



JOHN STORER CHARNWOOD AND JOHN STORER HOUSE FOUNDATION

**Minutes of the Joint Annual General Meeting
Held on 31 October 2016 at 3pm**

at John Storer House, Wards End, Loughborough

1 Welcome by the Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr David Gaskell.

The Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr David Gaskell, commented that John Storer House is recognised as playing an important role in Charnwood and how conscious he is of all the excellent work that is carried out by John Storer Charnwood. He acknowledged the hard work of the JSC staff team and stated that he always finds the House 'buzzing with a wonderful group of people doing a wonderful job.'

2 Sandy Leong then took the chair and declared the meeting quorate.

There were 22 apologies for absence - details available on request.

Sandy explained that for the first time in 50 years the audience would be treated to something different at the AGM with a live performance to showcase the talent of the Community Life Choices Choir and Drama Group. This was the first time that the choir had performed to an audience and everyone sang beautifully a medley of songs, including the 'White Cliffs of Dover' and 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' finishing with a very rousing rendition of Delilah, which encouraged great audience participation. The Drama Group then performed a brilliant excerpt from 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to the delight of the audience.

Sandy drew attention to the Annual Review 2016 and recommended it as an excellent read. The review illustrates the theme of 'What's in it for you @ JSC' for the individual, but also for family, friends and carers. However, Sandy commented that it could not compete with the performances of the choir and drama groups to convey what JSC does best.

3 Minutes of the combined AGM of John Storer Charnwood and John Storer House Foundation, held on 4th November 2015, had been agreed by the Joint Board of Trustees last December so were recommended for approval by members.

This was proposed by Ann Collier and seconded by Jill Vincent and agreed unanimously.

4 Annual Report on activities and services 2015 – 2016

4a John Storer Charnwood – Sandy Leong (Chair)

Sandy commented that although the building may be 50 years old and the work we do may have changed tremendously, the ethos of the organisation has stayed the same. We have taken well-being to the 'heart of the organisation', extended our reach and attracted different groups whilst working towards greater independence and sustainability. Over the last few years the size of the staff team has reduced, but now we are looking to expand again and maximise our opportunities for development.

Sandy thanked the volunteers, staff, trustees and also the funders, Leicestershire County Council and Charnwood Borough Council, for understanding the difference and contribution that JSC makes.

For 50 years JSH has contributed towards the well-being of Charnwood. Sandy commented that whilst this was not easy to quantify she felt that people generally left the building 'feeling better in some way' and she knew that after that inspiring performance everyone would leave the AGM feeling a little better.

The 2016 JSC Annual Review is available on the website, www.johnstorercharnwood.org.uk/agm.html

4b John Storer House Foundation – Sandy Leong for Sue Frost (Chair)

Sue wished to note the special 50th year for JSH and that one of the greatest challenges would be the essential and ongoing maintenance to the House.

Throughout this important year there have been celebratory events including a wonderful Afternoon Tea for current volunteers as well as a reunion for trustees and ex Chief Officers to allow them to meet and reminisce. The JustTextGiving appeal was launched and an Evening with Elton John (a tribute act) had been very successful.

A fantastic example of our supportive volunteers was the successful cycle ride by Neil Anderson to the peak of the Col Du Tourmalet, raising £1,000.

A refurbishment of the lift was made possible in 2016 - 2017 by a grant of £15,000 from Loughborough University and a contribution of nearly £5,000 from JSHF.

The major group fundraiser for the year will be the Santa Fun Run on 4 December to which Sandy said everyone would be welcome. She also encouraged donations through JustTextGiving.

As Chair of the trustees for the John Storer House Foundation, Sue Frost wished to state that we have a unique, thriving and caring centre of which she is justly proud.

4c Shepshed Volunteer Centre (SVC) – Ian Stewart (Chair)

Ian reported on another very busy year for SVC. The key event for Shepshed was the signing of a 20-year lease on the current premises allowing for longer term and more strategic planning. Work has been completed on a fully accessible, landscaped well-being

and activities garden at the rear of the property which was officially opened in May. The property also has a new shop front including an updated logo and disabled access thanks to a grant from CBC.

Ian praised the thriving SVC befriending, gardening and social car schemes which were all maintained or increased despite the very busy time developing the property and garden.

