



## MONTGOMERYSHIRE GUILD OF WEAVERS SPINNERS AND DYERS

### MINUTES of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT FORDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 12/12/15

#### Members Present

Maggie Armstrong, Jane Brooks, Dawn Cleaver, Sue Collett, Debbie Francis, Margaret Hay-Campbell, Elaine James, Pam Seagar, Katie Weston, Amanda Laing, Leo Cradle-Smith, Jill Shepherd.

#### Apologies

Lynne Geldart, Joanna Brown, Janet Lees, Rosie Collar

#### Minutes of the last AGM

Maggie Armstrong proposed, and Pam Seagar seconded the proposal that the 2014 AGM minutes be accepted as an accurate record. This was approved the majority of members present.

#### Matters arising from the Minutes

Dawn Cleaver provided information relating to the role of Guild Officers. The constitution was checked to establish that it did state that officers should serve a maximum term. The re-written guild constitution was accepted at the 2014 AGM, and at present contains no time frame for the officers roles. It was felt that because they were elected every year placing a time limit on terms of office would be problematic given the size of our guild. This was proposed by Margaret Hay-Campbell, and seconded by Debbie Francis. The vote was passed unanimously.

#### Officers Reports

Dawn Cleaver gave the President's report. She focused on the success of our Open Day held in 2015 for the first time in several years. Visitors came from as far as London, and we raised over £100 from the day. Members were thanked for their help with demonstrations.

2015 was a year in which the guild was involved in many other outside events, as 4 guild members had attended Summer school this year, Jill Shepherd organised the entertainments, and was assisted by Katie Weston. Montgomeryshire Guild was officially thanked for our role in this.

The Treasurer; Elaine James, presented the Annual Accounts. She noted that the Guild had received a number of donations, notably the equipment provided by Mavis Avery's family, some of which had been sold to provide funds. Guild coffers had also benefited from the sale of some surplus guild equipment. Pam Seagar proposed the acceptance of the accounts, this was seconded by Sue Collett, this motion was approved unanimously.

#### Election of Officers and new Committee Members

Dawn Cleaver and Elaine James were willing to continue as President and Treasurer, respectively. Katie Weston was prepared to act as Secretary, a job she is already doing in practise. The remaining committee members were also happy to continue in post. They were proposed by Amanda Laing, and seconded by Leo Cradle-Smith. This motion was approved by members present.

#### Website

Katie Weston had little to report on the website, other than to note that website fees will rise in 2016. Members are encouraged to use the website and lease with Katie over this.

#### 2016 Programme

Programme outlined and accepted. Suggestions are needed for 2017 by January or February so that speakers can be booked. The Guild will also contact Amanda Hanford to see if she will be in the area in 2017. If so this would probably be an additional meetings.

### **Guild Challenge for 2016**

Because the planned use of silk for the 2015 challenge was abandoned due to so many other events occurring the meeting agreed to use silk for 2016, there will be a short workshop on spinning silk in May 2016.

### **Guild Equipment**

The Guild membership has grown, and the number of newer spinners means that we need another spinning wheel. It was felt that a more modern wheel, with double treadle, in a compact castle style would be appropriate. Katie will source a Woolmakers Bliss.

The Guild also needs to continue purchasing books to keep the library fresh.

### **Food**

Members agreed to continue the parties of bringing a plate of food to share on occasions when workshops were taking place.

### **Membership Subscription**

Elaine James noted that Powys County Council is cutting grants to village halls. Current fees are low (£22 per day for the hall and kitchen and £32 when we hire the small room as well). Hall fees are likely to increase, possibly substantially in September 2017. No change in the membership subscription was proposed for 2016, but a rise is likely to occur in 2017.

### **Textile Museum**

The Guild is likely to be invited to demonstrate at the Textile Museum in Newtown once it has reopened.

### **Any Other Business**

A number of comments were made about the All Wales event in Llanidloes. Thanks were given to the Guild for organising money on the door, but it should be made clearer who has to pay, and who doesn't. There was also a suggestion of a reduced price from 2pm. It was felt the the entrance fee of £5 was high, but it was pointed out that the Minerva Centre is very very expensive to hire. The representatives who had seen the All Wales accounts were able to pass on information that the event usually only operates at a small profit, with the surplus being used to fund guild projects.

### **Date of next AGM**

10th December 2016