

Minutes of the 2017 ACIP AGM

Held on Friday 27th October 2017 at Le Bastion, Le Bugue

1. Apologies and proxy votes

94 members attended; 18 apologies were received and 10 proxy votes.

2. Signing of the minutes

Following a proposal by Bryony Marshall, seconded by Sue Gordon, the minutes of the 2016 AGM were duly signed by joint-presidents Robert Brereton and John Kuppens as a true and correct record.

3. Joint- President's report Part 1 – Robert Brereton

Robert started by welcoming everyone to the meeting and started by outlining the origins of ACIP, its foundations and the premises that have been ACIP's home down the years. He then handed over to John Kuppens.

Joint- President's report Part 1 – John Kuppens

Speaking in English and French, John spoke about both he and Robert stepping down as co-presidents and then went on to talk about his time in ACIP and the way in which he became a member. He talked of the work that was required to get Le Bastion into shape and thanked those who had put in a considerable effort. He mentioned the group activities, the language groups and the cultural activities – the C of ACIP. He then went onto the I of ACIP and stated that there are 18 different nationalities among the members. He then went on to talk about sponsors and the fact that sponsorship income is now about €3000 per annum.

Joint- President's report Part 2 – Robert Brereton

Robert spoke about how he became involved with ACIP in 2009 and how he became president and latterly co-president. He then went on to tell the ACIP story, looking at a number of the activities that ACIP has organised down the years. He then handed over to Paul Cope, the membership secretary.

Membership Report – Paul Cope

Paul announced that there are currently 324 members, up from 292 at the time of the 2016 AGM. The membership represents 18 different nationalities. 46% of the membership is British, with the French now taking 2nd place just in front of the Dutch. He then handed back to Robert Brereton

Joint- President's report Part 3 – Robert Brereton

Robert continued with a further nostalgic look at ACIP and the programme of regular events that has been provided recently. He then handed over again to John Kuppens.

Joint- President's report Part 4 – John Kuppens

John gave some further detail about the C in ACIP, talking about the very successful classical concerts that ACIP organised in 2015 and 2016 and then more on the annual programme. He then handed over to the treasurer Martin Crawford.

4. Treasurer's Report– Martin Crawford

Martin gave a brief introduction of himself and then gave a high level tour through the ACIP accounts. He stated that ACIP funds had increased from just over €7000 at the time of the 2016 AGM to just under €14000 at the end of September 2017. He went on to say that the figures were even better because newly received membership subscriptions had boosted funds to just over €17000 at the date of the AGM. He also showed that the budget set in October 2016 had been beaten and that nearly all activities undertaken broke even or showed a small profit. He then described the budget set for the coming year as being roughly neutral, so that at the end of the coming year, funds should be at about the same level. Finally, the sting in the tail. It had been discovered that the electrical installation at Le Bastion was not up to the needs of the organisation and that some, potentially, major work was necessary. As there was no clear indication of what the cost would turn out to be, a special budget line of €4000 was to be included to pay for the required works. He then handed back to Robert Brereton.

5. Election of Officers

Robert introduced the members standing for the 4 "official" ACIP posts. Bryony Marshall as President, Jenny West as Vice-President, Lianne Lenz as Secretary and Martin Crawford as Treasurer. Bryony, Jenny and Lianne gave a short introduction of themselves. A vote was undertaken for each post and each member was duly elected unanimously.

6. Any Other Business

As no other business had been notified before the meeting, the meeting moved on to Vote of Thanks.

7. Vote of Thanks

Robert thanked all group leaders, past and present. Then he thanked committee members past and present. Then 3 members stepping down – Jane Morris, Annelies Rhee and Teresa Crawford – who were all presented with bouquets.

After a short pause, Robert went on to talk about and remember Gwyneth Green. After a further short pause, the Support Group were also thanked and a general plea was made for more people to become members of the support group.

Robert then handed over to Bryony Marshall, the newly elected president, to say a few words.

8. Closure of Meeting

Robert closed the meeting by asking all members to continue to make suggestions through the post box at Le Bastion, to make sure to keep up to date by reference to the web site and to forgive the number of emails received. The meeting was then pronounced closed, with the offer of a drink at the bar for everyone.

Teresa Crawford
ACIP Secretary