Registered Charity No. 1006211 Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2658616



Patron: Sir Chris Bonington CVO, CBE, DL

Annual General Meeting

Held by Zoom
On Tuesday 6th October 2020 at noon.

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Present

Nigel Bidgood, Clive Burgess, Quincey Connell, Mike Cross (Chairman), Will Close-Ash, Graham Derrick, Ted Grey, Al Hakan, Dick Griffiths, Joe McDermott, Roger Miller, Bob Schroter, Haydyn Tanner, Gemma Wardle, David Williams.

Apologies

Mike Blakey, Luke Fairchild, Jess Kelly, Honor Wilson-Fletcher.

Minutes of AGM 2019

Minutes of the AGM held on 8th October 2019 were accepted as a true record.

Appointment & Retirement, Trustees and Council

Haydyn Tanner having reached the end of a quinquennial term was re-elected unanimously. Al Hakan, a co-opted Trustee, was elected for a 5 year term.

It was noted that discussions with the Guide Association about Council membership had yielded no response for some time. The chairman would ask Jess Kelly to investigate.

Appointment of Officers

Trustees' appointment of officers and advisers were noted and agreed, They were Dick Griffiths (Treasurer), Roger Miller (Company Secretary), Shaun Mockett (Insurance Adviser), Paul Rignall (Web Editor), Bob Schroter (Evaluations), Quincy Connell (Membership), Gemma Wardle (Awards & Grants), David Williams (Legal Adviser). Quincy Connell had very recently taken over from Al Al Hakan who was thanked for his service as membership secretary. The status of Ted Grey and Tony Land as consultants was confirmed.

It was noted that amongst other vacancies those of chairman of an operations committee and coordinator of ambassadors required revisiting as part of a replanning process that would begin at the Council meeting immediately following this general meeting.

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts (previously circulated)

Dick Griffiths (Treasurer) presented the Annual Accounts for 2019 which showed a welcome increase iin unrestricted funds to just over £19 thousand. Report & Accounts, previously circulated, were adopted. Since the end of 2019 YET had not suffered significantly financially from a dreadful year for expeditions although donations were down. In general funds, whilst significant insurance expenses still had to be paid, some other expenses were reduced and income had not been greatly affected. The grant fund had not been depleted because agreed grants had not been paid out for expeditions that did not run.

Last year's accounts had been inspected by Hugh Miller and the treasurer recommended that he be asked to do so again this year, which was accepted. The treasurer was authorised to make some small gift in recognition of this service.

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Chairman's Report (previously circulated)

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The chairman had drawn particular attention to the extra interest that participation in Explore at the RGS had generated last year and touched on other matters reported above but mainly concentrated on the effect that restrictions in response to pandemic disease had had this year: evaluation had all but stopped, awards had been made but could not be claimed, no Forum meeting had been possible and so on. A report with recommendations made by YET to the Parliamentary Education Select Committee had been widely publicised and YET would continue to defend expedition interests wherever it could. The Board of trustees had been strengthened by new appointments during the past year. Trustees would be seeking Council views on how YET should shape its policy in response to these difficult times and would then publish a fresh plan. He reported that an operaions committee of officers incorporated into the previous three year plan had not worked and the whole concept would have to be looked at again. He also suggested that YET's approach to promoting expeditioning through social media must be rethought and he intended to involve younger officers and Council members particularly in this process.

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Questions were asked about EPA and adventuremark to which only time would deliver satisfactory answers. Interest was also expressed in how a long running debate about replacing existing adventurous activity licencing arrangements and its interaction with the formation of Adventure UK was progressing. Graham Derrick, who is involved with Adventure UK, was able to report that, whilst there was hope for a voluntary scheme, agreement to any changes appeared still to be some way off.

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Other Business

Thanks were unanimously expressed to the Chairman for his continued endeavors in the past year.

Next Meeting

Board, November 19th.

Council, April 20th and October 12th 2021. The AGM would also take place on October 12th. It was intended at present that all these meetings take place online and, as a consequence, all except the AGM could be moved to 4pm to make attendance for those in employment easier.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.50