

**NETWORK ARTISTS LTD.**  
**TRADING AS NETWORK ARTISTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY 2010**

**Members present:** Ann Sheppard, Bev Holmes-Wright, Carol White, David Taylor, Geoff Jackson, Gordon Lamb, Jackie Lyness, Jean Lamb, June Drage, Karen Melvin, Katie Jackson, Lesley Forster, Mandy Pattullo, Mary Ann Rogers, Mike Jarvis, Omi Pharnocote, Pam Malkin, Pam Vardy, Pamela Parrish, Peter Seddon, Renira Barnes, Richard Moran, Richard Walker, Val Spencer, Wendy Parkin.

**In attendance:** Anna Jesson, Eva Hartley.

**1. Welcome**

The Chair, June Drage, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending, adding that she hoped that they would have an enjoyable and entertaining evening. June then introduced Anna Jesson, a History of Art student, who would be helping Network with various tasks during her summer vacation. June then referred to the impending departure of Network's Membership Administrator, Kim Pearson, who for the last 3 years had been invaluable in the smooth running of the organisation. June remarked that it was the intention of the Board and the Art Tour Steering Group to present Kim with a leaving gift, as an expression of gratitude on behalf of the members. She then added that Network was delighted to have the previous Administrator, Anne Wigmore, taking over from Kim on a temporary basis. She added that many long standing members would have happy recollections of Anne from when she was Administrator previously.

**2. Apologies:** Cat Moore, Catherine Stott, Christine Tose, Dave Baxter, Gina Underwood, Jane Murray, Janet Wake, Jenny Mathers, Lesley Philip, Liz Law, Mary Hayward, Rose Furlonger, Sara Jane Palmer, Tony Claydon, Wyn Barnes.

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM (23.5.09)**

The Chair referred to these Minutes in the AGM handout, and advised those present that rather than reading them out, she thought it would be better to give everyone a few moments to look over them. During this time, there was a comment from the floor about whether the Minutes would also be published on Network's website, for the benefit of those members not attending the AGM. June replied that they should, and that arrangements for the Minutes of this AGM to be put on the website, would shortly be made. After everyone had had the opportunity to look through the Minutes, June proposed that they be accepted as a fair record of the proceedings at that meeting. This was unanimously agreed by those present.

**3.1 Matters arising from the last Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Reports**

**4.1 Chairs Report**

The Chair referred to her Report in the AGM handout, and advised those present that rather than reading them out, she would simply refer to the key people mentioned in the report, and request a round of applause when appropriate. These were as follows:-

Training sub-committee: Mary Ann Rogers, Janet Dickson and Mike McFarlane.

Art Tour Steering Group (for 2009 Art Tour): Ross Beedle, Paul Mingard and Tony Claydon.

Chesters Walled Garden members' get-together: Susie White.

Website and Art Tour sponsorship: Lazy Grace.

Art Tour Steering Group (for 2010 Art Tour): Tony Claydon, Paul Mingard, Harry Hall and Mary Hayward.

Research and report into 'pdq's': Jean Lamb.

Bulletin: Mike McFarlane, Pam Malkin and Mandy Pattullo. (The Chair added that Sara Jane Palmer had also joined this sub-group recently).

The Management Committee (Board of Directors) – the Chair reiterated that Network had a strong Board in 2009, and that it had been a great pleasure to chair the meetings. She added that it had been good to have so many other members working with Network on the various projects, and was sorry that she couldn't mention them all by name.

The Chair concluded by reiterating that 2009 had been another busy year, and that we should be very proud of Network's achievements.

#### **4.2 Treasurer's Report**

The Chair referred those present to the accounts statement in the AGM handout, and asked Richard Moran to present his report. Richard began on a light hearted note by saying that as Network is a 'not-for-profit' company, the Profit and Loss Account should be more aptly called an Income & Expenditure Account, or even a Surplus and Deficit Account! He explained that accountancy convention being what it is, it still gets called the Profit and Loss Account; commenting that what is really relevant is the amount by which income exceeds expenditure or vice versa. Richard then went on to explain that the objective of Network is to cover its expenditure in each financial year by incoming resources in the same year, or in other words to 'break-even', with the financial budgets being prepared accordance with this objective. He remarked that in practice, of course, this doesn't usually happen, and consequently a relatively small deficit is regarded as acceptable; although it would obviously be preferable to finish up with a small surplus.

