



**The 66th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY**

Held at Pershore College, Avonbank, Worcestershire
on Saturday 9th September 2023

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence were received from: Diane Puncheon, Seed Distribution Scheme Manager; Brian Hackett, Librarian/Archivist; Tricia Newton, Trustee; Lynne Hackett, Trustee; Graham Farguhar, Trustee and Heather Farquhar, Trustee.

2. The minutes of the 65th Annual General Meeting (available on the website) were approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Helen Brown; seconded by Keith Scott

3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the 2022 AGM, (note: see item 7 below)

4. The Chair's Annual Report was formally adopted. The full report is available on the website.

Proposed by Cathy Rollinson; seconded by Rob Cole

5. The Treasurer's Financial Report as published in the newsletter was formally adopted

Proposed by Ruth Plant; seconded by Jan Vaughan

6. The following were elected as Officers of the Society:

Chair: Pamela Clark

Proposer Linda Hall, seconder Jaime Blake

Honorary Treasurer: Stuart Senior

Proposer Roy Stickland; seconder Lady Rosemary Fitzgerald

Honorary Secretary, Office and Administration: Helen Curtis,

proposer Jan Vaughan; seconder Judith Templeton

Honorary Secretary, Trustees: Linda Hall

proposer Jeanette Lerwill; seconder Sandra Potter

7. Nicholas Hales was elected as a Trustee of the Society:

Proposer Carol Green; seconder Jaime Blake

The Chair announced that Jaime Blake was co-opted as a Trustee during 2022 but his nomination was received too late to be included at the AGM 2022. His nomination was omitted from the agenda in error. There were no objections to Jaime's formal nomination being included now.

Jaime Blake was elected as a Trustee of the Society

Proposer by Susan Oglesby, seconder by Chris Davies

8. A formal vote of thanks was given to:

- Our President: Roy Lancaster
- Trustees at the end of their term: Tricia Newton, Sally Adams
- Our hosts: Western Counties Group
- All Trustees, Officers and Post holders

The following Trustees and Postholders received, in appreciation of their service, a gift presented by Roy Lancaster: Tricia Newton, Sally Adams, Heather Farquhar, Colin Doughty, John Dyson, Marion Jay

9. The appointment of Haynes Watts as the independent examiner of the Society's accounts was formally approved

Proposer John McGhee; seconder Diana Brown

10. The Annual Lecture Day and AGM 2024 will be hosted by Lincolnshire Group, venue to be announced in the Newsletter

OPEN FORUM

The Officers were asked about the potential of 'ghost' members of the Society, these are members of local and special interest groups who claim they have national membership but don't.

Local and SI Groups should be asking for the national membership number of new members when they join, and again for existing members at the time of renewal. If they cannot give a national number they must pay the guest rate to join a group meeting.

In March/April each year, using the information from the national membership database, Clare sends out the relevant list to each group/membership secretary; any 'ghost' members are identified and reminded to pay their national subscription. It was stressed that we rely on all group/membership secretaries to engage with this process.

There followed a short presentation by Bill Hodgson about the latest Communications Strategy developments.