



## **Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Association (SAA) Meeting held on Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 11.30 am at Trinity Park**

**Present:** 79 Members attended.

**Officers in Attendance** - Phillip Ainsworth, Ian Liddell, Helen Fomenko, Hannah Woods, Margie Morris (minutes).

**Others in Attendance** - Sarah Chambers (EADT) Julian Taylor (RNAA)

The SAA Chairman (David Nunn) welcomed all to the Association's 189<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting. In normal circumstances the Association's President (Stephen Miles), would chair the meeting but sadly was unwell; all wished him a speedy recovery. The meeting, being properly convened with a quorum, commenced at 1130 a.m.

Before the start of formal business all remembered Vice Presidents and Members of the Association who had died since the 2019 AGM. The Chaplain, the Reverend Brynn Bayman, led the tribute and minutes silence for the following: William Bryce, Roger Clark, James Downie, Graham Henderson, Anthea Langton and John Leaman.

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

44 apologies were received.

**2. Adoption of the Minutes of the 2019 AGM.**

The President noted that minutes of the 2019 AGM had been approved by the Trustee Board. In turn all present approved the Minutes. The President declared the motion to adopt the minutes.

**3. Ordinary Resolution 1 - To Receive and Adopt the Trustees' Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2019.**

**Trustees' Report for the year:**

The SAA Chairman reported it had been an exciting year including a wonderful Suffolk Show. TPEL had had a very good year, the ever-popular Christmas Parties along with many other activities including support to the Ed Sheeran Concerts had made for a busy and positive period.

The Show and TPEL both provided positive financial returns and with Simon Tucker, our Treasurer continue to work hard to find more economic ways to run the business.

Governance and internal controls have also been subject to review and thanks expressed to Karen Sharpe who has carried on the work commenced by Loudon Greenlees (previous Treasurer).

The Board continues to look at reinvestment into the site, particularly toilet blocks; this may include demolition of some and the rebuilding of others.

Time has been spent looking at the future purpose of Council. The conclusion being that Council continues to give valuable guidance to the Trustee Board on key matters and as a method of communication to the county and beyond.

Into the future there should be no limit to member numbers and a focus on finding next generation members.

An Alumni will be set up for those members stepping away as important to maintain the connections.

The Chairman thanked the Board Members for all their hard work and time, freely given, during the last year. Also, to thank Phillip Ainsworth and all his team for their enthusiasm and commitment, without which we would not be able to deliver our many activities.

#### **Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2019 – Simon Tucker (Treasurer):**

The Treasurer opened by noting that financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2019 received a clean audit opinion from the auditors Price Bailey and were approved by the Association's audit committee and by the full Trustee Board in December.

#### **Headlines**

- Key areas all performed well
- Show results slightly down (display spend)
- TPEL results moved into profit
- Investment income and capital appreciation
- Expenditure well controlled
- Increased contribution to charitable objectives
- Charitable income comfortably exceeds commercial income
- Significant capital investment areas include water irrigation, roadways, LED lighting and office telecoms
- Staffing has remained stable

#### **Operating & financial**

- Total number of events held on Trinity Park 449 (2018: 458)
- Net operating income (all activity) £74k (2018: £10k)
- Gains on investments £335k (2018: £173K)
- Total net income for the year £409k (2018:183K)
- Balance Sheet total £11.9m (2018: £11.5m)

#### **Membership**

- Membership income £165K (2018: £162K)

Numbers	2019	2018	Change
Life Members	228	226	2
Live Vice President	110	107	3
Members	812	827	15
Vice Presidents	788	846	58
Associates (under 21s)	90	72	18
Young Farmers	121	101	20
Total	2,149	2,179	30

#### **Expenditure & staff**

- Total expenditure increased by 6.3% to £3.3m
  - Charitable expenditure increased by 7.2% to £2.1m (partly driven by high sponsorship and other income)
  - Commercial & other expenditure increased by 4.7% to £1.2m

- Staff Full Time Equivalents (includes permanent and casual staff) increased by 2 to 34.
- Total staff costs increased by 5.4% to £927k (includes all zero hours and contracted staff on minimum guaranteed hours)

