

**Gosforth Garden Village Association**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 7.00 pm on Wednesday May 2nd 2018.**

1. Present: 23 members and, from the Management Committee, C Hall (Chair), J Lambert (Secretary), K Dobson, E Dougan, K Douthwaite, J Fender, J Fisher, S Woods.
2. Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017 were approved.

3. Committee Appointments:

Jackie Fender and John Fisher had reached the end of their three-year tenure, and offered themselves for re-appointment. Their offers were accepted. There were no other proposals for replacement committee members.

Nick Simon had resigned during the year. In such cases the Committee can appoint a replacement to serve for the rest of the interrupted three-year term. Lynne Maughan had been welcomed onto the Committee and had agreed to take on the role of Treasurer for a trial period. To split the work previously done by the Treasurer, John Fisher had been given the new position of Lettings Manager and will oversee regular bookings and all rents. Lynne will do the other parts of our financial administration. Chrissie Hall manages one-off weekend bookings. The meeting approved this arrangement.

4. Safeguarding Officer: The Charity Commission expects bodies like ours to have a Safeguarding Officer to oversee procedures to protect young people and vulnerable adults. A volunteer is sought to fill this role.

5. Chair's Report.

Chrissie Hall thanked our volunteers, those who help with admin tasks or at events, the users of our site, our financial supporters and subs-collectors. As we move from being in East Gosforth Ward and join Parklands, tribute was paid to years of financial help and other support from our Ward Councillors over many years. We look forward to co-operating with those in our new ward.

Nick Simon was thanked for his service on the committee since May 2010. It would not be generally known that he had been able to arrange months of free storage for all our kitchen appliances and furniture (not 'flat-pack'!), after we had received a grant to be spent on their purchase before we had a building to put them in.

To involve more local people in the events run on our site, it was proposed we form a Social Committee as a Section of the Association, which would have a member on the Management Committee. This was agreed, but there were no volunteers from those present.

6. Financial Report: John Fisher presented the annual accounts which were accepted, subject to independent examination. There had been little this year in

the way of one-off or unusual income or expenditure. Our funds had grown over the year from £4,040 to £9,718, of which £2,718 is regarded as working capital with £7,000 being our reserve for future major items, planned or unexpected.

7. Our current three 'Sections': Bowls, Tennis, W.I.

Approved Sections appoint one member each to the Management Committee. The Trust Deed requires confirmation each year of what our Sections are. It was agreed that the groups we have at present qualify as Sections, plus the newly established Social Committee.

8. General Discussion:

An open discussion followed. Some of the points made were outside the actual business of the meeting (e.g. local traffic) but GGVA-specific matters and questions included:

- **Publicity:** The difficulties in passing on information easily to local people who do not use social media or have access to websites.
- The location of the GGVA notice boards being in Rosewood Avenue, where few people pass.
- The need to keep the GGVA website up to date.
- A suggestion that we recruit "SPOC"s (Single Point Of Contact persons) who would be a source of information for their close neighbours, and be ready to welcome new arrivals and involve them in community matters.
- A request that contact details of committee members be made more readily available.
- A query whether the hall east gable might have a clock installed on wiring fitted when the hall was built.
- Many local people know what the Association is and does, and show good-will (e.g. through their subs), but it is hard to convert that support into a willingness to be active volunteers, even on an irregular basis. This coming September will mark 90 years of GGVA. Building up a volunteer force of helpers will be necessary if we are to continue in our role of providing decent facilities and recreation for local people as we work towards completing the first 100 years of GGVA.

9. **Conclusion:** The Committee was thanked for its work this year.