



Minutes of the ACFAA AGM held Agnac, Salle de Fêtes on 16th May 2019

Present: 54 members, including Claire Riley (President), Paul Mitchell (Treasurer), Christine Sumner (Vice-President), Alan Godfree (Language Coordinator), Joëlle Jeffrey, Tina McCarthy (Committee Members), Michel Moreau, Steve Loughborough, Rina Hart, Nicky Hathaway (Social Committee Members) & Ian Cockrill (Secretary)

Apologies: Julie Goatham, Ann & Bob Lark, Janet & Ian McCarthy, Sandra & John Collyer, Ainslie & Barrie Green, Margaret & David Cowan, Carole & Leslie Beale, Abbey & Alan Britton, Sharon & Roger Moncur, Elizabeth & Charles Clarke, Sally Gargett, Anne Chappell, Karin Batchelot, Vanessa Lobanov-Rostovsky, Denise & Michel Fournier, Alison & Quentin Storrs-Fox, Hubert Vandeput, Janet & Victor Rainbow and Alison Waldron

The President (Claire Riley) opened the meeting, welcomed and thanked everyone for attending

Minutes of last AGM 2018: Approved as read

Matters arising: None

President's Report: Claire Riley reported that ACFAA had another busy year, within the Groups & Social activities. She also thanked everyone on both committees for their commitment and support to ACFAA, also their partners who offer their help and commitment on so many occasions. Also, she reported changes in personnel on the Main and Social Committees through 2018/2019, plus those that have completed their term of office and the election of the vacant positions on the Main Committee. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Language Coordinators Report: Joëlle Jeffrey & Alan Godfree reported that despite changes in procedure, Language Group numbers still declined between September & the New Year, that 2 tutors were standing down at the end of this "school year" & that ill health had prevented 1 Tutor from teaching after Xmas 2018. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Treasurer's Report: Paul Mitchell presented the Association financial statement & stated that ACFAA has a financial cushion that is sufficient against unforeseeable charges. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Social Committee's Report: Michel Moreau & Christine Sumner reported on ACFAA Social activities in 2018/2019 and that ideas & suggestions for new ventures was always welcomed. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Membership Secretary's Report: Ian Cockill reported that ACFAA have 567 members 2018/2019, 19 down on the 2018 AGM

Election of Secretary: David Sumner & Rina counted the votes & the result was that Anne Chappell received 7 votes, Alan Godfree 47 votes. Alan was declared ACFAA Secretary & presented to the AGM.

Election of 2 x Committee positions: Joëlle Jeffrey & Carole Beale were the only nominations, so were confirmed as ACFAA Committee members. Alan Godfree being voted in as Secretary, opened a vacancy on the Committee. Claire Riley requested that the meeting acknowledge Anne Chappell as the person to fill the vacancy. There was no dissent from the AGM attendees, Anne Chappell to be approached with the offer. Subsequent to the meeting Anne accepted the position as ACFAA Committee member

Group Reports:

Art: Group Leader, Mary-Anne Boudreau reported a quiet year for the Group, and they continue to use various media within the Group (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Bridge: As Tim de la Rue was unavailable, Christine & Vivian Rich Sumner gave the Group Report – They reported a good year for the Group, still meeting at the "Floc 'n' Tea" in Lauzun. The Group charge remains at 2€ per session & new members of all levels are always welcome (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Choir: Group Report given by Group Leader Philippa Tillyer, with Serge Giraud – New members are still being attracted & the concerts audiences are growing. Rehearsals are every Wednesday September to June, under the baton of Simon Kenworthy. Future concerts in June (2) & January 2020 were announced (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Friday Games: As Margaret Cowan was unavailable, Michel Mezin & Peter Brauner gave the Group Report – The Group continue to meet at the homes of members on Friday afternoons, playing a variety on board & card games. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Gardening: Report given by Group Leader, Claire Riley – Meeting on the last Friday of each month the Group held various competitions, invited guest speakers & recently held an inter-group trip to the gardens of Chartreuse du Colombier, with the Art & Photography Groups. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Genealogy: Report given by Group Leader Christine Etches, with Joëlle Jeffrey – A successful year meeting at the CdL on Tuesdays during school terms. Along with free sites, the Group uses ancestry.co.uk (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Guitar & Ukulele: As John Collyer was unavailable, Joëlle Jeffrey & Ian Cockrill gave the Group report – The Guitar Group started with 9 people, with members finding the group more challenging & demanding than first thought, numbers soon dropped. Those remaining have made great progress. The Ukulele Group have made considerable progress now playing with confidence & tackle eagerly new songs given each week. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Line Dancing: Report Given by Polly Fellows & Claudine Cnockaert – Group numbers have slightly fallen, but regularly have 35/40 attending each week. They had 2 events, one in Eymet, they were at requested to perform by the Council. The second event held at the Agnac, was a Line Dancing & Curry evening. Both events being enthusiastically supported. Special thanks given to Christine Etches, Claudine Cnockaert & Carol-Lynn Hartridge. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

Photography: As Quentin Storrs-Fox was unavailable, Group report was given by Ron Tillyer & Serge Giraud – Group membership remains strong & several new members were welcomed. They reported that Quentin will be “passing on the reins” at the Group AGM in June. They entered an international competition & will hold an inter-group competition with 3 other groups. (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

La Civilisation Française: Report given by Charles Bethune – The aim of the Group is to absorb key elements of French civilisation, so obviously familiar to local inhabitants (History, system of government, culture etc.). (The full report available on request to the Secretary)

AOB:

Ian Cockrill thanked both Committees & all Group Leaders for their support during his term of office. Personal thanks was given to Michel Mezin for his valuable assistance in 2018 when drafting & getting acceptance for the Association’s Statutes. Also, a special thanks was given to his Committee colleague & friend Joëlle Jeffrey for her invaluable assistance throughout.

Ian Cockrill was presented with a gift as recognition for completing his term as Association Officer

On closing the meeting, the president once again thanked both Committees for their support, also thanked ACFAA members for their continued support and for attending the AGM

The meeting finished at 19:35, wine & nibbles was made available to those attending