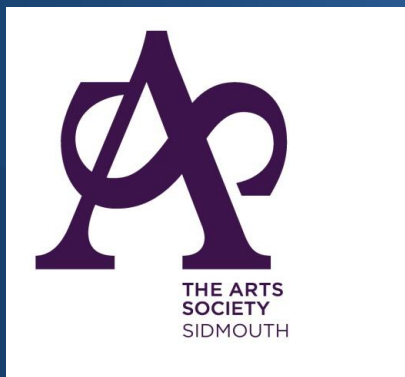




THE ARTS SOCIETY SIDMOUTH

Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Arts Society Sidmouth CIO held on Wednesday 3.6.26 at 10.30 am at The Manor Pavillion, Sidmouth

1. Welcome

The Chairman, Richard Barrett (RB) welcomed the membership and guests to the TASS AGM.

2. Apologies for absence

Four apologies for absence were received from the membership: Dieter and Judy Ritz, Maureen and Richard Thurlow and Miss

3. To approve the minutes of the CIO's 7th AGM held on 4.6.25

RB presented the minutes of the last AGM.

There was one matter arising: the Trustees have reviewed the TASS Constitution and found two clauses requiring amendment. However, in discussion with the Arts Society the board has been advised to wait until the new Articles of Association are released in the Autumn.

Put to a vote, the minutes were duly agreed and approved.

4. To receive the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

RB thanked Nigel Clegg and Mike McCoy for compiling the Accounts and Accompanying Notes. RB also thanked Philip Hughes for his ongoing advice and support. RB drew attention to the £3.00 increase in annual subscription to £59 which the board had agreed with regret in the light of rising costs of lecturers' fees and travel expenses.

In addition, the voluntary donations sought from guests and visitors will be raised to £12 per meeting, however this sum will allow tapering of annual subscription should they wish to join.

RB explained that TASS (in line with all societies) was liable for a per capita fee payable to The Arts Society annually.

The Trustees must ensure a healthy balance and financial reserve whilst fulfilling our constitutional obligations to fund arts related projects in the community. TASS funded the creation of two carved totem poles in the grounds of Sidbury Primary School in 2025, and gave a grant of £1000 to the SASS river confluence project. We have also enabled the new projector here at Manor Pavilion.

No comments or questions on the accounts, previously circulated, had been received. The accounts had been examined and accepted by Sam Blackford (On Target Accountants of Ottery St Mary) for a nominal fee of £200.

No vote was required on this agenda item.

RB was obliged to seek support to appoint an independent examiner of accounts for the year 2026/7 and proposed Sam Blackford for a fee of £275.

The membership indicated their approval.

5. To note resignation and appointment of Trustees

Christina Richards has stepped down as a trustee. Sheila Hughes has also stood down after many years of loyal service.

Two new Trustees have been appointed:

Nigel Clegg and Richard Thurlow.

The Trustees are delighted that they have consented to join, strengthening the board of Catherine Bech, Muff Dudgeon, Steve Powley and RB

6. To elect Team members for the forthcoming year

Anthea Cridlan has stood down after 7 years as programme secretary and her role will be taken by Muff Dudgeon.

Sheila Hughes has retired as President after many years' service and she will be replaced by Dieter Ritz.

Re-election to be put to the vote en bloc, including Nigel Clegg and Mike McCoy already proposed and seconded at a Team meeting:

Catherine Bech

Muff Dudgeon

Steve Powley

Kim Wells

Richard Barrett

The vote was passed unanimously

The committee has been strengthened by the following members who had been co-opted during the year:

Jill Medcalf (arts volunteering)

Eleanor Selley (social)

7. To respond to any questions submitted to the committee

No questions had been submitted and RB invited members with any concerns to approach him after the meeting.

8. Chairman's report

For the Chairman this had been an excellent year: A programme of wonderful lectures, special interest days and social events had been obvious successes. However there have been considerable behind the scenes work by the Team. Without naming them individually, RB thanked them all for their invaluable experience, energy and support, and expressed his pride in them and all the other volunteers who contribute to the welfare of TASS. He invited the audience to express their gratitude in the normal way.

RB thanked the staff of the Manor Pavillion for accommodating TASS and Tony and Mike for their audiovisual expertise.

RB thanked Anthea for her 7 years in post and presented her with a gift of appreciation. RB also thanked Sheila for all she has done for TASS and presented her with a gift in appreciation from the Society.

9. Date of next AGM

June 2nd 2027, at 10.30 in the Manor Pavillion