

ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING RETREATS

MINUTES OF THE AGM

5 February 2011

Launde Abbey

Present	Bishop Christopher Chessun Tim Blewett (TB) Julia Mourant (JM) John Ansell (JA) Ann Coleman (AC) Jane Franklin (JF) Marion Syms (MS)	President Chairperson Vice-Chairperson Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee
In attendance	Alison MacTier (AM) Approx 28 members	APR Administrator

1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>Bishop Christopher welcomed all present. Apologies were received from 7 members and 3 members of the executive.</p>	Action:
2.	<p>The minutes of the AGM on 24 October 2009</p> <p>Minutes from the 2009 AGM were agreed and signed as a correct record.</p>	
3.	<p>Elections</p> <p>Ann Jepsom and Ralph Mallinson had requested to stand down from the executive. There were nominations for three new members – Jacqueline Platt, David Ford and Ben Wilson, who were newly elected to the executive.</p>	
5.	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p>TB gave thanks to all attendees, to Bishop Christopher for his support as President; to JM for her very hard work as vice-chair; for JF and JA for their organisation of the conference, to the newly elected trustees of APR; to the Retreat Association office and AM for ongoing work.</p> <p>He felt that APR was moving forward as an organisation in terms of its programme; it was changing and developing over time and new trustees enabled this process to take place.</p> <p>The Spiritual Adviser's Consultation of Nov 2009 had been a new development and a follow up consultation was planned for 2012.</p> <p>The Conference and AGM was a new development and the AGM next year would include a retreat.</p> <p>Plans for the future included quiet days and parish retreat days.</p> <p>Trustee Ann Coleman was heading up an exploration of a Theology of Retreat – which would help to encourage newcomers to retreat.</p> <p>Finance was an area for attention. The membership fee had been raised.</p> <p>APR now had its own website, banner and leaflets as a way of encouraging new members.</p> <p>It was important for APR to have a voice – The Synod Motion may need to be reiterated.</p>	

6.	<p>Treasurer's Report – presented by Tim Blewett</p> <p>The accounts were currently being managed by the RA Treasurer, Roger Seaton for which grateful thanks were expressed. The executive were experiencing some difficulty in finding a replacement treasurer, following Alan Powell's retirement, but it was hoped that this would be resolved in the near future. APR was moving towards a balanced budget, with an increase of general funds over the previous year. Investments were lower, reflecting the current general economic climate. Expenditure was higher due to in part to the Spirituality Adviser's Consultation, APR newsletter and cost of <i>Retreats</i>. Costs would be saved on <i>Retreats</i> this year by replacing the mailing of complimentary copies to the newly ordained with an invitation to 1 years' free membership.</p> <p>The accounts were approved and a proposal that the same independent examiners should be appointed next year – Griffin Stone Moscrop – was seconded and agreed.</p>	
7.	<p>Administrator's Report</p> <p>AM tabled her report. She highlighted APR activities carried out or supported by the office including the PR Newsletter, new leaflet and website. She also highlighted the Retreat Association activities, including a successful Consultation for Spiritual Direction Trainers in October 2010, the positive response to a change in format of <i>Retreats</i>, the new RA website, forthcoming Training Days, Quiet Days, Networking Days for Retreat House wardens, and the Retreat Association Conference in 2012.</p>	
8.	<p>Dates for Future Meetings</p> <p>16 March 2011 – Business Meeting, London 06 – 08 July 2011 – Community of St Mary the Virgin, Wantage 06 September 2011 – Business Meeting, London 07 – 09 December 2011 – Residential Meeting, venue TBC</p> <p>AM was asked to book venues with the preferred option of the day meetings being at St Philomena's Convent, Euston Square, London and the residential meetings at APR Houses within 2 hours' journey of Amersham to enable AM to attend them for the Business Meeting.</p> <p>AM to circulate all dates and venues to both existing and nominated Trustees as soon as possible.</p>	AM

T. Blewett

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