

**FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Castle Green Pavilion, Hereford on  
Thursday, 19th October, 2017 at 7.00pm

**Present:**

Ian Yemm, Wilma Gilmour, Caroline Gerstad, Cathy Taggart, Stephen O'Dell, Patricia Tierney, Susan Crawshaw, Martin Flowers, Francis & Caroline Aldhouse, Margaret Jones, Sue & Mike Griffin, Paul & Margaret Jackson, Elaine Underwood, Philip Harvey, Malcolm James, Pete Redding, Amanda Attfield, Steve Cameron, Paddy Nugent, Annabel Oxford, Annie Lilwall, Katie Bott, Joy Harvey, Mark Hubbard and Lisa Richardson.

**Apologies:**

Michael Tavinor, Heidi Macdougall, Liz Hughes, Jenni Morgan, Bill & Annie Davison, Mark & Maggie Goddard, Michael Mable, Clarence Attfield, Andree Poppleston, Colette Priestley, Julie Brown & Dave Quine, Mary & Martin Kibblewhite, Heather Davies, Penny O'Dell, Leo Caithness, Rebecca Huggett.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted as being a true record of the proceedings.

**Proposed** by Joy Harvey and **seconded** by Francis Aldhouse. Carried unanimously.

**Report from the Chair**

Looking forward to the future, the Friends of Castle Green (FoCG) is moving to a different place. The Capital Asset Transfer (CAT) of the Pavilion to FoCG is both a massive opportunity and a huge responsibility. It involves bids for thousands to progress what we want to do and millions for the programme of restoration and development. The future is not just about standing still but developing and doing more. It is all with the lawyers at this stage but everything is moving at a glacial pace. Our aim is to make it bigger and better for future generations and, as part of that, we will be honouring the history of the Pavilion & Castle Green and its place in the community as well. Tribute is sincerely paid to all the volunteers for the hours of work involved and to the members for their support and commitment. Especial thanks to Joy Harvey without whom we would not have got the Awards for All grant for the community consultation. We need resource and expertise for the successful fulfillment of the project and will be augmenting the Director Group with some paid help.

**Treasurers' Report**

Steven presented the Income & Expenditure account and Balance Sheet for 2016, which had proved to be a successful year. There was a surplus in the Income & Expenditure account. Lettings and equipment hire had contributed greatly plus each of the events had made a surplus. Equipment purchases were not added to the capital account. The balance at the end of December 2016 was some £21,000 the same as last year, after the advance payment of the Awards for All grant was deducted. All in all, a good year. Copies of the accounts had been circulated and additional copies were available.

**Adoption of the accounts** was **proposed** by Sue Griffin, **seconded** by Ian Yemm and carried unanimously

### **Election of Directors**

A new Finance Director needs to be secured in the coming year. Steve is willing to stay on while we move this forward and after the hand-over, the new Director will be co-opted onto the Board until the appointment is ratified at the AGM in 2018. Joy Harvey is resigning as Director but the current Directors remaining are willing to continue in post:

Chair: Amanda Attfield

Vice-Chair: Mark Hubbard

Treasurer: Steven Cameron

Board Secretary: Lisa Richardson

Community Engagement: Annabel Oxford

Building: Paddy Nugent

**Re-election en bloc** was **proposed** Joy Harvey, **seconded** by Frances Aldhouse and carried unanimously

Mark, Director with responsibility for Events, gave a short presentation on the themes emerging from the Community Consultation – Hereford's Castle Green in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. A number of World Cafes have been held, when ideas were written on the paper table cloths, including one very successful evening for 35 under 24 yr. olds, after which our electronic social media status soared. Planning for Real consultations were held at the River Carnival, Historical Hereford Day & Midsummer Fair and the Herefordshire Country Fair. Castle Green is a very early public park, one of the best pleasure gardens in the country. It can be incredibly intimate & majestic, with structure & form, in the heart of the city & Ian, Susan & Rachel, our garden volunteers, have worked tirelessly to make the gardens more natural & sustainable. Successful events are held and capital grants obtained for the Green. The River Bank project, clearing the bank & planting with bulbs was very successful but the otters have returned to the river and seek refuge on the bank. The next plan was to clear the bank section by section over a three year period but even this has not happened so we are now planning a volunteer group to work on it. Learning the lessons from the past – Redcliffe Gardens once a thriving market garden complete with gardener's cottage, was made over in the 70s but lack of money for maintenance shut down the water feature. The bandstand was too near residents and used by a large number of young people in winter so had to go. The historical burial ground management has been haphazard but the structure of the Pavilion is still there under the Council refurbishment. Assets & liabilities: The toilet block is a liability as the sewers need sorting out but it is one of the few blocks left open in Hereford; The Bowling Green costs £15,000 annually to maintain & it is doubtful if the club could maintain that should the Council withdraw support. A suggested plan for the redevelopment of the Pavilion was shown.

Lists of the themes emerging from the consultation were around the room & members were invited to place their ten stars against the ones they considered the most important.

### **Any Other Business**

The Board requested authorization for a Christmas meal for Directors only to come out of the general funds.

**Agreement proposed** by Sue Griffin, **seconded** by Pete Redding and carried unanimously.

Mark Hubbard declared the meeting closed, thanked everyone for coming and invited them to enjoy supper.

**Date & venue of next AGM:** To be arranged.