

Minutes of Get Together AGM 11am 11th February 2019
Maison pour Tous, Mazieres-en-Gatine

Committee attendance

Beryl Brennan	President
Neil Ritchie	Secretary
Martin Hughes	Northern Coordinator
Alison Sherwin	Treasurer
Julia Murray	Membership Secretary

Apologies

John Chard	Southern Coordinator
Jan Howse	Newsletter Editor

Members attendance- 37 in total (list available from Secretary)

Apologies for absence

Malcolm Howse

Pat Chard

Bernadine and Richard Smith

Diane and Keith Mousdale.

1 Minutes of 2018 AGM

Since these had been available on the GT website for many months it was proposed that they be taken as read.

2 Matters arising

2.1 In her absence, Diane Mousdale, appointed as GT auditor at the 2018 AGM, asked the Secretary to read a statement she had prepared indicating that she had been unable to audit GT accounts for 2018 due to lack of adequate information. She also queried the decision to invite a friend of the Treasurer to conduct the audit in her stead.

2.2 An extended discussion ensued as a result of which it was acknowledged that the decision made by members at the previous AGM should not be overturned without their consent and also that any audit should in future be undertaken by someone who is not associated with GT. Hence the Treasurer will meet with Diane Mousdale to finalise the accounts for 2018 which are currently incomplete and undertake the audit which will allow their formal adoption at a subsequent AGM. An independent auditor will then be sought for future years. The accounts for 2018 will be published in the GT newsletter once the audit is complete.

2.3 Plans to conduct a bilingual quiz are still being pursued.

3 President's report

3.1 The President noted that membership numbers remain healthy and gave a summary of the diverse range of activities which GT organises for its members, thanking all the volunteers who make them happen. Particular credit was due to the History Group this year for the memorable and highly successful event held to commemorate the centenary of the 1918 armistice.

3.2 The behind the scenes contribution made by Andy Walmsley in maintaining the GT website and facilitating the production of the GT calendar were acknowledged via a gift presented to him on behalf of the membership.

3.3 The essential role of the newsletter in keeping GT alive and thriving was also formally noted and particular good wishes were extended to current editor Jan Howse and her partner Malcolm for their forthcoming return to the UK.

4 Treasurer's report

4.1 The interim statement of accounts for 2018 showed a healthy balance, although it will diminish a little once donations are made to charities from funds raised by the History Group commemorative event. These will be made once currently outstanding sponsorship revenues are collected.

4.2 Bearing in mind that the accounts are not yet complete it was proposed (by John Buckley, seconded by Jonathan Townsend) that they be provisionally accepted and subsequently audited and adopted in accordance with the earlier discussion (see above).

4.3 It was suggested that the format in which accounts had been presented in previous years, which allowed comparison between the year just ended and its predecessor, be also followed henceforth.

5 Regional co-ordinators' reports

5.1 The Northern co-ordinator thanked all walk organisers by name.

5.2 The Southern co-ordinator was absent and a report was not available.

6 Election of officers.

Martin Hughes was nominated as President. Proposed by Jonathan Townsend, seconded by Jacqueline Lockett.

Gloria and Brian Miles were nominated to job share as Northern Coordinator. Proposed by Martin Hughes, seconded by Neil Ritchie.

Carol Andrews was nominated as Secretary. Proposed by Lavinia Galloway, seconded by Alison Sherwin.

Ken Chamberlin was nominated as Newsletter Editor. Proposed by Kathryn Sangster, seconded by Grant Sangster.

7 AOB

7.1 The History Group venue will change from the now closed Voyageurs (Menigoute) to Bistro des Amis (Fomperron). Other ideas about future venues are welcome and should be submitted to Jonathan Townsend.

7.2 Roger Amsden thanked the officers who were standing down for their contributions to GT and presented each with a token of appreciation on behalf of the members.

Meeting finished. 11.45