#### Show

- Attendance 2019 95,604 (2018: 90,200)
- Show contribution £545k (2018: £580k) before recharges
- Sponsorship income a record at £262k

#### Balance sheet summary of events

	2019	2018	Change
SAA surplus before investment gains	£15,505	£19,227	£34,732
Trinity Park Events Ltd	£89,337	£9,339	£98,676
Investment gains	£335,341	£172,752	£162,589
<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,916,225</b>	<b>£11,507,052</b>	<b>£409,173</b>

#### Total revenue summary

	2019	2018	Change
Show & Membership income (combined)	£1,802,414	£1,749,240	£53,174
Other SAA income	£74,598	£59,388	£15,210
Investment income	£164,375	£161,400	£2,975
Profit on sale of fixed assets	£1,400	£2,009	£609
TPEL turnover	£1,391,799	£1,226,782	£165,017
<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,434,586</b>	<b>£3,198,819</b>	<b>£235,767</b>

#### Highlights and year to date 2020

- Budgeted for a small consolidated surplus
- TPEL to make a profit
- First quarter on target
- Main Capital Expenditure items include new Show software.

The Treasurer proposed adoption of the accounts which was seconded by James Black.

The Chairman then declared the motion carried as voted by those present and by the unanimous proxy votes.

#### **4. Ordinary Resolution 2 - To elect Mr William (Bill) Kemball, currently President-Elect of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, President of the Association 2020 Suffolk Show.**

The Chairman asked the Vice-Chairman, Peter Over to propose that William (Bill) Kemball be elected as President.

The proposal was seconded by John Wall.

The Chief Executive declared the motion carried as unanimously voted by those present and by proxy votes.

William Kemball thanked all those present for voting for him saying how very proud he was. He first stewarded in 1959 and had had a lot of fun making many friends along the way. Delighted that Peter had mentioned his late father and proud to be following in his footsteps. Also proud of his family, particularly Bee, for what they have achieved and contributed to the Association.

#### **5. Ordinary Resolution 3 - To elect Mr David Barker MBE as President Elect of the Suffolk Agricultural Society for the 2020 Suffolk Show.**

William Kemball proposed David Barker MBE as President Elect for 2020. He continued that it he was very pleased to invite David to take on this role mentioning that David had steward since 1980 but unlike most others, who had started in car parks, David came straight in as the tractor handling

steward and had many roles since, Tradestands, Press and one of the founders of the Schools Farm and Country Fair. He was Show Director in 1994 and continues to steward, with his farm also winning many awards over the years. David's passion about conservation was also mentioned.

The proposal was seconded by David Nunn.

The Chairman declared the motion carried as unanimously voted by those present and the proxy votes in favour.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the proxy votes received for this resolution were all in favour with 2 against.

**6. Ordinary Resolution 4 - To re-elect the following retiring members of Council who have been nominated for re-election; in accordance with Article 11.1.**

The candidates for re-election:

Angie Ashby-Hoare, James Black, Countess of Cranbrook, Andrew Fairs, Bob Feltwell, Oliver Holloway, Jane Rabagliati, Lord Tollemache and Philip Westrope.

Rupert Eley, Toby Pound and James Tuckwell decided not to offer themselves for re-election. Note that between the time proxy forms were sent out and today James Tuckwell informed us that he did not wish to be considered for re-election.

Although the proxy forms required this Ordinary Resolution to be voted on in many parts, there was such a strong majority of proxy votes in favour of the election of each individual it was proposed that, as in previous years, the meeting should vote on all the candidates as one resolution.

The Chairman declared the motion carried as voted by those present and by proxy votes in favour. The Chief Executive confirmed the proxy votes received for this resolution as a majority in favour with 3 against and 14 abstentions.

**7. Ordinary Resolution - To re-appoint Price Bailey LLP as auditors of the Association for the 2019 financial year to take office with immediate effect, to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting and to authorise the Trustee Board to fix their remuneration.**

The Treasurer proposed the re-appointment of Price Bailey LLP as auditors and Loudon Greenlees seconded the proposal.

The Chairman declared the motion carried as voted by those present and by proxy votes were in favour. The Chief Executive confirmed that of the proxy votes received were all in favour.

