

## **Dore Village Society**

Registered Charity No: 1017051

### **Draft Minutes of the 52nd Annual General Meeting held on 7th June 2017**

Present: Keith Shaw (Chairman), Colin Robinson (Treasurer), David Crosby, Christopher Pennell, Dorne Coggins, David Bearpark, John Eastwood and 21 DVS members.

#### **Minutes of the AGM held on 8th June 2016.**

1. The minutes were approved.

#### **Matters arising not on the agenda.**

2. There were no matters arising.

#### **Trustees' Report.**

3. The Trustees' Report had been available in the DVS office prior to the meeting and copies were circulated at the meeting.
4. Keith Shaw, as chairman of the DVS committee, presented the Report. He noted that it was a formal and important document and was in the format recommended by the Charity Commission. He also noted that the contents of the Report had been summarised in Dore to Door.
5. In addition to the formal Report, he also wanted to highlight some key aspects of the work of the DVS. In particular, he wished to refer to the large number of people, in addition to the committee members, who helped and assisted the DVS in carrying out its activities.
6. The Doreways Group grew in size and vigour all the time and provided assistance and ideas which the DVS committee supported and funded. Geoff Cope had been a stalwart, taking the lead on erecting (and taking down) the Christmas lights and trees; and a successor to him was now urgently needed. Others organised the Christmas Lantern Parade. The breadth of community assistance was very much welcomed.
7. The monthly publication Dore to Door remained a significant and important community magazine. And it was free to all living in Dore. We are indebted to John Eastwood, as editor, for producing such full and interesting editions. John was available every Friday morning in the DVS room in the Old School. Again, there was also a large team behind this activity, a professional team dealing with the production, layout and advertising, together with an extensive team of local people (over 60) who distributed the magazine to all houses in Dore.
8. The Dore Show committee also needed a mention, to recognise all the planning and organising that went into this event. And this was not just on the day of the Show, but all the background and preparation work that was needed, involving upwards of 65 local people, to make this a continuing success.
9. A current major issue was the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Dore. This was taking a huge amount of time and effort, involving more than 40 people, all working to try and ensure that Dore achieved this Plan, which would then give the community an involvement in planning decisions affecting the area of Dore.
10. Turning to retiring members of the DVS committee, the chairman wished to thank David Bearpark, Angela Rees and Roger Viner for their work on the committee. He was very grateful to them for their commitment and involvement.
11. Following the chairman's speech, approval was sought for the formal Trustees' Report. Its adoption was formally proposed and seconded; and it was approved unanimously.

#### **Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2016.**

12. Colin Robinson, the DVS Treasurer, introduced the accounts for the year 2016. He noted that the income and expenditure account on page 6 summarised all activity in the year; and he noted that the figures shown were very similar to those for the

previous financial year, with the overall surplus on the year being £1653, compared with £2050 in 2015.

13. He noted that the income from Dore to Door amounted to c.£27,000 and that the publication made a surplus of c.£14,000 in the year. It was this surplus that enabled the DVS to make its annual donations and fund its projects and activities (see notes 8 and 10 to the accounts).
14. Colin also drew attention to the balance sheet on page 7, which showed general funds increasing to £41,450 and total accumulated assets amounting to £96,450.
15. A recommendation to approve the accounts was proposed and seconded and approved unanimously.
16. Colin Robinson also noted his thanks to Andrew Beard for his meticulous work in scrutinising the accounts and providing his Independent Examiner's Report on them.

#### **Election of Committee members.**

17. The Chairman noted that there were nine vacancies this year, due to current members coming to the end of their three year term, together with resignations and retirements.
18. Three members had submitted their names for re-election to the committee (Dawn Biram, Philip Howes and Kath Lawrence) and there were four individuals who had been co-opted to the committee during the year and now needed to have their membership formalised (Tina Havenhand, David Hayes, Christopher Pennell and Amanda Hughes).
19. Accordingly, as there were more vacancies than proposed members, the committee elections were not contested. He asked that all those nominated were elected; and the meeting agreed unanimously that this should be so.

#### **Changes to the Constitution.**

20. The Chairman outlined the discussion that had been held by the committee regarding the need to ensure that membership of the committee was not simply self-perpetuating and the need to encourage the regeneration of the committee over time. Discussion had also taken place about succession planning; and a shadowing principle for key roles had been adopted.
21. It was therefore proposed by the committee that there should be a maximum period for any individual committee member of 12 years, whether this total was served consecutively or over a number of separate periods of membership. This proposed change to the Constitution was proposed by Andrew Beard and seconded by Christopher Pennell and approved unanimously.
22. A second, administrative amendment to the Constitution was proposed, concerning the process of communicating with members. This was also approved unanimously.

#### **Any other Business.**

23. The Chairman reminded the meeting how well received the Dore to Door publication was and how important it was to the DVS's finances. There were about 60 volunteers involved in different aspects of its publication and distribution. We now needed more assistance in the area of distribution, both a main distributor (someone to take packs of magazines to individual distributors), as well as more distributors. He asked for anyone interested in assisting to get in touch with him.
24. The Chairman also noted that the aim was for the running costs of the DVS to be funded by membership subscriptions. However, in the last few years this has not been happening and there was a need for more people to become paid up members of the DVS. He requested that all present encouraged friends and neighbours to become DVS members.

#### **Presentation.**

25. Following the completion of the formal business of the AGM, a presentation was made about the campaign to save the trees in Dore. Ann Anderson, Margaret Peart and Sue Unwin reported on the approach being adopted by the Sheffield City Council.

26. There was a report in 2007 that indicated that of the c.38,000 trees in Sheffield, about 1,000 needed to be replaced. By January 2017 this number had increased to c.10,000. The number to be felled in Dore has kept being increased and now stands at c.200.
27. Despite citywide campaigning, the City Council was deaf to all the arguments about the value of keeping mature trees; and the meeting was presented with evidence and data relating to this.
28. Instead, the Council had seemed to concentrate on manipulating data and procedures. For instance, after initial widespread protests about the tree felling, they had established an Independent Tree Panel to which could be referred proposed fellings where there was opposition to the felling. This had turned out to be a sham, as the Council had refused to change course even when the Panel had recommended that alternatives to felling were available and that the trees in question were in good health.
29. There was particular concern about trees in Abbeydale Park Rise, Chatsworth Road and the Vernon Oak. Local protests to forestall these fellings were ongoing which had, so far, been successful.
30. Members were invited to join the campaign to keep healthy trees in Dore.
31. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the meeting for the illustrative and heartfelt presentation.

The meeting concluded with refreshments, allowing attendees and committee members to chat together.

Signed:

Date: