

PORLOCK HORTICULTURAL AND CRAFTS SOCIETY

AGM

Wednesday 27th November 2019, 7.15pm

		Action
1	<p>Present – committee: Diana Dean, John Denmark, Kath Else, Chris Fitzgerald, Betty Glossop, Peter Leather, Lin Littlefield, Marilyn Murch, Paul Murch, Anna Toeman, Margaret Wildig</p> <p>In attendance: Sue Appleton, Jenny Britnell, Sue Denmark, Pauline Garfield, Lorraine Hunt, Claire Kenward, Kath Mandry, Sue Marley, Vi Martin, Sheila Medlam, John Proudfoot</p> <p>Apologies: Malcolm Appleton</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of 2018 AGM</p> <p>*These were available at 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 reported on all the activities that have taken place in the last year including the successful Seed Swap and Coffee Morning; the excellent talks; a very enjoyable trip to Hartland Abbey; and two Shows and the Country Fair.</p> <p>*The programme for next year is taking shape and already in the diary are the Seed Swap, talks in February (Stumperies, Ferns and Shady Friends with Andrew Tolman) and April (Lydeard House Gardens by Mrs Vaun Wilkins), the Spring and Summer Shows and the trip. The destination chosen by the committee is Tyntesfield House with the date to be confirmed but likely to be late June. There will also be more talks, to be confirmed.</p> <p>*Paul also noted that Yatton Horticultural Society is hosting a talk by Nick Bailey in March 2020. If anyone is interested in going please see Paul who can book tickets.</p> <p>*Paul noted that Honorary Life Member Audrey Holley has passed away.</p> <p>*Paul thanked the whole committee for their hard work and support and highlighted those with particular roles. He proposed the appointment of a Plant Secretary to oversee the organisation of plants for sale at the shows and Country Fair. If any committee member or any member might be interested in this role please make themselves known!</p> <p>*Paul offered thanks to the Sponsors, both old and new, whose contributions makes a significant difference to balancing the books. Some make financial contributions and others offer raffle prizes and both help to ensure that the two Shows remain financially possible. The Society reciprocates by displaying all the sponsors and their contact details at both shows.</p> <p>*This year Porlock Horticultural and Crafts Society had been unable to put together a team for the Inter-Gardening Club quiz in Carhampton but hopes to do better in 2020!</p> <p>*Paul noted that there were many benefits to joining the committee, not least the post-Christmas dinner which will be again held in the Luttrell Arms in Dunster in January, and invited anyone interested in joining to come forward.</p> <p>There were no questions from the floor.</p>	
4	<p>Treasurer’s Report and Accounts – John Denmark</p> <p>*The accounts to the year ended 30th September 2019 were available at the meeting.</p> <p>*John made the following points regarding the General Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership of the Society had increased from 99 to 112 with 25 new members and 14 not renewing. There are 46 patrons and 66 members which is similar balance to previous years • John asked for subscriptions to be paid at the earliest opportunity if possible (renewal forms are sent out in January) • The trip to Hartland Abbey made a modest surplus as the coach had been full • The Country Fair and Seed Swap make useful contributions to funds as they both have low financial outlay, mostly requiring just an input of time and energy! • The talks at best break even but often make a loss because good speakers cost money • There was a slight loss on the account but this is largely due to the two donations made. One was to Porlock Vale Community Association for the planter located near the Methodist Church and the other was to David Thorpe who created and supports the 	

	<p>computer programme used to log all the show entries and results</p> <p>*John made the following points about the Show Account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The figures are largely similar to 2018 with the exception of the Show lunches. But these are now provided by Jan Middleton • The sponsors ensure the losses made by the shows are significantly less than they might be • The Shows made a loss of £249 <p>*The loss across both accounts was £311.60. There would have been a surplus but for the donations. Total funds available at the end of the year of £6,040.04.</p> <p>Questions from the floor:</p> <p>1) <i>What does the Society get for its RHS affiliation?</i> Anna responded that we receive the monthly The Garden magazine, have access to the show stationery, can use the logo on our correspondence, can get a Banksian Medal and can arrange visits to RHS and RHS affiliated gardens for the members</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> – John Denmark is happy to continue. No-one else was proposed. John'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> <p><u>Entries Secretary</u> – Peter Leather is happy to continue. No-one else was proposed. Peter's reappointment was approved by all.</p>	
6	<p>Formation of new committee</p> <p>*All remaining members of the committee are happy to continue. No one else came forward to join so the committee therefore consists of Diana Dean, John Denmark, Kath Else, Chris Fitzgerald, Betty Glossop, Peter Leather, Lin Littlefield, Marilyn Murch, Paul Murch, Anna Toeman and Margaret Wildig.</p>	
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>a) Sue Appleton offered her thanks to the committee for all they do throughout the year</p> <p>b) Thanks were offered to all the non-committee members who support and help out at events. The Society is going from strength to strength and membership is increasing which is very good news</p> <p>Paul concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.</p>	

The meeting was followed by refreshments and then an excellent demonstration of sugarcraft by Rachel Sagrott.

Approval of minutes (to take place at the 2020 AGM) –