The Anthony Powell Society
Registered Charity No.: 1096873

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Saturday 28 October 2006
Swedenborg Society, 20-21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1

Present: Patric Dickinson (Chairman), Jill Barton, Graham Davie, Dr Joanne Edmonds, Dr Tony Edmonds, Dr Derek Hawes, Michael Helm, Stephen Holden (Trustee), Philip Ivory, Dr David Lowis, Jan Mair, Peter Mair, Dr Keith Marshall (Hon. Secretary), Noreen Marshall (Hon. Archivist), Dr Graham McCarthy, Dr Derek Miles, Alastair Morrison, Prue Raper, Guy Robinson, Tony Robinson (Trustee), Victor Spouge, Elwin Taylor, Lt-Col. Peter Taylor, John Trotter

Apologies: Julian Allason, Dr Nick Birns, Jill Chalmers, Dorothy Davie, Peter Haley-Dunne, Dr David Hallett, Dr Catherine Hoffmann, Chris Hoskin, Josandra Janisch, Kevin Jewell, Hans Johansson, Peter Lemmey, Hugh Massingberd, Nigel Maxwell, Jonathan Noakes, Dr Peter Payan, Michael Phelps, Stephen Pyskoty-Olle, Jeanne Read, Regina Rehbinder, Prof. Harry Ricketts, Bob Rollason, Jean Rollason, Elizabeth Savidge, Derek Simpson

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence

1. The Chairman, Patric Dickinson, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. The Hon. Secretary had received apologies for absence from those members listed above together with 15 proxy votes to be cast in favour of all the motions.

2. Minutes of 2005 AGM

1. The minutes of the 2005 AGM had been circulated in advance of the meeting.
2. There being no matters arising the minutes were approved unanimously and were signed by the Chairman.

3. Receive the Annual Report & Accounts

1. The Annual Report 2006 had been circulated to members in advance and was presented to the meeting by Hon. Secretary, summarising the key points from his "Secretary's Report".
2. Kevin Jewell is standing down at this meeting as Hon. Treasurer and Prof. Ian Young is also standing down as a Trustee. Thanks were recorded to Kevin and Ian for their work for the Society over the last several years.
3. The strategy review which the Executive Committee have undertaken over the last year has shown that the Society is proceeding in the right direction. The first tangible result of the review is the launch at this meeting of the Society's journal *Secret Harmonies*. The Secretary expressed thanks to Dr Christine Berberich, Dr Nicholas Birns and Stephen Holden for their efforts to realise the journal.

4. The Secretary once again expressed the Society's thanks and appreciation to The Wallace Collection for their generosity in hosting the Centenary Conference and for their Anthony Powell exhibition last winter.
5. Thanks were also recorded to Noreen Marshall (Hon. Archivist), Stephen Holden and Hugh Massingberd – the small committee who assisted with the initial concepts for the Wallace's exhibition. Noreen was thanked for leading the group and for on-going liaison with the Wallace on the exhibition. Hugh was thanked for his work identifying and location possible exhibits at a time when, unknown to everyone, he was unwell.
6. Stephen Holden was thanked for his work as *Newsletter* Editor; the *Newsletter* continues to go from strength to strength.
7. The proceedings of the Centenary Conference are still in preparation. It is hoped they will be published early in 2007.
8. The next conference will be on Saturday 8 September 2007 at University of Bath. The 2009 conference is planned to be in Washington, DC.
9. The Annual Report 2004 was accepted unanimously.

4. Accounts Year Ending 31 March 2006

1. The Chairman briefly presented the accounts for the last period.
2. Since publication of the Annual Report the accounts have been independently examined (copies were available at the meeting and are attached below); they are slightly less detailed than the accounts given in the Annual Report.
3. The Chairman noted the inclusion in the examined accounts of reference to the Society's ongoing liabilities (publication of conference proceedings, pre-paid subscriptions).
4. The Chairman wishes to work with the in-coming Treasurer to investigate ways of making the accounts more detailed without incurring an unreasonable administrative burden.
5. Independent examination of the accounts is required only if income or expenditure is over £10,000; this is likely to happen only in conference years.
6. Fees for this year's examination will be included in the current year's accounts.
7. The Hon. Secretary indicated that he was working on rationalisation of merchandise pricing and an annual valuation of the stocks of merchandise.
8. All considered the Society had a good year financially with a small surplus being reported.
9. There being no further questions the accounts were unanimously approved.

