

Minutes of the Second Spaxton Community Shop Society Ltd Annual General Meeting

At 7.30 on 16th April 2014 at Spaxton Village Hall

1. **Present:** 48 shareholders. Apologies received from 29 shareholders.
2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th April 2013:** Approval proposed by C Harmon and seconded by S Haswell. Approved unanimously.
3. **Matters Arising:** None
4. **Chairman's Report:** Josh Schwieso gave an account of the activities of the society since the last AGM. He described;
 - The design of the proposed building including the changes made since the last AGM
 - The tendering process and selection of preferred contractors
 - Bringing the lease agreement with the village hall to the point of completion
 - The increase in funds available since the last AGM from £115 000 to over £150 000
 - The recent share offer
 - The work done by the committee to prepare for running the shop including visits to other community shops and attending Plunkett training days.

Members asked questions about the possible opening date and the difficulties of setting up a Post Office local. The chairman reported that once the contract had been signed the building would be ready in about 3 months. A date in the summer is possible. The post office was discussed later in the meeting.
5. **Presentation and approval of the accounts:** Richard Lee described the accounts that are attached and were distributed at the meeting. They have been professionally examined and approved.

The company's accountant, Charles Greenow gave further explanation of the presentation of the accounts and the reason for the need for the motion put to the meeting under item 8.

The motion that the accounts be accepted was proposed by Anne Stoye, seconded by Peter Sedgewick-Wilde and approved unanimously.
6. **Membership Report:** Peter Harvey reported that since the last AGM a further 1 039 shares had been sold and the company had gained a further 28 shareholders. 5 901 shares are held by 291 holders representing a share capital of £29 505.

Peter reminded new shareholders about the Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme which can reduce tax liability on the cost of shares at the rate of 50%

He asked for changes of contact details and email addresses where possible which greatly increase the efficiency of contacting shareholders.
7. **Election of committee:** A third of the committee, Simon Haswell, Biddy McWilliam and Josh Schwieso resigned and offered themselves for re-election. In addition, those committee members co-opted since the last AGM, Michelle Boobyer, Carol Smith, Sian Sedgewick-Wilde and Trish Edwards, resigned and offered themselves for re-election. The motion that all 7 be elected en bloc was proposed by Gilly Lee, seconded by Ruth Lederman and approved unanimously.

The chairman invited nominations to fill the one remaining vacancy on the committee. Mandy Deeks volunteered, was proposed by Josh Schwieso, seconded by Jenny Hill and approved unanimously.
8. **The following motion was put to the meeting;** "This meeting authorises the society to disapply the requirement to undertake a full professional audit for 2013."

Proposed by Simon Haswell, seconded by Anne Stoye. The motion was approved unanimously.
9. **Motions:** There were no other motions
10. **Any other business:** Members were informed about the options and challenges involved in setting up a post office in the new shop. As an introduction, Martin Smith, postmaster in Crowcombe Community Shop gave an account of the way that post office operates. He also provided background to demands of Post Office Ltd for us to set up a post office local.

The chairman gave a presentation covering:

 - the need for a post office,
 - the types of post office and alternatives
 - the services and constraints of each option
 - the situation with the current post office and post master

Members discussed the information. There was some resentment that we were being "pushed" towards the post office local option which would require a great deal of work and responsibility for little reward. Information from Martin Smith suggested that we or a postmaster/mistress may yet be able to obtain a Community Post Office contract which attracted a greater income. The committee

will contact Post Office Ltd to press for this and possibly contact our MP, the Post Office chief executive and the Plunkett Foundation to explain the difficulty of our situation.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm