NORMAN LOCKYER OBSERVATORY SOCIETY LIMITED

Annual General Meeting Minutes of the meeting held 8th November, 2021

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies from Elizabeth and Derek Carter

2. To approve the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting

Proposed: Peter Youd. Seconded: David Strange. Approved.

3. To receive the Annual Report from the Chairman

Chairman’s Report:

This is the first chairman’s report from David Alexander and, unfortunately, due to work commitments with the Science Festival and family concerns, his last for some time as he is stepping down for a year or so from the board.

He has enjoyed it, but it has been a steep learning curve.

David Strange proposed a vote of thanks to David Alexander for taking over at such short notice when he was ill. This was given a round of applause.

Proposed: David Strange. Seconded: Peter Youd. Approved

4. To receive the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019

Treasurer, Vikki Brown introduced herself and thanked those who had renewed their membership.

Income from donations and group visits was down due to NLO being closed during the pandemic. This has been offset by £20k Covid grant income, some of which has been used to purchase the three air purifiers. Some expenses were down in the year (e.g., electricity) due to the building having been used less.

Hopefully we should be opening again for visits in the new year, subject to changes from the government.

Proposed: Kathleen Dollery. Seconded: David Strange. Approved.

For current auditors to remain: (Easterbrook Eaton Ltd)

Proposed: William Hitchings. Seconded: Peter Youd. Approved.

5 To Appoint Directors.

There were three nominations and four vacancies, Jeff Legg was nominated by David Alexander and seconded by Alan Green. Des Howlett and David Strange were.re elected as directors and Jeff Legg was elected as a new director.

By unanimous vote: Approved.

6 AOB

Hilary Naylor and David Pedder had enquired about what is happening with the touchscreens which are to be purchased for the foyer. David Alexander explained he has a team of three to finalise what we want. We are to get two kiosks and a separate touch screen by the Sun which Allan Jones is to programme using a Raspberry Pi. The equipment should be in by the end of next week. Dave will be talking to Bill about ordering it through the town council as they will be able to get the equipment for us VAT free.

David Alexander pointed out that we now have new air purification units, one of which will be put in the planetarium but there may be a problem with noise level.

David Strange Announced that we are to receive a substantial legacy from the estate of the late Collin Harris who was an NLO member. The solicitors will be making an interim payment next week from the proceeds of the sale of his house. He wished it to be on record that we are very grateful for this generous bequest.

As a society we have been fortunate, having had many generous donations over the years which have made all the difference to our big projects which we have undertaken.

Alan Green requested that we try and get a photograph of Collin Harris, because, having made such a generous donation, no one can remember him. Often, seeing a face jogs people’s memory of who someone was.

David Alexander thanked Kerry and Alan Smith for the sterling work they had done about keeping people informed. He thanked Kate Brittan for the sterling work she had done with the GCSE and thanked all the people who had done work at the observatory: Kathleen and Janice for the library, Alan Green, Allan Jones, Hugh, Peter Youd and Jeff for their work and Hilary and Dave Driver for clearing the gorse round the Victoria dome.

Barry, who had done an excellent job of grass cutting will no longer be doing this.

Heather will no longer be doing the gardening and will be sorely missed. People visiting from conservation groups often remarked on the excellent way she kept the grounds.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm

Hilary Naylor

NLOS Company Secretary