

Earlams
Styal Community Cafe, Shop and Gallery AGM
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Tuesday 31 January 2023

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Chairman's Report
4. Financial Report
5. Any Other Business

1. Welcome

John Novak (Chair) welcomed everyone and explained that the Annual Report is available for all shareholders and is available on request.

14 people attended of which 7 were on the Management team.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from 10 shareholders.

3. Chairman's Report

- John asked if there were any questions from last year's AGM minutes but none were raised so the minutes were signed off.
- He gave his report on the last year's trading and detailed various changes:
 - > changed the structure so more room to sit down - moved tables into shop and cafe
 - > outdoor space was covered - people can sit outside even in inclement weather
 - > children's play area put in
 - > review of rest of the field - possibly bowling green or boules pitch
 - > continually monitoring accounts with Amanda so day to day finances were spot on - thanks to Liz and Amanda. Bank was changed from RBS to Co-op.
 - > support Duke of Edinburgh students who work here for a year as part of their Gold award
 - > big thanks to all the volunteers - not just a shop/cafe and gallery but a community hub where people come regularly.
 - > Knit and Natter group meet Monday and Wednesday
 - > we need to remember people who have passed - Alan Gardiner here from the start, Keith Drumville at the nursery, Wayne Dux who put up the outside area, Dorothy whose funeral is 01 March 11.30 at Styal Methodist Church and 13.15 at the crematorium Macclesfield. Earlams's will close for the day and we will do refreshments
 - > a good year overall and we are going from strength to strength

4. Financial Report

Amanda talked through the Financial Report, details of which can be viewed on request. There is a healthy balance sheet. It had been decided that the Parish Council will no longer have to pay to use the cabin from April 2023.

One shareholder raised a query regarding the accounts being filed early and this was explained. Also the accounts show that Earlams's is PLC but it is a mutual society so that is to be amended.

Plans for spending in 2023 include money for the school - transport for swimming classes, choir tuition and a reading area.

Also new equipment was bought for the kitchen as the fridges were replaced.

A shareholder asked if the stock in the shop could be extended to more everyday items such as bread/milk/papers. Discussion around possibly doing a phone in ordering service.

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5. Any Other Business

Management Team - John said we would welcome anyone else who wished to join the team.

One shareholder asked if all shareholders had been invited due to the small number who attended - 72 email invitations were sent and 12 letters.

One shareholder asked about the recruitment procedures and these were explained to the meeting.

John closed the meeting - thanking all who attended and all volunteers without whom Earlams could not function.

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