

THE SHAW SOCIETY

Founded 1941

MINUTES of the 76TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, 26th March 2018 at 7-30pm

at the Actors Centre, 1a Tower Street, off Earlham Street, London WC2H 9NP

Present: Trustees: Chair: Dr Anne Wright; Officers: Secretary Mark Egerton, Treasurer Evelyn Ellis; Sue Morgan. Members: Jonas Cemm; Maureen Clark-Darby; Ray Diamond; John Dixon; Michael Friend; Lorenzo Mason; Cara Saul; Moya Simmonds; Glenda Sylvester; Helen Tierney; Chris & Penny Wallace; Alexis Ward; Martin Wright;

Apologies: Richard Digby Day; Brian Freeland; Alan Knight; Toni Kanal

1. **Minutes of last year's AGM** (held on 17th February 2017) were agreed and signed.
2. **Matters arising:** there were no matters arising that were not covered in the Agenda
3. **Chair's Report:** Dr Anne Wright
4. **Treasurer's Report and Accounts** (copy attached)
5. **Actors Company/Project Shaw 2020**
Jonas Cemm, Artistic Director, introduced the newly formed Shaw Society Actors' Company which will operate under the name *Project Shaw 2020*. Born out of the annual Summer Festival at Shaw's Corner under the auspices of Michael Friend Productions, the new company will provide a bank of enthusiastic Shavian actors to take full advantage of Shaw coming out of copyright in 2020.
6. **Re-election of President and Vice-Presidents:**
President: Sir Michael Holroyd ;
Vice-Presidents: Nicholas Barter; Dame Judi Dench; Richard Dietrich; Richard Digby-Day; Michael Friend; Toni Kanal; Edward Kemp; Hayward Morse; Barbara Smoker; Sylvia Syms OBE; Sam Walters; and the current Mayor of Camden.
New nomination: Bonnie Greer OBE, playwright, novelist, critic and broadcaster
Proposed by Lorenzo Mason; Seconded by Sue Morgan.
7. **Election of officers:** The following Officers of the Society stood for re-election:
Chair Anne Wright; **Secretary** Mark Egerton; **Treasurer** Evelyn Ellis
Proposed by Maureen Clark-Darby; Seconded by Jonas Cemm.
8. **Election of Trustees:** Mark Egerton, Evelyn Ellis, Alan Knight, Sue Morgan and Anne Wright stood for re-election. Maureen Clark-Darby stood for election for the first time.
Proposed by Lainey Shaw; Seconded by Michael Friend
9. **Election of Executive Committee:** Mark Egerton, Evelyn Ellis, Alan Knight, Sue Morgan and Anne Wright stood for re-election. Jonas Cemm, Abbey Norman, and Lainey Shaw stood for election for the first time.
Proposed by Michael Friend, seconded by Lorenzo Mason
10. **Any other business:** There was no other business.

The Annual General Meeting ended at 8-20pm and was followed by ***Bernard Shaw: Suffragist or Sexist?*** A brief examination of Shaw's attitude to female suffrage and his conflicting views on women. Presented by our Actors Company, directed by Jonas Cemm.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1ST JANUARY – 31ST DECEMBER 2017

The Financial Statements for 2017 have been reviewed by the Independent Examiner.

Comments:

1. Income

Subscriptions income received for the period is £2,563 (2016: £2,331), up 10% year on year. This increase is due to the increase in the Society's subscription rates for 2017. Gift Aid receivable included in donations income for this year and last is £581 (2016: no claim was made).

Donations and legacies: Donations received during the year were £1,451.

2. Expenditure

The Shavian: costs for the year were £1,909 (2016 £1,712) up in 2017 by 11%. This is due to increased circulation and extra copies printed for marketing purposes.

Marketing: Cost for the year was £249 (2016: £64) up this year by 289%. The main reason for this increase was the Society's involvement with the H.G. Wells Conference. The Society produced promotional bags and a banner for the event. This is a one off exceptional expenditure. These products will be used for future marketing purposes.

Administration:/supplies/postage/website the cost for 2017 is £179 (2016: £68). The main reason for the increase this year is: The Society buys supplies when needed and takes the cost in the year they are incurred rather than holding stock in the balance sheet.

Monthly Meetings the cost for the year is £1,254 (2016: £1,059) up 18%. Considering that this is the Society's first year at the much more suitable Actors Centre, compared to prior year where they were held in the Conway Hall, the increase in costs is surprisingly modest. Our aim is to grow the Society's audience to cover these costs going forward.

Playwriting Award Fund: the expenditure for 2017 is £570 (this is a bi-annual event and is entirely funded from the legacy of £5,000 received in 2010). These funds are ring fenced and are held in the Society's restricted reserves. Expenditure is prize money of £500 and minimal marketing costs. £679 remains in this fund which will enable us to launch a new Award in 2018. Additional funds/donor will be required in 2019 to complete the award.

The Society made a surplus for the year of £1,057 (2016: surplus of £164). The unrestricted funds made a gain in the year of £1,578, while the restricted fund made a deficit of £521 in 2017. This has increased the Society's Capital and Reserves for the year to £6,597 (2016: £5,919). The Development Fund, which stands at £3,037 as at 31ST December 2017, is included in this figure. £5,918 is held in unrestricted funds and £679 is held in restricted funds.

Comments:

Administration costs which include The Shavian were up year on year and were just under £112 less than membership subscription income for the year.

THE SHAW SOCIETY			
BALANCE SHEET			
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017			
	2017		2016
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	£232		£742
Cash at bank	£8453		£6089
	£8685		6,831
CREDITORS: amounts falling within one year	£2088		£1290
	£6597		5,541
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Restricted	£679		£1250
Unrestricted funds	£5918		£4291
	£6597		5,541
These financial statements were approved by the board on 26 March 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:-			
Evelyn Ellis			Anne Wright
Treasurer			Chair