

SALTFORD & KEYNSHAM FLOWER CLUB

**Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting
25th January 2022 14:05pm
Venue Saltford Golf Club**

Mrs Janet Gough - President
Mrs Val Purkis - Chair
Mrs Julie Latham - Treasurer (in-coming)
Mrs Sue Hollamby - Social Secretary

A total of 14 members attended the AGM.

1. Apologies were received from Janet Gough, Maggie Yates, Ruth Hutchings, Linda Court, Ange Gregory, Shelia Reed & Julie Latham.

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting **25th May 2021** were published on the website and emailed to members & were accepted as a true record.

That the Minutes be accepted was proposed by Val Purkis and seconded by Christine Pidcock.

MATTERS ARISING – None

3. President's Address by Janet Gough read by Sue Hollamby:

Good afternoon, everyone. Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend the AGM this afternoon.

I hope you've all had both an enjoyable lunch and the opportunity to meet fellow members again after the Christmas break.

My report gives me the opportunity to thank, on your behalf, our committee- Val - Chairperson, Julie - treasurer, Celia, Sue, Ruth and Christine who have worked behind the scenes to provide a great variety of demonstrations/practice classes and other events for us all to enjoy despite the covid restrictions.

Val, our club chair, needs a special thank you today as she has led the committee and been instrumental in keeping us all in touch and involved during the continuing pandemic.

My thanks go to you all for your continuing support for the club and hope everyone has a much better 2022.

4. Chair's Report by Val Purkis:

After being in Locked Down at the beginning of last year, we started back in May, which was months earlier than other clubs. It was very heartening to see how enthusiastic you all were to come back to meetings.

In July we held our postponed 2020 Open Meeting and had 84 people come. We all sold tickets to friends and family and we had a lot of visitors from other flower clubs. Many people said how much they enjoyed it. Luckily a small profit was made which let me off the hook with the treasurers past and present.

Over the year we had some different demonstrators which was nice and a few old favourites came back too. We also had a very successful practice meeting in October when members could either copy one of the two lovely designs by Val Kenway and Ann Jewell or do their own autumnal arrangement.

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We had a record number of volunteers to help with the Saltford Hall Christmas decorations and four of us went on to St John's Church Christmas Tree Festival to decorate the club's tree. It did look lovely draped with swags of ivy decorated with cones and flowers. There were bead stars made by Maddie and underneath were some ribbon stars made by Julie. The swags of Ivy with wired flowers and cones were made by Bunty, Val & Julie. There are some pictures on the website.

As I mentioned in my latest newsletter, the website has had to be rewritten as the cost of the old hosting service was prohibitive. I'm glad to say it is now up and running and will continue to be added to and improved over the coming months. This will save us money as the payment of £67.97 lasts for 4 years, usually we would pay around £90 or more per annum.

5. Treasurer's Report by Julie Latham read by Sue Hollamby:

Good afternoon, everyone,

For those who don't know me I'm Julie Latham and have taken over the role of treasurer from Sue Hollamby. My thanks go to Sue for the help she's given me in finding my feet in the Flower Club and around the bank accounting system.

Also new this year is a bank account which is an amalgamation of our previous current and business reserve accounts. The new account also means that we are able to do online banking.

Spread around the tables you will find copies of the financial report for 2021 and you can see that 2020 is included as some sort of comparison – although these last 2 years are hardly ordinary.

In brief we managed to make £2366.27 and spend £2359.66 making a surplus of £6.61. The root cause of course, has been the covid pandemic which has prevented us from meeting.

For 2022 we'll attempt to get back to near normal and so the subscription fees will return to £40. **Visitors' fees for demonstrations will remain at £6.00. However, it is proposed to increase the cost of visitors' fees for practice sessions from £4.00 to £5.00. If you are all in agreement, I should like someone to propose and second so that we can vote. Val Kenway proposed the motion and Brenda Jones seconded it.**

The Chair thanked Sue for delivering Julie's speech.

6. Election of Officers

President: Janet Gough Proposed by Shirley Hobbs & Seconded by Bunty Collett

Chair: Val Purkis – Proposed by Shirley Hobbs & Seconded by Bunty Collett

Treasurer: Julie Latham – Proposed by Sue Hollamby & Seconded by Celia Wallace

Secretary: Sue Hollamby – Proposed by Val Purkis & Ann Jewell

6.1 Committee Members

Ruth Hutchings has resigned from the committee for family reasons, she will re-join when able to do so. The Chair sends her thanks to Ruth for her participation on the Committee.

Celia Wallace, Christine Pidcock, are remaining as Committee Members along with the officers.

Anyone wishing to join the Committee should see Val or one of the other Committee members, we meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2pm in one of our homes.

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7. Forthcoming Events

- **February 22nd** - Demonstration with Cathryn Brown entitled '50 Things that Make you Happy'
- **March 22nd** - Practice Meeting entitled 'It's all about the vase', we will be exploring the use of different vases or containers for the type of flowers we are arranging, considering where they will be placed and if they will be travelling anywhere. The flyer is on the website and I've emailed a copy to you.
- **April 26th** - Demonstration with Leslie Hunt entitled 'Beside the Seaside', Leslie is a newly qualified demonstrator.
- **May 24th** - Practice, making ribbon stars, ribbon roses (Sue Heath) & The Queen's Jubilee flower arrangements and hair wreaths.
- **June 28th** - Demonstration with Caroline Cooper entitled 'The Language of Flowers'
- **September 27th** - Demonstration with Jenny York entitled 'Barking Mad'
- **October 25th** - Practice, Wreath making
- **November 22nd** - Christmas Demonstration with Sharon Dower

7.1 Outing & Members' Day Lunch

Our Social Secretary Sue Hollamby gave us details of the American Museum:

- **July 26th Outing** – An outing to The American Museum was discussed and Sue gave us some details. Members were happy with this suggestion. The Museum House shows the diverse and complex nature of American traditions laid out in replica living rooms. There are garden tours of the newly landscaped American Garden and several exhibitions to view. We will car share and costs will be dependent on the numbers attending, to get a discount we need a minimum of 15 people. The 2022 costs are not available now but they should be under £15. Sue Hollamby will do a signup sheet.
- **August 23rd Members' Day Lunch** – Christine has offered to host a Garden Tea Party starting at 2pm. The majority of members voted in favour of this. Costs per head will be worked out nearer the time.

8. Any Other Business

Val Purkis asked for ideas on how to attract new members, a discussion took place with lots of ideas mentioned:

- Hold a session called Fun with Flowers
- Do flower wreaths for hair – maybe at the Saltford Festival affiliation day. Ask members to do these before the day and do some on the day for people to watch.
- Hold a wreath and swag making event as well as our practice – Ann Jewell will advertise this at Saltford Golf Club and may well be able to get the Golf Club meeting room free of charge. We can charge attendees for the session.
- Sue Heath mentioned advertising on Eventbrite although any event would need to be free to avoid paying the Essentials pricing per ticket £0.49 + 3.5%. Maybe worth doing for an Open Meeting.

9. Starting on time

- A good point was made to ensure we start meetings on time so people with transport booked will not miss anything. The Chair agreed that members be

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asked to take their seats ready for the club notices at 14:05 enabling the demonstrator to start promptly at 14:15.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 15:00.