

ROMSEY MEN'S SHED	2021 AGM	
Date	25 th February 2021	
Time	10.30am	
Place	By Zoom	
Present	Don Snowsill Malcolm Kaill Ron Bowater Trevor Bond Jon Lee Richard Rose John Tilley Graham Rose Bob Munns Mike Wenman * Joined meeting after the start	Tony Blackmoor Bill Aldous Brian Page Martin Bennett Bob Spencer Hugh Griffiths Jim Williams Iain Redmill Bill Slegg Colin Jones George Bailey *
Apologies	Neil Fish, Rob Capel, Robert Hambling, Gordon Chable	
Non Members	None	

		Action
1	Welcome	
1.1	Chairman Malcolm Kaill opened the meeting and thanked everybody for attending. Since the meeting was by Zoom, he outlined suitable arrangements for Members to indicate when they wished to speak and for voting. He also reminded Members of the various papers that had been distributed by email before the meeting.	
2	Approval of the minutes of the last meeting	
2.1	The minutes of the 2020 AGM were reviewed briefly. The only action had been successfully resolved. John Tilley proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Graham Rose. 17 Members voted to accept the minutes, 3 abstained and none voted against.	
3	Chairman's report	
3.1	The Chairman presented his verbal report. He noted that; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of the last AGM there had been around 50 RMS Members. There had been concerns about growing numbers and space, as well as 	

thoughts about how more Members could be involved in activities.

- At the time COVID seemed to be nothing more than a cloud on someone else's horizon. It had brought many challenges during the year but had also brought out the best in shedding. RMS had adapted quickly to a new world and had proved that the spirit of shedding could survive and even thrive in extraordinary circumstances. RMS had continued to weather the storm and had adapted to life under lockdowns. Thanks to the efforts of Members, it had remained active and would continue to play an important role in the Romsey community.
- In particular the Social Shed had been in regular use when allowed. As many community projects as possible had been taken on. The total of 19 had been rather fewer than the previous year because of lockdown and social distancing. But a good tally all the same, and in extraordinary circumstances. Projects had included;
 - Little Sunlights nursery – shelf, mud kitchens, fairy doors
 - Romsey School – gazebo repairs, community pantry, fence repair
 - Fryers House – raised beds, bench repair
 - Romsey Abbey – bench repair, model
 - Green buttercup – fence creatures for young carers, - big games for dementia group
 - Saxon Way – community herb garden
 - Romsey Abbey Pre-school – storage and mud kitchen
 - Romsey children's Library - redecoration
- There had been a trip to RNLI in Poole, after which social distancing requirements had made social events more tricky. But there had been a memorable fishing trip to Bramshaw and a number of patio get-togethers.
- Four Repairsheds had been held and around 50 objects had been repaired including the famous Betty Boop.
- Craft items had been sold through Saxon Way coop for NHS charities raising £900, and through the new Countess Mountbatten Hospice charity shop in Romsey raising £400. There had been a special connection to Countess Mountbatten as John Nye and Don Snowsill's wife Jean had both been cared for there. Craft items had also been offered for sale on-line.
- Other activities had included the writing of four Shed Serial stories – 'Cottage of truth' to 'Bridge over troubled water' and, thanks to Brian Page, 15 weekly on-line quizzes. There had been 5 photo competitions, each with around 50 entries with subjects ranging from 'view from my window' to 'water, ice, steam'. Several local walks had been organised.
- The biggest change had been to RMS weekly meetings. When the first lockdown had begun in March the meeting could no longer be held in the community lounge. Meetings had been moved fairly quickly on-line using Zoom and had been held once nearly every week, nearly 40 times, since then. Many members had adapted very smoothly to the change but not everyone had made the change and a number of familiar faces had been missed. The meetings had included monthly talks on subjects including Tower Bridge, history, Army Flying Museum, London Underground and The New Forest.
- The walking football activity had been a victim of social distancing but a

	<p>fantasy football league had continued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of policies (Health and safety, Safeguarding, Data Protection, Equal Opportunities) had been updated and adopted. These were now fit for purpose and the H&S procedures, such as checks and demonstrations of safe use, would need to be introduced once the workshop reopens. • Despite the lockdown, a dozen new members had been welcomed and all but two Members had renewed their Membership in April. • Sadly, two Members had passed away during the year; John Nye, the much loved and funny regular at Thursday meetings, lives on in the garden he looked after and which is named after him and Ivor Morgan, at the time our most senior Member, who had opened the Workshop. 	
3.2	<p>The Chairman reminded Members that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RMS is a charity existing for the public benefit and so cannot be just a club for Members. • The charitable aim of RMS is to counter social exclusion in men and to provide facilities for creative, physical, and recreational activities, and for men to acquire skills and knowledge. • RMS is an independent self-help group, with Members helping and supporting each other in a number of ways. • RMS Members doing things together and being an active part of the community goes to the heart of shedding. It is what creates a lively buzz about the Shed. 	
3.3	<p>The Chairman offered the following thoughts looking forward to the year ahead;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was beginning become clear how lockdown would be eased in stages and how RMS would be permitted to restart activities, hopefully starting with the outside ones for smaller groups around Easter. Weekly indoor meetings would probably be the last to restart, possibly from June. But RMS aims should stay much the same; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue community projects - working to help the community is something that makes RMS distinctive and has become part of RMS DNA. • To continue making and repairing – making craft items for sale, whether through charity shops or online. • To reopen the RepairShed - to extend the life of things that might otherwise have been thrown away. • To enjoy Social Activities – weekly meetings and talks online, and when allowed: visits, walks and patio gatherings. • However, some challenges would be faced; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To bring the workshop and social shed safely back into use as and when allowed, including the new Health and Safety measures. • To maintain Membership - although not actively recruiting, RMS should be open to possible new Members. • To find ways for more Members to join in in activities. • To continue to raise enough money through Membership, donations and sales to cover costs. • But, all things considered, RMS had much to look forward to and the Chairman’s message was that ‘It should always be fun!’ 	

