

**THE CRAFT GUILD OF CHEFS**

1, Victoria Parade, by 331 Sandycombe Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3NB

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**The Victory Services Club**

**Sunday, 7th April 2019 11.30am**

**Minutes**

Present:

 A. Bennett – National Chairman

 J. Jonson – National Treasurer

Andrew Green

Pauline Tucker

Richard Tucker

Duncan Holloway

Don Irwin

Alan Paton

Matt Wilby

David Mulcahy

Omero Gallucci

Giovanni Fontebasso

Kevin Byrne

Dave Chalk

Chris Basten

Gary Hunter

Dennis Mwakulua

Craig Martin

Alan Melville

Matt Owens

Steve Munkley

Ken Demmen

Cam Faherty

Stefan Murdoch

Phil Dixon

Stephen Scuffell

Wayne Harris

Mark Reynolds

Francois Ginther

Maria Drury

James Eaves

Chris Dickinson

Sion Farrell

David Foskett

Alison Cullin-Woodcock

Apologies for Absence:

Geoff Acott

Roy Perrett

John Retallick

Audrey Dawber

Nick Vadis

Michael Eyre

Lee Maycock

1. **To read the Notice of Meeting and announce apologies for absence.**

The National Chairman opened the meeting at 11.30am and welcomed all present and apologies were taken as read.

**2. To confirm the Craft Guild of Chefs minutes from the AGM 2018**

The minutes of the AGM 8th April 2018 were proposed by Richard Tucker and seconded by Alan Melville. (Unanimous Vote)

**3. Matters Arising.**

No matters arising.

**4. To receive and adopt National Chairman’s Report**

The National Chairman A. Bennett gave his report; this was proposed by Pauline Tucker and seconded by Dave Chalk.

It’s been an interesting year as Chairman of the Craft Guild and one whereby I have learnt a lot about the industry, but more importantly one where I have naturally learnt a lot about the Guild, and some of the amazing work it has achieved throughout its history, and even more so having a birds eye view throughout the past twelve months, and the time given up by so many passionate and dedicated professionals.

I would firstly like to thank Andrew Green for his guidance and support throughout this year and his organisational skills towards today’s AGM and all the many other events he is directly involved with.

In essence what have we been up to since last April you would ask yourselves?

We have put in place many initiatives, including an accreditation document that allows Colleges from around the UK and the world an opportunity to be accredited by the Guild, whereby using the infamous Craft Guild logo within their workplace and encourage new members to become associated with the Guild.

We are currently investing in a new Website, initiatives born out from a brainstorming day held by the curtsey of Mark Reynolds at the new Spurs Football Stadium, where we gathered potentially new young members in trying to understand what we as a Guild need to accomplish in order for them to join the Guild, and to maintain this organisation to flourish in the future.

We have laid the foundations for the Craft Guild apprenticeship scheme curtsy of some great work from Professor David Foskett, and on the verge of announcing our first group of 12 apprenticeships in conjunction with Westminster College imminently.

Credit has to go to Andrew for working tirelessly with our Business Partner’s which has resulted in a fantastic endorsement deal with M&B, which will be announced in due course, and will promote the Guild across the country, along with many other BP’s stories that could be shared later.

We are driving hard in trying to add benefits for our membership in order for them to be incentivised to become part of the Guild, the membership currently stands at approx 850, but this element is crucial if we are to grow this vital part of ensuring we have continuity for the future of the Guild.

I decided to re-launch the lunch club, which has proved to be a success and after a slow start is now becoming a popular event, and with the support of Connor Godfrey who took up the challenge of organising this on behalf of the Guild has done a first class job, where we are heading for our fifth lunch club at Elystan Street the home of Phil Howard on the 15th April. These lunches have proven to be a great opportunity for young and old to integrate and network together in sharing experiences, and new BP’s have also emerged from this process.

We mustn’t forget the sterling work as ever from all the regular events that take place, that make the Guild what it is today, which form the bedrock of the success of the Guild, which in turn encourages BP’s to invest in our organisation. The key events the Guild regularly repeat year after year should never be taken for granted, and we should be very mindful these events take a huge amount of time and dedication, and a sincere thank you has to go to these key players, and you all know who you are.

There are of course many challenges ahead and none more so than trying to encourage more people to get involved with the  Guild, in what is a very busy world we all live in, and to give up their personal  time in driving forward this amazing organisation with its highly credible brand, which is so respected around the world, and could be even greater if we make the right decisions in the future, hence what today is partially about in attempting to encourage new and current committee members and the Vice Chair to support me in my vision for the Guild and become ‘One Team One Guild ‘

**5.** **To receive and, if approved, adopt the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December, 2018.**

The National Treasurer, J. Jonson presented her report, and the statement of accounts and balance sheet. This was proposed by Ken Demmen and seconded by Richard Tucker.

Just as I reported on at last year’s AGM I am very pleased to inform you all that the figures that we return for 2018 are in a very healthy state once again

It was a hard year in terms of companies spending money, and we really had to work hard to ensure that we continued to give value for money to our business partners to keep them on side, and give them all that they needed in return for their hard-earned cash. This did result in picking up 10 new business partners from late spring through to the summer.

Towards the end of the year when the realisation of Brexit really started to bite and the renewals were sent out we lost a total of 8, giving us a nett gain of 2 for the year.