5. Appointment of Simon Russell Beale as President

1. The Executive Committee requested the meeting to approve the appointment of Simon Russell Beale as the Society's President.
2. Simon Russell Beale is one of the most accomplished actors of his generation and members will need no reminding of his brilliant characterisation of Widmerpool in the television adaptation of *Dance*. In the course of his speech opening the Wallace Collection's Powell exhibition in November 2005 it became clear that Simon was also a considerable fan of Powell's

work. The Executive are therefore delighted that Simon has agreed to be the Society's President.
3. Simon Russell Beale was unanimously approved as Society President.

6. Election of Executive Officers

1. The following were nominated:
   Chairman: Patric Dickinson
   Hon. Secretary: Dr Keith C Marshall
   Hon. Treasurer: Dr Derek Miles
2. There being no other nominations these candidates were elected unopposed.

7. Election of Executive Committee Members

1. The following were nominated: Dr Christine Berberich, Dr Nicholas Birns, Leatrice Fountain, Stephen Holden, Antony Robinson, Elwin Taylor.
2. There being no other nominations these candidates were elected unopposed.

8. Questions from the Floor

1. The Secretary replied Tony Edmonds indicating that the Journal would be available for purchase by libraries as well as members. The pricing had not yet been set, but the usual practice of the institutional price to be higher than that for individuals was noted.
2. Sandy Morrison suggested that Hilary Spurling be invited to talk to the Society. Although Hilary had spoken at the Centenary Conference the request was noted.
3. Replying to Stephen Holden, John Trotter confirmed that the Folio Society is publishing the first trilogy of Dance in 2007. Sadly the Society has received no information about this.
4. Those present were reminded of the AP Birthday Lunch on Saturday 2 December.
5. The Secretary reported that Michael Meredith has retired as Eton College Librarian; he has been succeeded by Nick Baker, previously his deputy. Michael remains responsible for Eton's Modern Collections, so will still be very much involved with Powell.
6. Future events being planned are an evening of music from *Dance* presented by Paul Guinery and a visit to the Nottinghamshire village of Widmerpool. Further events are dependent on the availability of volunteers to do the organisation.
7. The Secretary indicated that other publications are under discussion for the future, although currently there are no firm plans beyond the monograph of the talks from the "*Dance* for Readers" sessions held at the Wallace Collection.
8. Julian Allason and others have been revising the Wikipedia entry on Powell. Further contributions from members would be welcomed.
9. The Chairman expressed thanks to the Hon. Secretary and all members of the Executive Committee for their work during the year and to all those present for their attendance.

The formal business of the meeting was followed by a talk **Powell's Americans** by Drs Joanne & Tony Edmonds.

THE ANTHONY POWELL SOCIETY (Reg Charity No 1096873)
EXAMINED ACCOUNTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	2006	2005
RECEIPTS	£	£
Membership subscriptions	7096	4013
Conference	14994	50
Other events	610	125
Merchandise	581	633
Donations	417	578
Commission on book sales	253	161
Inland Revenue	1330	-
Other income	74	54
Investment Income	840	315
Total	**26195**	**5929**
PAYMENTS		
Conference	10220	2081
Events	1042	294
Merchandise	255	103
Printing	3310	1442
Postage	447	344
Telephone and conference calls	295	138
Society membership	15	15
Insurance	133	116
Bank charges	763	354
Other charges	81	18
Total	**16561**	**4905**
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS	**9634**	**1024**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 MARCH 2006

MONETARY ASSETS		
Bank Accounts :		
HSBC Current account	2609	2808
CAF Conference account	7380	7091
Reserve account	17648	8104
Gift Aid recoverable	1200	1330
OTHER ASSETS: Stock of merchandise		
LIABILITIES		
Cost of publishing proceedings	2000	
Subscriptions received in advance	2544	