

4. **Acting Chairman’s report**

Caroline reported that during the year Sarah Gray had resigned from the committee because, due to her frequent absences abroad on business, she had been unable to attend meetings. Adrienne Ham had also resigned from the committee, and had recently moved to Wales. The completed interior of the mill had been sprayed against woodworm infestation by Peter Cox Property Services, who had given a 25 year guarantee. The Society had received a generous legacy of £1,000 from the estate of Ivy Morgan. Donald Gray had done electrical and other work in the mill. John Steane, who is not a member of the Society, had done all the drawings for the tea towel without charge. A fire assessment had been carried out in January. The windmill had been voted joint first in the conservation section in the Oxford Preservation Trust annual awards, and we had been presented with a plaque which Donald has attached to the mill.

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

Caroline reported that Ash Lenton, who had been co-opted onto the committee since the last AGM, had volunteered to be Chairman, and the following were unanimously elected to serve on the committee for the coming year:

Chairman	Ash Lenton
Treasurer	Caroline Dalton
Secretary	Janet Redfern
Members	Donald Gray, Myles Hartley, Kevin Heritage, Sally Humphrey, Mavis Ramsden

Ash Lenton then told the meeting that he is a building surveyor with a particular interest in historical buildings, an architectural historian and part-time lecturer at the University of Reading. He has been involved with the windmill over the last few months and helped Donald with maintenance tasks, and volunteered to climb the sails to attach the sailcloths. 6-8 people had trained to climb the sails at the recent training day, when the sails had turned for about 10 minutes.

6. External Inspector of Accounts

It was left to the Treasurer and committee to appoint an inspector before the next AGM.

7. Other business

- (a) Lawrence Brown asked whether, when the mill was in use, there was enough wind for it to be in regular use. This was not known, but Mavis said that in her grandfather's time there had been fewer trees around the mill, and also that in one census her great-grandfather was shown as a miller and gardener.
- (b) Roger Bell asked when the SODC agreement will end, and was told midnight on 7 October 2025.

In conclusion, Ash Lenton thanked Caroline Dalton for her 19 + 1 years in the chair.

After the meeting refreshments were served.