This has not stopped us from sourcing new ones, but also paying attention to our present ones.

Anyway, to the figures that you have in front of you.

You will see that there is a surplus of £66,166 for the year which is down on the £135,588 for the previous year, this has many factors, and to name but a few, our wage bill has increased, partly due to increased NI and Tax contributions, also the rise in the pension percentage that came into force in the April, and this will the same for this year, there is also the fact that we have had extra staffing this year to cover the increased work load.

We have had a few events that did not return the required income levels, and therefore ended up costing us money, these have now been addressed, and we were awaiting for some invoices to be settled. So, for example for one of our events in November we had spent £13,000 on the accommodation, and do not receive the monies to cover this until early February of this year. Therefore this would have meant that our £66,166 surplus would in real terms have been £79,166. So to factor these in we did have a solid year.

For 2018 many of the business partners whom normally pay by the end of December of the year, held off and paid in early 2019 therefore this itself distorts the figures.

As for the office we spent very little on the upkeep during 2018, and this as ever is a moveable feast with each year being so different. We already know that during this year we will have to invest in this area.

For 2018 we increased our rents again by 6%, we already know that around May this year we will have a room vacancy as one of our tenants moves out, this was not based on the rental increase, so from when they move out to us finding a new tenant, we will have slightly lower rental income for 2019

During 2018 we employed a PR company, therefore we had monthly cost for this that we had not had during 2017, but there is always a need for good PR and still a lot less than we had been paying years previously.

The website costs as you will see on page 7 appear to be much greater than in 2017, this was due to us not being invoiced, we reserved the money and knew we would have to pay, but no need to pay until asked! Therefore a lot of these 2018 website costs relate to 2017.

During the year we have purchased new equipment such as laptop, and small office equipment, these all add up and are added to the assets that we have.

You will see from page 7 that our insurance for the building and contents has come down from £2,379 in 2017 to £891 for last year, and this was also for increased cover. We stayed with the same broker, but under a new scheme that is run, we are able to reduce our payments out, our insurer is Royal and Sun Alliance. To put it into context we have always paid £2,000+ so this was a big saving.

Overall you will see that 2018 was a strong year and that we do continue to control costs in every area.

You will see that on page 3 we ended the year with a bank balance of £432,705 up from £360,632 in 2017, which is an increase of £72,073 which itself shows that we are doing things right and that we are in a very healthy position once again, this again is down to the hard work that many of the committee have put in over the last year.

Each year we strive to ensure that from a financial side we are delivering the best possible results for the Guild and our members and will continue to do so.

As for the benevolent fund there were costs for 2018, these related to the passing of Bill Kendrew, and others throughout the year, as well as visit to members who were unable to attend last year’s AGM where we presented 50-year awards to.

Just to bring you right up to date, as of today we currently have in our bank accounts a combined total of just over £526,449, which shows just how healthy we are currently looking.

Ken Demmen extended special thanks to the National Treasurer Jane Jonson for her continued support, especially given that her heath has not been the best over the last year.

**6. Chairman of the Vice Presidents, S Scuffell presides over meeting.**

**7. To declare all Craft Guild of Chefs existing National Officers places vacant.**

S Scuffell the Chairman of the Vice Presidents Council declares all Craft Guild of Chefs existing National Officers positions vacant.

**8. To Elect Chairman for the Craft Guild of Chefs and receive acceptance speech**

 National Chairman – Andrew Bennett MBE Proposed: Prof. David Foskett MBE

 Seconded: Steve Munkley

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**9. To Elect Vice Chairman for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

National Vice Chairman – Matt Owens Proposed: Mark Reynolds

 Seconded: Fergus Martin

 Votes for: 21

Votes against: 12

 Abstentions: 0

National Vice Chairman – Gary Hunter Proposed: Terry Tinton

 Seconded: Nick Vadis

 Votes for: 12

Votes against:21

 Abstentions: 0

**10. To Elect National Treasurer for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

Treasurer – Jane Jonson Proposed: Craig Martin

 Seconded: Maria Drury

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**11**. **To elect National Secretary for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

National Secretary – Maria Drury Proposed: Matt Owens

 Seconded: Fergus Martin

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**12**. **To elect Education Secretary for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

Education Secretary – Prof. David Foskett MBE Proposed: Andrew Bennett MBE

 Seconded: Nick Vadis

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**13**. **To elect Culinary Team Manger for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

Culinary Team Manager – Christopher Basten Proposed: Fergus Martin

 Seconded: Pauline Tucker

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**14**. **To elect Corporate Events Coordinator for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

Corporate Events Coordinator Proposed: Andrew Bennett MBE

 Alison Cullin-Woodcock Seconded: Mark Reynolds

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**14**. **To elect Social Events Coordinator for the Craft Guild of Chefs**

No nominations have been received for this position

**16. To appoint Auditors for the year ending 31st December 2019**

Andrew Bennett asked that someone nominate Chris Reed and Co. Accountants, who were appointed as accountants/auditors for the Craft Guild of Chefs for year ending 31st December 2019.

Proposed: Ken Demmen; Seconded: Richard Tucker

 Votes for: 33

Votes against: 0

 Abstentions: 0

**The National Chairman closed meeting**

The National Chairman, Andrew Bennett gave thanks to all. The meeting was closed at 12:10pm.