Richard then took everyone through the financial results for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, commenting that total income was down from £36,000 to £34,000 – a reduction of 6%, with total expenditure also reducing from £37,000 to about £35,000 – a reduction also of 6%. Consequently the deficit in 2009, compared with the previous year, had remained at around £1,000. He then referred to the year end Balance Sheet, commenting that it continued to reflect a healthy financial position, with net current assets or reserves being at around £14,500, as compared with around £15,500 at the previous year end. He remarked that it was also worth noting that the cash in hand and at the bank was up from around £13,000 at the end of 2008, to around £16,500 at the end of 2009, which reinforced the healthy financial position.

Richard concluded by saying that the results in the handout were analysed between the Summer Art Tour, the Christmas Art Tour, and everything else, i.e. the column simply headed 'Network'. He then invited any questions regarding the accounts, with Geoff Jackson asking why the Network accounts were unaudited. Richard explained that Network comes under the small companies rules, and consequently is exempt from having to have it's accounts audited.

The Chair thanked Richard for his presentation, and informed those present that he had volunteered to take over as Treasurer, as a result of Renira Barnes agreeing to become the new Minutes Secretary following the AGM.

#### **4.3 Appointment of Accountants**

The Chair proposed that Seahouses Accountancy Services continue as Accountants, which was seconded by Richard Moran. All those present voted in favour of this proposal.

## **5. Election of new members of the Management Committee (Board of Directors)**

The Chair referred to the hard work that Ross Beedle had put in whilst he was Art Tour Representative on the Board, and in particular his efforts in relation to the 2009 Art Tour. She added that any extra help on the Board is always welcome.

### **5.1 Election of members Catherine Stott and Mandy Pattullo**

One third of the Management Committee is required to retire from office each year, but can stand for re-election - Ross Beedle, Catherine Stott and Mandy Pattullo being the members who have served the longest and therefore obliged to stand down. Ross Beedle did not wish to stand for re-election, with Catherine Stott and Mandy Pattullo being prepared to stand for re-election. The nomination of Catherine Stott to continue as Board member was proposed (in advance of the AGM) by Richard Moran and seconded by Pam Malkin; with all those present voting in favour. The nomination of Mandy Pattullo to be elected as Board Art Tour Representative was proposed (in advance of the AGM) by June Drage and seconded by Sara Jane Palmer; with all those present voting in favour. The Chair commented that the rest of the current Management Committee (Board of Directors) were prepared to continue to serve on the Board.

### **5.2 Election of new members**

The Chair informed the meeting that there were no nominations, and then asked if there were any proposals. The election of Mike Jarvis to the Board was proposed by Mandy Pattullo and seconded by Pam Malkin; with all those present voting in favour.

## **6. Resolutions**

There were no resolutions.

## **7. Any Other Business**

### **7.1 Members Directory**

The Chair advised the meeting that following advice from the Data Protection Agency, it was intended that the list of members details – including phone numbers, e-mail addresses and postal addresses - be circulated to all members. She went on to explain that any member wishing their details to be withheld, can request to opt out by advising the Membership Administrator accordingly. June commented that it was intended that a notice to this effect be put in the Listings in the near future.

### **7.2 Matters from the floor**

#### **7.2.1 Publicising courses run by Network members**

Karen Melvin expressed concern at the lack of information, in local libraries, etc., about courses being run by Network members, and commented that she felt that the general public should be more aware of what was being offered. The Chair referred Karen to the 'Discover Your Creativity' leaflet, but it was noted that this was no longer up to date, thereby highlighting the inherent problem in keeping such information current. Jean Lamb suggested a possible solution might be the Google Calendar, which could have an entry specifically for Network and be linked in with the Network website. This then could be printed out and put up in libraries, etc. Jean commented that Lazy Grace may have a similar solution, and that it might be worth asking them the question. The discussion then turned to the possibility of the Network Administrator keeping a regularly updated database of all current courses, but it was felt that this task would be too much for the Administrator to cope with on top of everything else. Discussion of this topic concluded with it being agreed that some sort of link on the website should be investigated, whereby individual members could publicise any courses they

were running, and it was decided that this would be put on the agenda for the next Board Meeting.

### **7.2.2 Thanks to Chair**

Mandy Pattullo proposed a vote of thanks to June Drage for all her hard work in her role as Chair, which she felt sure had been much appreciated by everyone in Network. This was unanimously agreed by those present.

### **8. Meeting closed**

The meeting was followed by demonstrations by Helen Moran and Katie Jackson and an Art 'swop shop'.