

EPSOM RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION.

St Ebba's Farm, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8QW.

Tel No. 01372 743690



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4 July 2017 at Bourne Hall, Ewell Village

Present:

Trustees: Ewen Mackay Chairman (standing-in) and Treasurer; Chris Tudor Secretary; Elaine Briggs, Jo Lee, Jane Sanders, Gordon Thompson; Gill M^cPherson; Jean Hoblyn; Wing Bo Chan

Voting members: Joe Coulman; Hilarie Chantler; Mo Blackett; Tom Blackett; Lynne Clayton; Manda Adamson; George Goodwin; Tricia Goodwin; Annette Williams; Zoe Foster; Emma Leighton; Emma Swan; Jill Messer; Kicki Pockneall; Emma Morris; Geraldine Pockneall; Shirley Sweeting; Issy Smith; Jojo Julian; Lynn Richards; Ella MacDonald; Kate El Bizanti; Lydia Fay; Eleanor Oldham

Also present: Beryl Randall; Joe Sharps

Ewen Mackay welcomed Dr Joe Sharps BVetMed MRCVS who is a senior vet at Priory Veterinary Surgeons in Reigate. Joe told us that he has only ever worked with horses and gave us an insightful presentation on Body Conditioning Scoring (evaluating the amount of fat on a horse's body) as a method for overcoming obesity and metabolic syndrome. Joe explained, through the use of his slides, how to score a horse between 0-5, by splitting the horse into three sections, scoring each section and taking an average. Joe also covered Cresty Neck Scoring which tests for various metabolic diseases in a horse including laminitis. Following Joe's presentation, he agreed to provide us with laminated copies of illustrated guides for undertaking Body Conditioning Scoring and Cresty Neck Scoring. Ewen thanked Joe profusely for the excellent presentation that he gave the AGM.

Gill M^cPherson provided the AGM with a brief verbal update on progress with the new indoor school. Gill told us that we are currently considering options and engaging contractors (led by Ray Lee) and we are undertaking soft marketing testing to get an indicative view on costs and suitable contractors in line with Ray's original estimates. Key priorities for the master planning are the positioning of the school, incorporating volunteer facilities, especially training, stalls area and the quality of the indoor facilities – mounting, surface and size of the indoor school. We are awaiting a response from the Council which has been delayed due to a large backlog that the Council have on building application proposals in the area. It was emphasised that this is clearly not just a building project.

Gill then went on to introduce Lynne and Eleanor who have recently taken over our volunteer management from Lydia Fay. Gill thanked Lynne and Eleanor for what they had achieved since taking over and also thanked Lydia very much indeed for managing volunteers and volunteering for so many years at ERDA. Ewen thanked Gill for her update on the progress of our new indoor school and he also thanked Lynne, Eleanor and Lydia for all of their efforts and hard work on volunteer management past and present.

Ewen asked Gordon Thompson to provide the AGM with an update on the Sensory Garden and Countryside Challenge which Gordon kindly agreed to do. Gordon told us that after £25,000 worth of hard work, Stella's vision has now become a reality. There is 200m of track with four different types of surface, a mushroom dome to ride over together with flexible areas where we can grow more plants and grow trees. Gordon informed us that we are not using the facilities yet because the sand is very dry and we are waiting for a significant fall of rain to dampen it so that it is usable. Grass seed will be sown in the Autumn when the temperature will drop and there will be more chance of rain to enable the grass to grow well once it has been sown. Ewen thanked Gordon for the update.

Ewen opened the Annual General Meeting.



Epsom Riding for the Disabled Association is a Charity registered under charity number 1073638.

A member group of the Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporating Carriage Driving – A Registered Charity.



1. **Apologies for Absence** received from Stella Milne, Sheila Walden and Lynda Sears
2. **Minutes of 2016 AGM** were accepted as a true record. Proposer, Jane Sanders. Secunder Mo Blackett.
3. **Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.**
In accordance with Charity regulations, the Annual Report and Accounts were presented as separate documents.

Annual Report

Ewen Mackay introduced the Annual Report and said that he did not propose to go through it in detail as hard copies were available at the AGM.

