

**ABBOTS LEIGH CIVIC SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**held by Zoom at 7.pm on 17 February 2021**

**Present:** Paul Thompson (Chairman), Ian Larthe de Langladure (Treasurer), Paul Whitehouse (Secretary), Pip A'Ness, Rachael Doherty, Jane Gibbons, Paulina Gillespie, Debbie Nelmes, Drew Smith and Murray Stewart<sup>1</sup> (Committee Members), Simon Talbot-Ponsonby (Chair of Parish Council) and 19 others.

1. **Apologies** had been received from Donna Butcher, Don Davies, Ed & Tracey Dodds, Barry England and Anoo Jain.
2. The **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting** held on 23 January 2020 were accepted as a correct record.
3. **Chairman's Report:** Paul Thomson reported that it had not been possible to hold any events in 2020 apart from the Children's Christmas Party. He reflected on his four years in office, and said that it was time for him to leave the Committee, which he left in very capable hands.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Ian Larthe de Langladure set out the current position:

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
Opening balance	£9,358.09	£8,470.39
Receipts	£4.53	£5,647.63
Payments*	<b>(£514.99)</b>	<b>(£4,759.93)</b>
Balance at 31 December	£8,847.63	£9,358.09
<b>Surplus(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>(£510.46)</b>	<b>£887.70</b>

\* Includes an additional grant of £90 towards the church clock, insurance premium, and purchase of a Father Christmas costume.

The Annual Accounts<sup>2</sup> were unanimously approved by the meeting.

#### **5. Election of Committee Members**

It was agreed unanimously that Pip A'Ness, Rachael Doherty, Jane Gibbons, Paulina Gillespie, Anoo Jain, Ian Larthe de Langladure, Debbie Nelmes, Drew Smith, Murray Stewart, and Paul Whitehouse be re-elected and that Gabi Watson be elected.

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1 Murray Stewart is also a Parish Councillor.  
2 Copies available from the Secretary.

## **6. Discussion: what is the Civic Society for?**

Jane Gibbons and Debbie Nelmes introduced themselves as the new joint chairs. As they were both in full time work they thought that sharing the task would be more effective. They looked forward to feedback from everybody, and could be contacted through the link on the Civic Society's page on the village website.

All comments and suggestions would be welcome. The more the Society could put neighbours in touch with each other the better for community life. They encouraged everyone to ensure that newcomers to the village were welcomed and in touch either through the village emails or WhatsApp groups.

During the discussion which followed it was suggested that the Civic Society should produce a flyer to with *The Link*, and then delivered to all houses, not just those receiving *The Link*. The use of the two notice boards, in Manor Lane and by the Village Hall, was also mentioned.

## **7. Neighbourhood Plan**

Murray Stewart reminded people not to miss the opportunity to comment on the plan through the North Somerset consultation which will close on 14 March. Jane Gibbons said that the Committee would review the Plan and provide a view by the deadline.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Drew Smith suggested that once restrictions were lifted it would be a good use of the Society's funds to get people together during the first month. It might provide coffee in the Village Hall, so that those who wanted could go on to *The George Inn*.

The meeting finished at 1945