



AUKSPT AGM Minutes 24th February 2024.

Dunston Hall, Ipswich Road, Norwich 2.00pm

Those present:

Charles Jeffery Hudson. (CJH)

Tim Lee (TL)

Bob Lloyd (BL)

Oscar Brown (OB)

Denis Plater (DP)

Andrew Bigby (ABig)

Glenn Mayes (GM)

Andy Bovingdon (ABov)

John Oakley (JO)

Steve Oakley (SO)

John Reid (JR)

Paul Capehorn (PC)

Ian Wynne-Smythe (IWS)

Presidents Address

CJH welcomed all members to the meeting and hoped that business was good for them.

He also thanked the Executive Committee for their work throughout the year.

The previous minutes were read out as a recap and acceptance of them as a true record was requested.

proposed; TL

seconded; JO

all passed

(no questions arose from the minutes.)

Treasurers report:

TL Increase annual subscription to £120.00, £110.00 for quick pay.

Executive expenses too high currently at £994.00

in roads into this figure have to be made.

members would need to pay for their own meals.

further loss of £187.00

+ £150.00 for this evening

main part of loss was due to school. £1876.00

one more person/member would help course break even

no more one to one courses at present

recommendation; School must break even

EC should recommend 3 as the minimum number to hold a course.

TL was in favour of a pre-payment plan to be completed by the start of the course.

TL recommended a Zoom call for at least one of the EC Meetings to ease costs along with EC members paying for expenses unless there were extraordinary individual difficulties which could be discussed with him privately to find a solution.

The exception would be the Christmas Meal which existing members would pay in full but new members would pay half price.

Membership fees should move from £120.00 to £140.00 over time.

The insurance level should move from £5,000,000.00 to £10,000,000.00.

JO confirmed that the latter figure was becoming the norm for toastmasters public liability in London venues.

TL felt this shouldn't increase the insurance fee by too much as it was negotiated as a block through the TGC.

Currently, 22 members and 2 country members

TL highlighted the number of domain names of which there are a lot and he felt quite a few could be discarded.

No losses could be faced next year and the AGM dinner would have to be self-financing

The school manual revision and reprint would be priced at £25.00 per copy to members with an aim of a maximum stock of 30 copies.

DP queried the distribution of the new manual eg. Carriage costs

GM thought that it might be included in the figure of £25.00

JR TGC charges have increased but with no profits

CM March 17th Public Liability Renewal with a maximum increase of £4.00 per premium

JO. The TGC had noted some member refusal because of the increase to £10,000,000.00 of insurance cover.

proposer: ABig

2nd: CJH

Treasurers Report passed.

Secretarys Report:

OB: It had been a quiet year on the enquiry front but he thanked members for their patience in his adapting to this role.

He had received all relevant paperwork for members and hoped that the dispatch of insurance certificates had been prompt enough.

He was keen to know if there were any difficulties with the website that he could pass on to Carol Osborne, who looks after it.

Mark Shaw. Brookman had clothing/regalia for sale and the notice would be circulated to members.

PC had a query on his membership certificate which OB would look into.

School Report:

GM. No students for April currently, it might pick up, but would push for October course.

ABov offered to proof read the manual draft as it was appreciated what a large job the revision was.

GM. There seemed to be a shortage of toastmasters pushing for work and only slight interest from potential students.

Would push more Facebook, Bluelight and Military pages.

There were quite a few potential candidates but difficult in getting them to commit to the course.

People did not always understand the role, confusing it with celebrants.

Eg. Students at Bournemouth Catering College had no idea what the role of the toastmaster was.

DJ's, Magicians, Photographers were encroaching on our market.

ABig suggested sending a copy of the newsletter to potential applicants to give an idea of what was involved.

IWS suggested a Student membership that keeps them in the loop and stops them looking elsewhere.

JR cautioned that that might have a diluting effect.

TL felt it could be tried and new members to contribute to the newsletter to enhance this.

PC said that students gave a lot in their first city roles and this could also apply to AUKSPT

IWS had experienced the same in his field.

JO. It would be necessary to develop a student designation, careful with appellation, and clarifying styling. They would not be able to quote for business.

JR recommended apprenticing to a local AUKSPT member with responsibility for their conduct and general approach.

TL £2000.00 is a lot of money to some people at present

JR Grants had helped him start

CJH. Mentor has to be dedicated and pro-active

IWS any discounts/pre-payment plans would be cost effective in the long run.

Almoners Report:

DP. Nothing to report at this stage and no concerns at present.

AOB: None

Election of Officers for 2024

Investiture of New President. (BL)

ABov Proposed

JR Seconded

vote unanimous

CJH installed BL as President

Junior Vice-President to Senior Vice-President. (ABov)

TL proposed

GM seconded

vote unanimous

Junior Vice-President. (SO)

CJH proposed

ABig seconded

vote unanimous

Treasurer (TL)

GM proposed

CJH seconded

vote unanimous

(TL signalled that this would be for one more year only, time then for someone else to takeover)

Secretary (OB)

SO proposed

TL seconded

vote unanimous

CJH pointed out that EC committee should 11 members and 6 for a quorum

Did anyone want to join?

IWS and PC as new EC members

CJH proposed

JO seconded

GM and other EC members happy to continue

BL invested SVP, JVP and CJH as Past President

Pictures of the ceremony would be circulated to members.

BL next AGM date please, he suggested Saturday 22nd February 2025

ABov said that it would be hosted at a venue in Essex.

New President's comment:

BL was thrilled to be in this new position

He aimed to continue initiatives into finding new sources of recruits and new methods to enhance the team's effort but in doing so he had an awareness of keeping traditions alive.

It needs to be formal but not too formal essentially staying as open as possible to the needs of clients.

BL encouraged participation in the newsletter with perhaps a prize each quarter via JO's 100 Club suggestion.

There would be 33 attendees at this evenings Anniversary AGM Dinner

There would be a presentation of a plaque and certificate to the AUKSPT founder and Fellow, Graham Hunt and flowers to his wife Liz.

The High Sheriff of Norwich would be the guest of honour.

There would be a small gift for each gent and lady attending along.

There would also be a drinks token for each attendee as personal gesture by BL. It was his way of thanking AUKSPT for all the opportunities that membership of the association had opened up to him.

The meeting was closed at 3.30pm.