

MINUTES OF THE CAODS AGM ON TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2015

55 Members Present

1. Our President, Gill Plumtree, welcomed everyone to the meeting on behalf of the Officers and Committee. She then expressed the sad loss in the passing of Phil Gane, Peggy Welham and Marie McGiff. Notably we have had a few new future members born this year to Kirstie and Chris Fisk, Owen Albert and Isaac Maurie and Christie and Jimmy Hooper had a little boy, Oliver. That will be 3 new future male dancers!
2. The President asked the Secretary to state the apologies (13 members).
3. John Sullivan raised a query on paragraph 8 of the 2014 minutes regarding the election of the Committee. There were 3 members of the Committee that were up for re-election. There were no nominations for members to join the Committee therefore the 3 members that were up for re-election were re-instated in their position on the Executive Committee. This point was proposed by John Sullivan and seconded by Alison Hartley.
4. There were no other matters arising from the previous year's minutes.
5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - The Chairman read her Annual Report for the past year covering the two marvellous shows, Jesus Christ Superstar and Guys and Dolls, both directed by Ray Jefferies. She also commented on the more recent show, Sister Act, which was fabulous and that Legally Blonde rehearsals were going well. She particularly noted the fact that it is so important that we all try and sell more tickets!
6. TREASURER'S REPORT – The main points to note were that the sound costs were more expensive as we had changed our sound provider to try and improve the quality, this seems to have been successful as we have received extremely good feedback. Another point was raised regarding VAT on theatre hire, from 2017 we will be charged VAT on the hire of the Civic Theatre, as a result of this we will be raising the ticket prices. The bank balance is healthy, however, the show costs are high and the Committee are studying every single cost. For Legally Blonde we will be hard-pushed to be able to make a profit. Warren Jennings asked when we had opened the building society account, this was November 2014, the interest will be shown in next year's accounts. Joyce Cox raised the question of whether we would be able to provide our own sound, Jean Pinkney responded that this would be too expensive and John Sullivan backed this up with the fact that you need experienced operators to control the sound. Tony Carpenter raised the point that NODA will be investigating the matter of VAT on theatre hire. Gill Plumtree congratulated Jean Pinkney on the wonderful job that she had done with her first accounting year. The rest of the members showed their appreciation.
7. The accounts were proposed for adoption by Margeret Burgess and seconded by Christine Yorke-Edwards.
8. The auditors, J Halliday, were proposed for adoption by Tracey Perry and seconded by Martin Burgess.
9. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT - The Chairman proposed the re-election of Gill Plumtree as President of the Society for the next two years and thanked her for her work. Gill Plumtree said that it was a pleasure to be President of CAODS and she loved listening to all the good feedback from the audiences and would love to continue as President, this was proposed by Chris Yorke-Edwards and seconded by Lynette Sullivan.

10. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – The President thanked the Executive Committee for their hard work and the rest of the members showed their appreciation. She thanked Kevin Richards who was standing down, Diana Baker and Stephanie Yorke-Edwards were willing to stand again for re-election for the ensuing year. There were 3 spaces to be filled on the Committee, the Secretary had received two nomination forms; from Kim Anderson and Jessica Broad, therefore we would be a Committee of 11 for the time being. A couple of forms were sent in too late to be considered at the 2015 AGM, however, the new Executive Committee would look at the other nominations and look to co-opt in the New Year as there is always plenty of help needed, on publicity especially. Co-opted members have to be co-opted on to the Committee with a specific job. The President and members showed their appreciation for the new Committee.
11. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES - This successful report was given by Kevin Richards, the coffee morning continued to raise funds for the society. Special thanks were given to Christine and Christopher Yorke-Edwards for the development of the 1940's evening and Jean Pinkney for providing the supper. This raised an extremely good sum for the society, as did the Quiz night which was put on by Robyn Gowers, Diana Baker and Stephanie Yorke-Edwards. Saturday 30th April 2016 is a future date to put in your diary for a play, Abigail's Party. The next coffee morning was due to be held on Monday 14th December 2015. Special thanks also go to Geoff Baker and the other bakers for the splendid cakes that are always provided for the coffee morning.
12. Claire Carr presented the results of the recent survey. She also mentioned that the Committee struggle to receive feedback from the members and thanked the 66 members that responded, this was just over half the current membership. The presentation would be sent out to all members and the Executive Committee would discuss the individual comments and send out communication and action points to the members of the society in the New Year.
13. 100 CLUB - Dave Yetton gave his report on the 100+ Club, there were currently 115 members. He said that the membership is not restricted to members of the society and if members of your family or friends wanted to join then they could. £500.83 had been spent from the proceeds of the 100 Club this year on plates for the kitchen, tablecloths and banners. The December draw winners were: £30 Andrew Wallace, £20 Toby Buxton and £10 Linda Newman. The Christmas 'Big One' £75 was won by Martin Burgess and the runner up prize of £50 was won by Richard Randall. He also mentioned if you want to increase your chances of winning you could have more than 1 ticket. The President thanked Dave Yetton.
14. AGM DRAW FOR 2016-17 MEMBERSHIP – The winner was Debra Sparshott.
15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – The new website was being developed by Amanda Parsons and would be launched hopefully by Christmas. Debra Sparshott raised the issue of cancellation of social activities, this seemed to be an ongoing problem. Jean Pinkney did mention that the 2016 planner had been put together and this would be put on the website. Claire Carr also said that there is going to be a publicity event for the WI at Chelmsford Cathedral on Monday 11th January 2016. This should be great publicity for Legally Blonde. There was also a box for donations instead of sending Christmas Cards, this would raise funds for the Sleeping Bag Mission.

The meeting closed and members were invited to the Green Room for refreshments.