The Anthony Powell Society

Registered Charity No.: 1096873

Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Saturday 21 October 2023
Held at St James's Piccadilly London W1

Members Present: Patric Dickinson (Vice-President), Robin Bynoe (Chairman and Trustee), Mary-Louise Stewart (Hon. Treasurer and Trustee), Paul Milliken (Hon. Secretary and Trustee), John Blaxter (Asst. Secretary and Trustee), Harry Mount (Trustee), Christine Apperley, Emmett Cruddas, Stephen Holden, Elwin Taylor.

Members Apologies : Colin Donald, Eddie Hathaway, Keith and Noreen Marshall, Graham Page, Prue Raper, Guy Robinson, Prof. John Roe.

1. Welcome and Chairman's Introductory Comments

1. Paul Milliken welcomed members and explained the order of business. Copies of the agenda and the draft Annual Report and Accounts were made available.
2. Robin Bynoe started by mentioning those who had volunteered to help with the management of the Society. Mary-Lou Stewart has taken over as Treasurer from Graham Page who has agreed to stay on as a member of our Executive Committee. Stephen Helmsley has become the new scrutineer of our accounts. Ferdy Mount is our new President. Robin added that we are still too reliant on Keith Marshall's goodwill in his Shop and Membership roles and asked members to consider volunteering for one these roles.
3. Robin commented that our regular Zoom lectures have continued and to a very high standard. They will be published by the Society in due course. The visit to the Chantry organised by Stephen Walker was a singular success. Our annual lecture by Simon Barnes was well attended and forcefully argued that *Dance* was a love story (with Jean Templer as the love object). Robin added that he was particularly pleased that we were able to publish Inez Holden's *Late Stories* (co-edited by Robin and Jeff Manley) thanks to the enthusiastic co-operation of Ariane Bankes who controls the Holden estate.
4. Robin mentioned the project to revamp the Society's website which aims both to improve the user experience for members and also to help attract new members and to provide an improved means for making electronic payments.
5. Robin concluded by thanking all those who had contributed to the Society during the year including our Secretary and Treasurer and also Stephen and Alison Walker for their delivery of our excellent quarterly Newsletter and Number #10 of the *Secret Harmonies* series.

2. To Confirm the Minutes of the 2022 AGM

1. The draft Minutes were confirmed as final with 15 votes in favour including 5 proxy votes.
2. The Hon. Secretary would forward the Minutes to the Chairman for signature.

3. To Receive and Confirm the 2023 Annual Report

1. The Chairman and Hon. Secretary had drafted the Annual Report and made this available to members.
2. The Report covered the period up to the end of March 2023 and included details on membership, key events and developments as well as activities ensuring compliance both with

the aims of the Society and with the requirements of the Charity Commission. The Report can be found on the Society's website.

3. The Hon. Secretary presented the highlights in the Report and also mentioned some recent developments such as the approval for the placing of a commemorative plaque at 1 Chester Gate and the issuing of a 2024 Society calendar.
4. The draft Report received 15 votes in favour including 5 proxy votes with none against. The Report was confirmed as being accepted by members.

4. To Receive and Confirm the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2023

1. The Hon Treasurer had prepared draft Accounts and these had been made available to members in advance as part of the 2023 Annual Report. The draft Accounts had also been independently scrutinised.
2. The Accounts showed a small deficit of £391. An adjustment had been made to recognise the liability incurred by the '4 years for 5' offer. The Hon. Treasurer noted that steps were being taken to increase the interest received for monies on deposit. Subscription fees had been held at their current level but remained under review as postage rates had increased significantly.
3. Overall given that the Society's reserves remained healthy, the Hon. Treasurer concluded that the Society was in a sound financial position.
4. The draft Accounts received 15 votes in favour including 5 proxy votes with none against. The Accounts were confirmed as being accepted by the members. The Annual Report and Accounts can be found on the Society's website at www.anthonypowell.org

5. Elect Three Trustees

1. There are three vacancies due to the expiration of their 3 year terms for Robin Bynoe, Jeff Manley and John Roe. All have indicated their willingness to continue for a further term and the Trustees asked members to approve their appointments on this basis.
2. Robin Bynoe, Jeff Manley and John Roe each received 15 votes in favour, including 5 proxy votes with none against.
3. As a result the meeting approved the appointment of the above as Trustees of the Society each for a further 3 year term.
4. The Hon. Secretary informed the meeting that Prue Raper had confirmed that she was standing down as a Trustee at this AGM for health reasons. Prue was thanked for her service as a Trustee.

6. Confirmation of Patric Dickinson as Vice President

1. Patric comes to the end of his 5 year term at this AGM. The Trustees invited the AGM to confirm the re-appointment of Patric Dickinson.
2. The meeting confirmed the re-appointment with 15 votes in favour including 5 proxy votes.

This concluded the 2023 AGM.

Paul Milliken
Hon. Secretary
30 December 2023