

Whetstone Drama Group – AGM May 17th 2016

Present

John Freer- Chairman, Jon Sutcliffe- Secretary and Stewart Wale- Treasurer.

Mel Wale, Sandra Sutcliffe, Paul Lawrence, Norma Lawrence, Alan Wilson, Margaret Brombley, Hazel Sharpe, Charlotte Stokes, Penny Freer, Carrie Peters, Carl Smith, Louisa Cohen, Kaila Handley, Jean Warner, Bernard Warner, Ben Thomas and Steve Cutler.

Apologies

Sue Wale, Bob Christer, Amy Christer, Martin Peters, Graham Muddimer, Peter Tovey, Graham Ward, Emma Lawrence, Kate Lawrence and Richard Sutcliffe.

Welcome and introductions

As Chair, John Freer opened and welcomed all to the meeting. This was John's last meeting as Chair although he will still remain a member of the group. John gave warm thanks to all members of the group and spoke of our high standards, our continual growth and the high commitment of everyone on and off stage. As retiring Chair John spoke of the very good current position of the group. John was warmly thanked for his loyalty and hard work as Chair of the group since 1996.

John was presented with a set of crystal whisky glasses to mark his long and successful office as Chair.

Minutes of last meeting

Jon Sutcliffe read out the minutes of the last meeting held on 11/5/15. All agreed these as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising from the minutes

- We have been unable to secure the performing rights for "The Full Monty."
- Ben has attended some committee meetings with a view to his role as publicity officer. Steve has also attended meetings as an observer for his future role as Treasurer.

Finance

- Stewart Wale provided an update to the group on the current financial position as at 30/04/16.
- Current Account £5859.38 with a profit last year of £1365.92.
- Stewart gave out detail breakdowns of play costs for last year.
- Margaret brought up the question of subs not now being collected for play cast members. This was discussed but no decision made.
- It was agreed that annual subscriptions remain at £15.
- John thanked Stewart for his work as treasurer over the last two years.

Election of committee members

- Full committee members are presently in post until May 2017.
- At present there are 9 committee members. With John Freer and Stewart Wale stepping down this leaves 7. Ben Thomas (publicity) and Steve Cutler (treasurer) will fill these gaps and become full committee members. It was proposed by Carl and seconded by Sandra that we amend the rules to allow 10 committee members. This would allow Jean Warner in her present role as associate member to become a full member. This was agreed by all. It was also agreed that Graham Muddimer and/or Graham Ward could attend committee meetings to advise on the important issues re the set construction. They would not have voting rites.
- It was agreed that John Freer becomes Life President of the group.

Planned productions

- No licence for The Full Monty so Carrie has decided to produce "Carries War" at the URC in September.
- Christmas Carol at Countesthorpe in early December. Sandra to produce.
- Play to be decided – April/May 2017. Producer Paul Lawrence.

NANDA

- Evidently we must send at least one representative to the dinner in Nottingham on June 17th in order to still be part of this organisation. Meal is £28.50 a head. Sandra, Carl, Stewart, Ben, Steve, Charlotte, Louisa, Paul, Mel and Alan expressed interest.

Any Other Business

- Paul was thanked for the recent production.
- John thanked all the hardworking set team for their work this year.
- Sandra was thanked for the increasingly popular and successful Murder Mystery productions.
- We have been offered a library of play scripts from John Foreman of the Market Harborough group. This will give us a huge bank of play scripts to choose from. Sandra will organise delivery next Tuesday.
- We have through Spencer the offer of 50 chairs from the museum for the URC. This was thought to be a good idea

Election of new Chair

- The committee remained behind after the meeting to elect a new Chair. 4 nominations have been received – Paul, Carrie Carl and Jon. Jon decided to withdraw and after a secret ballot Carl was elected.

Date of next AGM meeting

Tuesday May 18th at 7-30pm at The Parish Centre

Minutes agreed

Carl Smith – Chair

Date