As well as maintaining the vital strategic partnerships with Shepshed Town Council and Charnwood borough Council, fundraising also exceeded budgeted expectations. Ian sent huge thanks to all the staff, volunteers and those organisations that supported the centre throughout the year.

5 Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 – David Rodgers and John West

Presentation of the Independently Examined Accounts of John Storer Charnwood (formerly Voluntary Action Charnwood) – David Rodgers (Hon. Treasurer JSC); and the Independently Examined Accounts of John Storer House Foundation – John West (Hon. Treasurer JSHF); and the Treasurers' Report and consolidated accounts combining JSC and JSHF.

All documents are available on the web site at www.johnstorercharnwood.org.uk/agm.html

David drew attention to the Treasurers' Report 2015 – 2016 and Consolidated Summary which he explained gave a much simpler and more accessible overview of the accounts.

David stated that more security would be gained by moving towards greater self-generated income and less dependence on grant funding. He warned that it was becoming clear that funding from local authorities was no longer guaranteed and that the move towards greater income generation would be crucial to future success. He commented that this year this has been achieved thanks mainly to two areas well-being activities and room hire.

David thanked John West for the very great contribution and attention to detail he had given in the preparation of both sets of accounts for JSC and JSHF. He also thanked staff, volunteers, sponsors and funders and all those who support us.

John drew attention to the relationship of landlord and tenant with JSHF as the landlord and JSC as its tenant. He emphasised that JSHF is fully supportive of JSC as shown by the Joint Treasurers' Report with both organisations successfully working together in joint enterprise.

He stated that 2015 – 2016 had been a successful year without the Foundation being called upon to contribute to the refurbishment of the building.

John thanked Elaine Salt, Karen Frostick and Joyce Thelwall for their help and support in preparing the accounts.

Sandie Forrest proposed and Ian Stewart seconded acceptance of the sets of independently examined accounts for both JSC and JSHF and this was unanimously agreed.

Sandy then thanked the Treasurers for all their time and efforts.

6 Appointment of Auditors/Independent Examiners

The members are requested to approve the appointment of Messrs Nixon Mee Ltd and to authorise the Board of Trustees of John Storer Charnwood to determine their remuneration.

This was proposed by Ann Collier and seconded by Jill Vincent and was unanimously agreed.

7 Elections to John Storer Charnwood

7a President and Vice-Presidents

It was proposed to elect the Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr David Gaskell, to the office of President of John Storer Charnwood.

It was proposed to elect the Deputy Mayor of Charnwood, Cllr Pauline Ranson, to the office of Vice-President.

Sandie Forrest proposed approval; this was seconded by Marion Smith and unanimously agreed.

7b Board of Trustees (membership list enclosed)

Jane Hopper and Sue Frost had stood down to seek re-election. As they had both been nominated by the deadline and there were no other candidates wishing to stand both Jane and Sue were declared elected.

7c Co-options – for information only to AGM

Both co-opted positions on the Board are currently filled by Mel Chaggar and Peter Chadwick.

7d Shepshed Nominees

The Shepshed Local Committee, in place since the merger of Shepshed Volunteer Centre with Voluntary Action Charnwood, nominates two individuals to the John Storer Charnwood Joint Board. These individuals are currently Ian Stewart and Derek Tapp.

7e Charnwood Borough Council Nominees

Charnwood Borough Council is invited to nominate two representatives to be trustees of the John Storer House Foundation. As such, they attend the Joint Board of Trustees, but may only vote on JSHF matters. The current nominee is Cllr Ron Jukes and he was joined by Marion Smith in July 2016.

Charnwood Borough Council is also invited to nominate two representatives to be observers of John Storer Charnwood. As such, they attend the Joint Board of Trustees, but

may not vote on any matters. The current nominees are Cllr James Poland and Cllr Ted Parton.

Sandy gave a vote of thanks to ex trustee Betty Newton for her continued support of JSC.

Sandy declared the end of formal business

8 What's in it for you @ John Storer Charnwood

The theme of this year's AGM was 'What's in it for you @ JSH' with the aim to showcase the excellent work, outcomes and continued relevance of JSC. Sandy stated that what had been on show today should only be regarded as a tiny element of what is on offer at JSH and throughout Charnwood every day. She felt that there can be no doubt that John Storer Charnwood does change people's lives.

Sandy thanked the choir and drama group for the enthusiastic performances and thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting.

9 Any other business

There were no items for AOB.

Elaine Salt
Candi Barnes
November 2016