

**INSTITUTION OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS**

**WEST MIDLANDS BRANCH**

**MINUTES OF THE 66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD ON TUESDAY, 14 MARCH 2017 AT**

**THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, STRATFORD**

|                        |                       |                           |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b><u>PRESENT:</u></b> | Ian Moore             | (in the Chair)            |
|                        | Dr Clare Butler Ellis | Presidents Representative |
|                        | Andrew Blowey         | Stuart Martin             |
|                        | John Fox              | Michael Sheldon           |
|                        | Antony Johnson        | David Williams            |
|                        |                       | Bob Voss                  |

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from William Waddilove, James Wallace and Dan Mitchell.

2. **MINUTES OF THE 65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The minutes of the 65th Annual General Meeting, held on Tuesday, 15 March 2016, were read and proposed as correct by Ian Moore and seconded by John Fox.

John Fox queried that the funds in the current account remained pretty much the same between March 2016 and March 2017 bar a few pence.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

None

4. **HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

Bob presented a copy of the branch accounts for the past year. He commented that we have £124.08 in the Branch current account held at HSBC in Leamington Spa and £499.02 in a Central Deposit Account. The meetings expenses are kept to a minimum due to the low room hire cost with much of the administration being managed through E-Mail.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman, Ian Moore, commented on and reviewed the year's programme. He spoke about the excellent speakers and presentations we had had during the year.

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Dr Mark Cooper –              | Presidential Address / Operational Readiness at EasyJet – March 2016            |
| J C Channing                  | Bio digester visit at Brandon near Coventry – September 2016                    |
| M Giannitsopoulos & I Dummett | Optimising direct drilling methods in no tillage farming systems - October 2016 |
| W. Waddilove                  | Tractor Development at Banner Lane – November 2016                              |
| M Cheetham                    | Assist Drive Technology – Linde Hydraulics – December 2016                      |
| D Williams                    | EU Tractor Aid Programme in North Korea – February 2016                         |

He thanked Presenters and Committee members for all their hard work and commitment in making it happen. He also thanked Bob Voss for keeping good control of expenditure and various committee members for their secretarial work and keeping the Branch running smoothly.

## 6. ELECTION OF BRANCH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

No new nominations have been received. All the people listed below had agreed to be nominated for a further year.

| Position                         | Name              |   | Proposed | Seconded  |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------|-----------|
| Chairman & Branch Rep on Council | Ian Moore         | ) | J Fox    | A Johnson |
| Vice-Chairman                    | Antony Johnson    | ) | I Moore  | M Sheldon |
| Secretary                        | Position Vacant   | ) |          |           |
| Treasurer                        | Bob Voss          | ) | J Fox    | S Martin  |
| Information Officer              | William Waddilove | ) | B Voss   | M Sheldon |
| Past Chairman                    | John Pedley       | ) | N/A      | N/A       |
| Committee Members:               | Andy Blowey       | } |          |           |
|                                  | John Fox          | } | I Moore  | A Johnson |
|                                  | Tony Linfield     | } | en bloc  |           |
|                                  | Clive Mander      | } |          |           |
|                                  | Stuart Martin     | } |          |           |
|                                  | Dan Mitchell      | } |          |           |
|                                  | Mike Sheldon      | ) |          |           |
|                                  | James Wallace     | } |          |           |
|                                  | David Williams    |   |          |           |

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

## 8. DATE OF 67<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was proposed that the 67th Annual General Meeting would take place on Tuesday, 13 March 2018, at the Friends Meeting House, Stratford-upon-Avon (TBC).

After the meeting, Dr Clare Butler Ellis, was invited to give the Presidential Address. It was a very positive address. A full report is available from HQ. Ian Moore thanked Clare for her informative presentation and questions were then taken.

Mike mentioned that one option may be to have a Summer visit similar to that run by the Southern Branch which included a visit to a John Deere Dealership and a Mushroom compost facility. He suggested the West Midlands Branch may wish to consider organising a visit.

Clare then made an excellent presentation on some aspects of her work, entitled Pesticide Application Research and Development in the UK, Past, Present and Future. Ian thanked Clare for making the presentations and the meeting was closed at 21.45.