Special mention was made and acknowledgement given to Pauline Humphries and the amazing work that she carried out for ERDA, its volunteers and its ponies over the abundance of years that she was a pivotal part of the Group. Ewen wanted to record his and everyone's heartfelt thanks to Pauline at this AGM.

Special thanks and appreciation was given to Joe Coulman for the number of years that he has given so much of his time to ERDA as a crucial member of the Maintenance Team.

Likewise, special thanks was given to Margaret and Jill for the fantastic work they do in keeping the garden at the yard looking so special. Very special thanks too was given to Pauline who also liked to keep the garden up to scratch and looking good before she became too ill to do so.

Ewen thanked and made special mention to the fundraising efforts, in particular the May Ball and added that it was great to see a number of younger people taking part in the fundraising activities.

Ewen thanked Jo Lee and asked Jo to speak briefly about the Endurance Ride which was a terrific success. Jo's enthusiasm was infectious as she told us that there are hopes to organise another one perhaps at a different location in the not too distant future. The main strategy behind these Endurance Rides is to improve riding and to have more fun.

Annual Accounts

Ewen presented the Annual Accounts and thanked Tim Slater of Harmer Slater Limited (incorporating Roger Sutton), the independent examiner and Gordon Thompson for his invaluable help in preparing the Accounts. Ewen told the meeting that total receipts for the year were £123,639 and that this was due in part to a very generous legacy we received from Felicity Pocq St John deceased for £50,750. Total expenditure for the year was £46,301. Cash in the bank was £270,169 with £183,057 in designated funds and £64,700 in general purposes fund.

There were no questions and the Accounts were accepted by the meeting. Proposed by Wing Bo Chan and seconded by Gordon Thompson.

The appointment of Harmer Slater (incorporating Roger Sutton) as the Independent Examiner for 2017/18 was agreed at the meeting and was proposed by Elaine Briggs and seconded by Shirley Sweeting.

4. Election of Trustees

Two trustees were retiring and standing for re-election and these were Jane Sanders and Jo Lee.

Name	Proposed	Seconded
Jane Sanders	Gill M ^c Pherson	Hilarie Chantler
Jo Lee	Mo Blackett	Gill M ^c Pherson

There were no objections to either of these re-elections and there was a show of hands in approval of both.

Ewen Mackay thanked Jo Lee for the many years she was our Pony Care Trustee and the incredible amount of hard work that she had put into this role. Ewen went on to thank Jo for agreeing to be re-elected as a Trustee and he also thanked Jean Hoblyn for taking over as Pony Care Trustee (AGM 2016), for bringing her wealth of experience and fantastic network to Epsom Riding for the Disabled Group.

Ewen Mackay thanked Jane Sanders for agreeing to be re-elected and thanked her for the fantastic work she is doing for ERDA, especially in the Website, communications and public awareness areas for the Group which are all paying off really well.

There were no nominations for new trustees at the AGM. Lydia Fay raised a question as to why there were no nominations for new trustees prior to the AGM as there are ten trustees currently and therefore there is a potential vacancy as the maximum number of trustees we can have is eleven. Chris Tudor clarified that the decision had been made by all the trustees that we are going to remain with ten trustees for the foreseeable future. If and when this changes, a request for nominations for new trustee will be issued. Ewen Mackay agreed to provide more information around this decision and to disseminate it to voting members should this be required.

5. Any Other Business

Ewen introduced Beryl Randall who has been working at the Hampton Court Flower Show. Beryl told the AGM that there is a chance that she may be able to obtain an amount of plants and small trees that are left over from the Show that could be used for our Sensory Track. Jean Hoblyn told the AGM that she has agreed that we can use the horse trailer to collect any plants and trees that may be on offer to us from the Flower Show. Gordon stressed to the AGM that, should we receive an abundance of plants and trees through Beryl that we would need the services of as many volunteers as possible at very short notice so that all of the planting can be done and none of the plants go to waste. Ewen thanked Beryl very much for her kind offer of helping us in this way.

Gordon told the AGM that everyone should bring their ideas forward and that all the Trustees were always approachable and willing to listen. Ewen backed this up and encouraged everyone to approach any of the trustees at any time.

Ewen thanked everyone for attending the meeting which was closed at 20:46.

Signed:

Dated: