

**Present:** Tom Evans (Vice-Chairman), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), Nick Hawkins (Secretary), David Cargill, Roy Godier, Ralph Vaughan, Karen Wright, Cllr Mike Diment, plus 6 members.

**Apologies:** David Silver (Chairman), Eric Blackwell, Raymond Rivron, Cllr Rod McKerlich, Nick & Roseanne Holmes, Helen & Colin Johnson, Judith Marsh, Bob and Mary Pearce

The Vice-Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the absence of the Chairman, who was on holiday.

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

### **Chairman's Report**

*Please see summary at Appendix A.*

Matters raised in connection with the report included the uncertain future for the management of the Old Church Rooms. Following the decision to save the VAT element of the cost by registering the OCR as a business (taken in connection with the recent redevelopment), the Management Committee had effectively become a sub-committee of the R&MCC. New financial and other rules were being imposed which were starting to interfere with the flexible, very practical and very effective ways of running the building which had endured for 30 years. The Association was seeking a new Hall Management Agreement but the R&MCC had not yet produced a draft. One alternative would be for the Association to lease the building from the R&MCC, which was the intention when it was originally purchased for the R&M Community.

The Vice-Chairman also highlighted the aim in the coming year to increase the Association's membership.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The accounts had been audited and sent out to members via email in advance of the meeting. In summary, in 2016 the Association's accounts showed a deficit of £520 against a forecast budget deficit of £613; a satisfactory position. The Treasurer highlighted the R&MCC grant which supported youth activities in the Festival, notably the Parade and the Concert in the Parc. Without that support, the figures would have looked very different. The unrestricted retained funds stood at £6543, plus restricted funds of £360 (the latter being the amount collected at the Christmas event for St John Ambulance Wales, this year's nominated Charity).

He reported that the budget for 2017 was break-even. It was, however, noted that the 2017 budget was very difficult to predict. This was not just because of the possibility of revenue generating events being affected by the weather but also because of potential changes to the way the Association's insurance is arranged (a consequence of the changes to the OCR management). Additionally, agreements with St John Ambulance regarding paying for their hire of the OCR in exchange for their support of Association activities were proving disproportionately expensive. Both of these matters would be resolved in the coming year.

### **Election of Officers**

The Vice Chair of the R&MCC, Cllr Mike Diment, took the chair for the election of the Chairman. David Silver was elected as the new Chairman unopposed. Tom Evans was elected as Vice Chairman, Nick Hawkins as Secretary and Bob Roberts as Treasurer.

The following members were proposed, seconded and elected to the Committee unopposed: Eric Blackwell, David Cargill, Allan Cook, Roy Godier, Raymond Rivron and Ralph Vaughan and Karen Wright.

## Appointment of Auditor

Ellis Jenkins was proposed, seconded and agreed.

## Any Other Business

The following items were noted:

**May Festival.** David Cargill briefed the meeting on the forthcoming Festival. He highlighted the slight problem of the school Easter holiday starting on the Friday but he was confident that the schoolchildren would be prepared for both the Parade and the Festival Queen Crowning on the first weekend. He mentioned that Raymond Rivron had constructed a second rehearsal Maypole so that both Primary Schools now had their own. Organising the Concert in the Parc had proved a bit troublesome but Nick Cook had been very helpful in coordinating the bands performing.

The Vice-Chairman noted David Cargill had announced that he was now standing down as Chairman of the Festival after 30 years. He was congratulated on his fantastic contribution to the Festival over so many years, and not least the funds that had been raised for Charity. However, a new Festival Chairman was now required!

**Defibrillators.** Ralph Vaughan noted that the R&MCC were negotiating to purchase defibrillators for both the OCR and MVH. With similar kit now installed elsewhere in the R&M Community this would complete the necessary level of protection.

**Plasdwr.** Concern was expressed at the level of traffic that was likely to be generated by this development, both during its construction and once the houses were occupied. Weight limits on Heol Isaf (unless relaxed by Cardiff Council) would need to be policed. The long-term impact of congestion along Heol Isaf was simply unpredictable, but few thought there would be a happy outcome.

**Station Car Park.** Concern was also expressed at the construction of the extended car park at Radyr Station, which is due to be completed in May 2017. The fear is that, far from easing the parking situation around the neighbouring streets, it will simply generate more traffic movements in and out of Radyr at peak times.

**Speakers.** The speakers at the Association's General Meeting for the coming year would be:

19 <sup>th</sup> June	Brian Davies (John Nixon and the Welsh Coal Trade to France)
14 <sup>th</sup> September	Ian Thomas, Chief Executive of Age Cymru.
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Chris Dale
5 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	TBA, but quite likely to be Roy Noble

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

ACTIVITY	PROGRESS	COMING YEAR
<b>OLD CHURCH ROOMS</b>	We have worked very closely with R&MCC on the refurbishment this year with both the Chair and Secretary on the Project Team. I said last year the refurbishment was nearly completed and unfortunately we still have some of the snagging jobs left to deal with. However, the rooms are now being widely used and most of the comments we receive are complimentary. The Castle Room is available for rent for business use in the daytime and for the community in the evening. We have a wonderful extended facility to use for our events.	Aim to get new regular users as we now have increased capacity. We are looking to increase the use of the Castle Room in the daytime for commercial users to increase our revenue and are working on a marketing plan with R&MCC. We are waiting to get a new OCR Management agreement from R&MCC to document how the building is being run, especially the financial systems.
<b>MAY FESTIVAL</b>	We has another very successful festival in 2016. The programme for 2017 has already gone to print and a full programme of events is in place. It will be published with the April edition of the Chain as usual. The Festival website is currently being updated for 2017. New events like the Vintage Tea Party and the Open Gardens were a great success.	Plans are in place for all events for this year's festival. We are looking for the charity for the next year or two and will be trying to include other local groups e.g. schools in the selection. We are looking for ideas for new events from the community for 2018 to involve more of the community and looking for more people to become involved.
<b>PLANNING</b>	We continued to work with R&MCC and the County Councillor on Planning Issues following the approval of the LDP. We are relying on them to give us the lead to ensure our comments are in line with theirs.	Will continue to work as appropriate with the Community Council and County Councillor on planning issues. Following the LDP adoption, our aim will always be to ensure a plan is in place that provides all necessary infrastructure before any building takes place. Our major problem is that individual planning applications are being made/approved which get looked at as one offs and not part of a whole larger plan.
<b>ELECTRONIC RADYR</b>	We continued to improve the website this year and have been making changes to the navigation to make the Site easier to use. One problem we face is that we get virtually no feedback from users once we make a change. Hopefully, that means they are satisfied with what we have done. We had to shut the forum for a short time during the year due to the threat of legal action, but it is now running as before and is being well used. Having introduced electronic ticketing for events last year, it is now starting to take off with 25% of the tickets sold electronically for our last film. Our social media sites, the R&MHub on both Facebook and Twitter have continued to grow very quickly. We have over 1100 regular viewers on Facebook and have just reached 500 on Twitter, an amazing growth over the last year. Anything we publish now gets to a large audience very quickly. We get around 25,000 views of our posts per month, another reason for your clubs or societies to advertise through us.	Continue to expand the use of social media, especially for the Festival. Work with the webteam to try and improve the frequency of changes to items on the website.  Look to find sponsors for the Festival Website and specific events like Concert in the Parc.

<b>ARTS</b>	<p>All the events in the 2016 Festival went well. During the year we continued with the film club and are now getting large audiences for most films. During the year we were successful with a Grant Application and we got some brand new equipment including a new screen, a high quality projector and sound system which are way better than the previous items. Changes to the OCR have also helped making the films a cinema experience.</p> <p>We have set up a film club, hopefully members are now starting to be involved in choosing the films they wish to see rather than us having to do it.</p>	<p>We will be looking to make further improvements to the Film Club and increase the membership.</p> <p>This year in the Festival we will have the two usual lunchtime concerts, one a harpsichordist and the second from the Wales Academy of Voice. For our literary evening, Angela V. John will talk about her latest book, The Actor's Crucible. The Festival play this year will be "The Other Jolson" the new Fluellen play. The concert in the Parc will move back to its usual spot on the last Saturday. The final event will be a Brass Band concert for St John Ambulance performed by the City of Cardiff (Melingriffith) Brass Band.</p>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	<p>We continue to support the Mound Field and Radyr Woods activities.</p>	<p>We aim to continue the programme of publishing village walks.</p>
<b>YOUTH INVOLVEMENT</b>	<p>Another successful Concert in the Parc was held in 2016, encouraging young people to perform.</p>	<p>Continue with the links that have been forged between the Association and the various youth organisations within the community. Maintain the meetings held jointly between RMA/R&amp;MCC/3 local school head teachers to improve communications and youth involvement at local events. Continue and improve the youth involvement in the concert in the Parc and Christmas tree lighting.</p>
<b>CHRISTMAS EVENT</b>	<p>Another very successful lighting event was held which was very well attended by the community. Using social media, we managed to vastly increase requests for the number of stalls, to such an extent we were refusing people.</p>	<p>Keep the number of stalls to a maximum for the space available. Review any possible improvements.</p>
<b>SPEAKERS</b>	<p>We had 4 meetings during the year and our guest speakers were Graham and Ian Pugh, Jason Mohammad, Kwai Lee and an exceptional presentation from Garel Rhys. Sadly, Garel passed away within two weeks of giving his presentation and we would like to offer our condolences to his wife Mavis and his family.</p>	<p>Speakers are now being booked for the coming year and a programme should be available at the AGM.</p>
<b>OTHER AREAS</b>		<p>Recruitment Drive to increase membership. Wider circulation of our Newsletter.</p>