

**POOLE & EAST DORSET ART SOCIETY**

**Annual General Meeting**

**03 March 2024 @ 2.30pm**

Holy Angels church hall, Lilliput Road

**MINUTES**

Chaired by Jacqui Gush

**Welcome and Apologies:**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the 2024 PEDAS AGM. in particular she welcomed our Art patron, Helen Talbot.

Apologies received from: Freda Rhodes, Sarah Moore, Pam Judd, Gill Mullen, Susan Huskinson, Sue Smith, Jan Wall, Natalya Ferneaux, Dick Hewitson, Liz Magee, Peter Greenwood, Tracey Chambers, Teresa Senior, Sally Wimpres, Janet Blissett, Lyn Robertson. Wendy Stanford, Margaret Crofts.

**1. Minutes of last year's meeting and matters arising:**

Jacqui Gush ran through the Minutes of the AGM 2023. There were no action points that had not been followed up. The new Logo was publicised ahead of adoption and is now in use. The Minutes were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed, Joy Gow; seconded, Caroline Robertson.

**2. President's review:**

John Biggs presented his review, looking forward to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year and back to another full year of art for PEDAS, thanking Trustees and other helpers for their efforts over the year and encouraging others to volunteer, and join committees.

**3. Helen Talbot, our Artist/Patron** wished PEDAS well in celebrating 100 years, no mean feat.

She has been happy to be our Art Patron and to support us over the last 2 years. She reminded everyone that information supporting her sessions on 'Celebrate' are on the website.

**4. Trustees' Report from the Chair**, including a review of the year and plans for the future. (Full report attached). She ran through each heading with key highlights and invited participation with comments and questions.

JG mentioned the inevitability of a move to more digitisation. Pat Burnham asked if some arrangement could be made to advise and help Members to take photos of their work for submission to exhibitions. David Roberts confirmed that a Wednesday afternoon session in the coming weeks would include such things.

Concern was expressed as to how one might join a WhatsApp group. It was explained that each person would need to contact the creator of the WhatsApp group to request their addition and help.

**ACTION: Trustees to ensure help is available for all complex technological interactions.**

Under membership, she informed the meeting that currently we have 82 members including 9 new members and that 15 existing members had not renewed. Encouragingly, average numbers for sessions have recently risen to 30+.

JG asked if everyone was happy with the new logo, and the response was positive.

Norma R commented that it would have been opportune to include "founded 1924".

Jacqui confirmed this was considered but it did not fit happily into the design. But that **our Charity number and 'founded in 1924' would be included in correspondence and publicity, wherever possible.**

JG ran through new initiatives in the Gallery, including table posters and members artwork in the Tearooms. New A5 folded to DL leaflets advertising the Gallery were distributed to participants and she advised that PEDAS members would be asked to participate in their distribution.

Under 'Going Forward', JG ran through the full programme of events and activities for this year and reminded members that this has already been publicised on PEDAS Weekly. (a few hard copies were available at the meeting.)

She mentioned that we currently needed 3 more bookings at the Centenary dinner in order to avoid room charges. Currently we have 77 people attending.

The 2 exhibitions, the Dorset Art Week PEDAS exhibition at the Gallery, and the exhibition at the Lighthouse had been detailed elsewhere in the meeting. More information on both would be sent out when appropriate.

**ACTION: As requested more and clearer detail on the requirements for nominations for the Lighthouse exhibition will be sent.**

She briefly mentioned the 2 community events, namely: Art in The Park and School event at the Dolphin Centre.

The PEDAS holiday and December party with panto, were still in the planning stage.

She praised the PEDAS100 team, having started working on our Centenary programme 2 years ago.

**ACTION: Anyone knows where we could hire hanging screens for the GATHER space in October, please let us know.**

JG advised that contrary to the note on last years AGM minutes, we will not be producing a book as a keepsake to mark our Centenary, but instead a video, which can be streamed on a range of different platforms, including YouTube and the PEDAS website, and distributed instantly and effortlessly as required.

**ACTION: In response to a question about CDs, the working party will look into the possibility of producing a 'hard copy' of the video.**

5. **Treasurer's Report:** included Accounts from PEDAS and from GUS. Both Accounts attached to this report. PM gave an explanation for the main sources of income and expenditure over the year. Joy delivered a brief report for the Gallery. The expenditure this year was much less and this is reflected in the net surplus of £1991.63. The hire income has increased due to the rise in hire fee from January 2023. The daily fee for January and February is £12 and for March to December it is £18. All costs being recovered for sanitiser and cleaning it was decided to no longer charge £5 per week from 1 April. The annual decoration this year was £1110.00.
6. **Giff Aid:** Around 25 Members have agreed to donate **Giff Aid** on their Membership renewal form. Members were encouraged to add their agreement and sign up. Questions to clarify the implications of this scheme were answered.  
**ACTION: An explanation of Giff Aid to be posted on PEDAS Weekly as soon as possible. This could take the form of FAQs.**
7. **The Gallery Upstairs' Review** of the year written by Liz McGee, was presented by Joy Gow. Participants' attention was drawn to the introduction of a new hanging system in the Gallery which would reduce annual repair and maintenance of the walls. It was noted that we had been awarded a £2000 grant from CAD Arts to undertake this work. Members to note that the requirements for hanging their 2D work in future exhibitions would change.

## **8. Committee changes:**

Carol Cox and David Roberts stood down and stood for re-election, Susan Huskinson is standing down as Secretary and Trustee at this meeting. JG thanked Sue for everything she had done for pedas as secretary.

### **MOTION 1**

Members agree to re-elect Committee Members, Carol Cox and David Roberts as Trustees

### **Vote on the Motions**

Members unanimously re-elected Carol Cox and David Roberts as Trustees.

### **Officer appointments**

The following positions remain unchanged:

Jacqui Gush has agreed to serve as Chair for another year

Chair: Jacqui Gush

Treasurer: Pam Marshall

Gallery coordinator: John Biggs

### **New Trustees**

#### **MOTION 2**

Members agree to elect Freda Rhodes as Trustee

Members agree to elect David Marshall as Trustee

### **Vote on the Motion**

Freda Rhodes and David Marshall were unanimously elected as Trustees and welcomed by the Chair.

### **The Gallery Upstairs Sub Committee will continue with:**

Joy Gow, Barry Kavanagh, Liz Magee, Steph Jones with John Biggs as Gallery co-ordinator

## **9. Subscriptions rise to £40pa:**

The Annual Membership subscription was increased to £35pa in 2023. If you recall, this was postponed until then, from your agreement at the AGM in 2017. This has made a difference, but with rising tutor fees and still lower attendance, we are making a regular loss on our club sessions. We wish to continue a high standard of tutors and demonstrators at our sessions. An increase is now proposed to begin with re-enrolment for 2025. However, budgets will be kept under review and if finances are sound at the end of the year, the increase will be postponed for a further year.

### **MOTION 3**

Members provisionally agree to a proposal to increase the membership subscription amount to £40 per person from January 2025, subject to a review of our expenses and budget over the year. If finances are healthy, increase will be postponed for a further 12 months.

### **Vote on the Motion**

The majority of members voted to a provisional rise in annual subs to £40, pending financial circumstances at the end of 2024.

### **Close of AGM**

Following tea there was a presentation on PEDAS Archives with John Biggs, Steve Smith (our archivist), and David Marshall, all assisted by David Roberts.