

PORLOCK HORTICULTURAL AND CRAFTS SOCIETY

AGM

Thursday 10th November 2016, 7.30pm

		Action
1	<p>Present – committee: Peter Day, Win Day, Kath Else, Chris Fitzgerald, Betty Glossop, Peter Leather, Lin Littlefield, Marilyn Murch, Paul Murch, Rita Swindells, Anna Toeman, Margaret Wildig</p> <p>In attendance: Sue Appleton, Jenny Britnell, David Swindells, Trevor Telling</p> <p>Apologies: Malcolm Appleton, Diana Dean</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 2015 AGM</p> <p>*These had been circulated prior to the meeting. No corrections were made so they were approved and signed by Paul.</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p>*There were none.</p>	
3	<p>Chairman’s Report – Paul Murch</p> <p>*Paul offered his thanks to the committee and their great team work.</p> <p>*He made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been an interesting and busy year with a number of events including five talks, a grafting workshop, two successful Shows, a Seed Swap, a stall at the Country Fair, an entry into the Flower Festival at St Dubricius Church and the trip to Forde Abbey. • Coming up in 2016 we have another Seed Swap, talks booked for February and April, and a trip to Sherborne Castle in June. • At the Spring Show the committee had made a presentation to Michael Marshall to mark 30 years of judging in Porlock. Despite his poor health he was able to come and receive his gift of a daffodil from Allerford Forge. • Paul thanked Margaret for organising the talks and hopes she will continue in this role. • Paul offered thanks to non-committee members who had stepped in to help at the shows – Alanna with lunches at both the Spring and Summer Shows, and Malcolm who took Paul’s role at the Summer Show. • Paul offered thanks to the sponsors and supporters whose contributions and donations make such a difference to the two Shows. We will be writing to them shortly to offer our thanks, and the hope that they will continue to be a sponsor next year. • As reported in the latest Members’ newsletter Porlock won the Inter-Gardening Club Quiz at Carhampton in October and would be back next year to defend the title! • It had been suggested last year that we should combine the AGM with a talk. It was acknowledged that nothing had been done about this but that it would be discussed at a committee meeting early next year. • Paul also acknowledged that we had failed to chase up non-paying members as agreed last year but that this will be implemented next year. • We had a very enjoyable committee dinner in January this year and will be doing the same again next year. 	
4	<p>Treasurer’s Report and Accounts – Rita Swindells</p> <p>*Rita circulated copies of the accounts to the year ended 30.09.16 which are on file with these minutes.</p> <p>*Rita made the following points regarding the General Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the talks, bar the one held during the afternoon last February and the one in September, had made a slight surplus. This is a good position to be in but it is important to stay alert to make sure this continues. • Membership is down by one on last year but the income is much lower because many of the Patrons have converted to Member. Do we need to do something to encourage more members? • The Antiques Fairs no longer hire the tables so this source of income has dropped. We do occasionally get other enquiries about table-hire and it was agreed to put in place a system for managing this which will be discussed at a committee meeting. • The visit to Forde Abbey made a loss of just £56 which is very pleasing for our first effort at organising a coach trip. It is hoped that, due to its success, we should now be 	

	<p>able to fill a coach and in the future cover all costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a surplus of £423 on the general account which is very pleasing. <p>*Rita made the following points about the Show Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a small loss on the Spring Show but a slight surplus on the Summer Show with an overall loss of just £80, which is excellent. • Income was slightly up and this is due largely to an increase in plant sales, Diana's efforts on the raffle and Paul and Marilyn's work collecting from the sponsors. • Expenditure has decreased from last year largely because we have not made any significant capital purchases! The one-off expenses include the gift for Michael Marshall and banqueting roll. • Cup engraving costs continue to increase and it was suggested we ought to think of a way to deal with this before it becomes too much of a drain. After some discussion it was suggested that we could approach a local company to do the engraving (hopefully at a special rate) and recommend this to winners. If they choose to go elsewhere then the Society would not reimburse them. This will be discussed further at a committee meeting. <p>The surplus across both accounts was £343 giving total funds available £5871. The accounts have been audited and approved by Trevor Telling. Thanks were offered to Rita and Trevor.</p>	
5	<p>Appointment of officers to the committee</p> <p><u>Chairman</u> – Paul Murch is happy to continue. No-one else was proposed. Paul's reappointment was approved by all.</p> <p><u>Treasurer</u> – Rita Swindells is happy to continue. No-one else was proposed. Rita's reappointment was approved by all.</p> <p><u>Secretary</u> – Anna Toeman is happy to continue. No-one else was proposed. Anna's reappointment was approved by all.</p>	
6	<p>Formation of new committee</p> <p>*All current members are happy to remain on the committee. No one else came forward to join so the committee therefore consists of Peter Day, Win Day, Diana Dean, Kath Else, Chris Fitzgerald, Betty Glossop, Peter Leather, Lin Littlefield, Marilyn Murch, Paul Murch, Rita Swindells, Anna Toeman and Margaret Wildig.</p>	
7	<p>AOB – from the agenda</p> <p>a) Seed Swap sub-committee – Marilyn, Lin and Anna agreed to oversee the event. They will meet in the New Year to make plans and then circulate to everyone.</p> <p>b) Trip to Sherborne Castle – Paul has made a preliminary booking for 50. Entry is £9.50 and the coach will cost £380 and, after discussion, a price of £19.50 per seat was agreed. Details will be circulated to members in their January newsletter with a deadline of end of February before the trip is opened up to a wider audience. Anna has already spoken to Frank at the Visitor Centre who is happy to hold the list and collect the money as last time.</p> <p>c) Planning meeting for the Country Fair – it was agreed that there are a number of committee items to discuss and these would be covered at the Spring Show planning meeting – the date proposed for this is Tuesday 7th February 2017, to be held in the Library.</p> <p>Any other business</p> <p>*Paul had proposed three dates for an after-Christmas committee dinner – he will collect responses and follow up.</p> <p>*Minehead Gardening Club has invited two members of PHACS (plus partners) to attend their Christmas Party at the end of November. Win, Peter, Lin and Anna said they would like to go.</p> <p>*Open Gardens – this will take place on 20th and 21st May 2017. It is being organised by the Visitor Centre but it is felt they might appreciate some additional help from PHACS committee members. Anna will discuss with Frank and Jenny and feedback to the committee for discussion at our next meeting.</p> <p>Paul concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and he is looking forward to working with us all again!</p>	