

Knitting and Crochet Guild 37th AGM – Saturday 4th July 2015 11a.m.

At The Edge, Endcliffe Village University of Sheffield

1/ Welcome and Apologies

The Chair of the meeting (Barbara Kolator) welcomed all delegates including all the Board Members: Tricia Basham, Maureen Wheeler, Jacqui Taylor and Annmarie Hedges.

52 Members were present and 36 proxies and apologies were received making the meeting quorate.

2/ Announcements

Evacuation procedures and Fire exits were pointed out and catering arrangements clarified.

Delegates were asked to wear their name tags at all times during the conference and to sign up for workshops.

3/ Minutes of the 36th AGM on 12th July 2014

Minutes of July should be 2013 not 2012. The minutes were agreed.

4/ Reports and Accounts 2014-15

Tricia Basham presented the reports and accounts for the year 2014 – 15.

Accounts were presented for the financial year ending March 2015. A Summary of the accounts is in the agenda.

Incoming resources, just over £29,000, a slight drop from 2014 figures as Gift Aid which was due in the year ended 31.03.2013 was not accrued in the correct year and over inflated figures for the year 31.03.14.

Voluntary income covers membership subscriptions and donations and totals £15,161, (subscriptions made up £12,000.) Going forward we need to maximise our membership levels.

Main expenditure costs are the rent of Lee Mills and maintenance of the Collection, the Convention and costs of producing and mailing Slipknot. The lease at Lee Mills will be up for renewal in December 2016.

Adoption of the Accounts was

Proposed by Linde Merrick

Seconded by Betty Wood

The accounts were unanimously accepted.

5/ Appointment of Directors

Barbara Kolator – Tricia Basham proposed, Jacqui Taylor seconded

Maureen Wheeler – Elspeth May, proposed, Jennifer Short seconded

Jacqui Taylor – Betty Wood, proposed, Rebecca Price seconded

Laura Miller – Barbara Kolator proposed, Annmarie Hedges seconded

All the Directors were duly elected.

6/ Appointment of Office Bearers

Tricia Basham as Treasurer.

Penny Ryan proposed, Emma Vining seconded

Barbara Kolator as Secretary

Tricia Basham proposed, Jennifer Short seconded

These were duly elected.

No nominations were received for Chair and Vice Chair

7/ Board Report on 2014-15

The Secretary presented her report: to summarise. This year's focus has been on getting the website up and running. This has been achieved. In the future we hope to attract and retain more members, advertisers and possibly "Friends of the Collection"

There has been a lot of good coverage in the Knitting press of The Guild especially highlighting "The

Collection". The Yarn stories Competition has also generated publicity and funds for the Guild. Also there has

been an increased and very active Guild presence at shows in the past year. Yarn winding in particular has proved to be a great hit.

Sarah Alderson, Marie Wright, Emma Vining, Anne Kingstone and Rita Taylor were thanked for their patterns which were donated to Ravelry with sales generating funds for the Guild. This was much appreciated.

The Collections team have been doing excellent work with Trunk Shows and lectures. The London Group has hit on a good format for meetings and is thriving and an additional South West London group has emerged. Newsletters have been sent out regularly to fill in the gaps in between Slipknots and information has been posted on Groupsaces. Hopefully now this will be on the website.

Information to be given to the News and Events Coordinator; Jacqui Taylor at news@kcguild.org.co.uk to put on the website.

Mailing lists have been rationalised, especially the Life Members and they have been asked to contribute to reminiscences about the early days of the Guild.

In summary the Secretary, on behalf of the Board reported a successful year with new members joining: 540 members to date, finances in a healthy state, a stable home for the collection and some thriving groups. However the negatives are: difficulties in retaining members, knowing what it is that they really want from their membership, and difficulty in attracting Board Members. It was felt that the Guild is seen by many knitters as a very specialist organisation for professionals rather than an organisation which maintains skills while at the same time promoting friendship and teaching and encouraging enthusiasts about the craft. Some of the questions arising from the discussion were: Getting Slipknot electronically, possibility of colour pages within the magazine.

Virtual Groups :Elspeth May has set up one in Scotland and it was felt that this was something that should be developed. Anthea Winterburn has also set up a virtual group for Wilts and Bath.

Linde Merrick offered to find out from the Embroiderers's Guild how they had dealt with the same situation of electronic and hard copies of their journal.

8/ Future of the Guild

Priorities and plans for 2015/16 it was felt that it would be important to publicise our website and find out how many people are using it. This information could be offered to advertisers.

The lease at Lee Mills will be coming up for renewal in December 2016. We should try look for potential sponsors/donors who could offer us a potential home for the collection.

The need for more Board Members was highlighted at present there will be 6 but to push things forward more are needed. So if anyone has any ideas we would love to hear them and have you join us.

The main priorities for next year are : Development of the website and renewal of the lease at Lee Mills.

9/ Any Other Business

Helen Jordan – Proposed a vote of thanks to all Board Members and volunteers.

The meeting concluded at 12.30pm