**8. To receive a report on the arrangements for the 2019 Suffolk Show.**

The Honorary Show Director, Bee Kemball, reported as follows:

- c94,000 visitors
- Farming Live Spectacular (a new event and thank to Brian Barker) wowed the crowds
- 60ft Viewing Tower gave an amazing view over the Forestry ring and Flower Show
- The Woodland Garden Exhibition, led by John Dyter, an amazing display
- Blue Light Area hugely popular
- Pig Racing great fun
- Dog Agility – Police Dogs – Dog Walk/Dog Nutrition
- Lifestyle Area bigger and better
- Working machine demonstration, Oil seeds 'Journey of Food' very informative
- Courtyard area used as a quiet area with Suffolk Libraries and the Rural Coffee caravan
- Art tent enabled A-level students will exhibit
- Bigger and better ringside clubs adding value for members which will continue to grow
- Goat/Sheep rings, new post and rail fencing to show case the area
- Cattle building new ventilation system installed

- New viewing area for the Farriery
- New Supreme Ridden Class
- Queen's Groom spoke at the Director's Dinner
- Sponsorship income new record

Congratulations offered to Mike Harris, Mike Tew, James Nunn and Mike Gadsby for winning the Best County Agriculture Show.

Thanks were given to all the Stewards, Volunteers, Show committee, Senior stewards and Deputies, Contractors, Maintenance team, Traffic teams and all the SAA permanent and temporary Staff.

**9. To propose a vote of thanks to the 2019 Honorary Show Director and Honorary Deputy Show Director.**

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Show Director, Bee Kemball and Bruce Kerr, Deputy Show Director for 2019.

Peter Over presented Bruce Kerr with a thanked him for all his hard work.

Peter Over then presented Bee Kemball with a Decanter thanking her for three very successful years as Show Director.

**10. To receive a report on arrangements for the 2020 Suffolk Show.**

Bruce Kerr, Show Director reported on the 2020 show preparations:

- Next Monday starts the 100 day count down
- Sponsorship has already exceeded target
- Farming Live continues to grow, this year's theme 'Story of Barley'
- Judges and Stewards all Invited
- Schedules out at the end of the month
- Big Wheel in place of Tower
- Layout of Heavy horses and Sheep area improved
- Changes to food hall layout
- Red Poll and Long Horn National Shows
- Real Life Superhero's bigger and better
- Red Devils dropping in on both days
- Pigs, Shetland Pony Derby/Inter-hunt relay
- Cookery Theatre
- Bulldog Lings main ring display
- Police Dog displays
- Abba Tribute band for Wednesday night entertainment

Suffolk Show posters and roadside boards are available from the meeting.

The SAA Clay Shoot day on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, thanks to David Cleary for organising the fund-raising event for education.

The President, Stephen Miles asked the Chairman David Nunn to report on his behalf.

Stephen wished to pass on his thanks to James Black for looking after him and Stephen Fletcher and Sue Bennitt for looking after Petrina. The new layout in the Presidents enclosure, very much improved. The highlight was very much the Woodland Garden Exhibit led by John Dyter and the greatest thing he will remember. David thanked Stephen and Petrina for all they had done and wished him a speedy recovery.

## **11. AOB.**

The Chairman introduced Julian Taylor from the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association (RNAA) to report on the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth 2020, the twenty ninth conference running from 30 June to 11 July, hosted by the RNAA. Business leaders will discuss global challenges and new opportunities. Next generation delegates will share their experiences and new ideas. Twenty-three countries will be represented.

Topics include: Circling the World, Circular Economy and Agriculture and the Three Pillars – Environment, Agritech and Engagement.

Four volunteers from Suffolk needed to act as guides. Places in Suffolk to be visited include - Dingle Dell Pigs, Suffolk Food Hall, Chadwell Acre, New Market racing and Waveney Valley. Discounts for RASC members and Next Generation Bursaries available.

Julian thanked the Chairman for letting him attend today.

The Chairman then mentioned the Schools Farm and Country Fair and asked that if any members wished to sponsor a local school (£100) for travel to the show to see the education team and for those interested in the Clay Shoot Day to see David Cleary after the meeting had finished.

The Chairman thanked all for attending.

The meeting closed at 12.54.