3.4	Members thanked the Chair for his report.	
4	Presentation of Trustees' Annual Report for 2020	
4.1	Don Snowsill, as Secretary, reminded Members that, as a charity, RMS has to make an annual return to the Charity Commission. An annual report from the Trustees must be submitted which must include a full financial report. For smaller charities, such as RMS, The Charity Commission provide a proforma Trustees Annual Report Form (the TAR) and a proforma accounts spreadsheet. As part of the return RMS has to confirm the RMS details on the Charity Commission website and upload the TAR and the accounts spreadsheet. In due course these items are available for view on the Charity Commission website by the public together with the reports from previous years.	
4.2	The Secretary presented the TAR which had been distributed by email and which had been agreed by Trustees at a recent Zoom meeting and subsequently signed. There were no observations or questions from Members. Bob Munns proposed acceptance of the TAR seconded by Bill Slegg. 19 Members voted to accept the TAR, 2 abstained and none voted against.	
5	Treasurer's report and presentation of annual accounts for 2020	
5.1	Jon Lee as Treasurer thanked Richard Rose for checking the summary accounts which had been distributed by email. He then briefly explained each entry, highlighting the opening and closing balances, before asking for observations or questions.	
5.2	A Member asked how many RMS Members there were and was informed that current Membership was 55.	
5.3	A Member asked why RMS was not charging the school for the use of the Social Shed whilst it was being used as a rest area for the school COVID testing team. It was explained that Trustees believed it would be unreasonable to do so given that RMS annual rent payable to the school is only £1, that the school do not charge RMS for electricity and since the school charge RMS a reduced rate for the hire of the Community Lounge when it is possible to use it.	
5.4	A Member observed in connection with the previous question that the COVID testing team repeatedly left the Social Shed untidy and dirty after using it whereas RMS Members were scrupulous about cleaning and tidying the Community Lounge after use. The Chairman acknowledged the issue and said that he had alerted the school to the problem but informed Members that the COVID testing team would only be operating for two more weeks after which the problem would no longer arise.	
5.5	The Treasurer then introduced the Charity Commission proforma spreadsheet to which the account information had been copied and which had also been distributed by email.	
5.5	The Treasurer then verbally delivered his financial forecast for 2021,	

	emphasising that it was in no way a formal budget to be closely monitored; merely an illustration of how he and the Trustees anticipated the year should hopefully progress financially. Given the evolving COVID situation however, he explained that very little financial planning could be viewed with any certainty. Trustees had agreed that the general intention should be to reduce the balance held at the beginning of the year, £4835, to £3210 at the end of the year because there was really little justification for RMS to hold such a large reserve. The financial forecast illustrated how this might reasonably be achieved.	
5.6	A Member asked whether the financial forecast made provision to subsidise social event and was assured that it did.	
5.7	The Treasurer asked Members to accept the summary accounts and the formal spreadsheet for submission the Charity Commission. Graham Rose proposed acceptance seconded by Bill Aldous. 20 Members voted to accept the accounts, 1 abstained and none voted against.	
6	Resolutions	
6.1	A Resolution in respect of subscriptions had been distributed by email. No other resolutions had been received.	
6.2	The Chairman explained the basis for the resolution which had been agreed and presented by Trustees. Trustees felt that Members had received very little 'value' for their 2020/2021 subscription and therefore deserved some form of compensation, most easily delivered by reducing the annual subscription for 2021/2022. John Lee proposed acceptance of the resolution seconded by Bill Aldous. 21 Members voted to accept the resolution, none abstained and none voted against.	
7	Trustees Retiring	
7.1	The Chairman handed the chair to Don Snowsill as Secretary.	
7.2	The Secretary explained that, in accordance with the RMS constitution, one third of the Trustees must retire each year in rotation; i.e. those to retire being the longest serving. As RMS has six Trustees, this equates to two Trustees, these being Malcolm Kaill as the longest serving and one from Jon Lee, Trevor Bond and Ron Bowater as next longest serving. By agreement Ron Bowater will retire with Malcolm Kail.	
8	Appointment of Trustees	
8.1	The Secretary indicated that both Malcolm Kaill and Ron Bowater were prepared to stand for re-election. There had been no other nominations. Bill Aldous proposed, seconded by John Tilly, that Malcolm Kaill and Ron Bowater be re-elected as Trustees. 19 Members voted for their re-election, 2 abstained and none voted against.	
9	Any other business	

9.1	The secretary handed the chair back to Malcolm Kail as Chairman.	
9.2	Bob Munns, supported by all Members, wished to thank the Trustees for managing RMS affairs.	
	The AGM meeting was formally closed by the Chairman at 11:30 hrs	
	Minutes prepared by Secretary Don Snowsill	