



2022 AGM Minutes

Monday 28 February 2022
7.30 pm @ Door 84, Lowther Street, York
email: info@rowntreeplayers.co.uk

Welcome to everyone from all members of the Committee

Apologies: Lisa Green, Tammy Banks, Sam Woodall, Lee Smith, Alison Ashton, Gemma McDonald, Howard Ella, and Angela Day

Committee Member Attendees: - Marie-Louise Surgenor, Helen Woodall, Paul Mantle, Graham Smith and Leni Ella

Attendees: - Martyn and Jeanette Hunter, Heather King, Nigel Metherington, David and Carole Metcalfe, Joe Marucci, Mark and Sam Lofthouse, Anna Wood

The committee led the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Review of the 2021 AGM minutes

The committee went through the main points of the 2021 AGM, which we all agreed were correct. Leni Ella proposed and Helen Woodall seconded.

Summary of 2021 Season

Howard was unable to attend the meeting so he wrote a summary of the year -

Well, after a dearth of performances thanks to the pandemic we managed to find our mojo with style as we presented 3 great productions in swift succession in the 21/22 winter programme.

But let's step back...

The first thing to recognise is the speedy turnaround of the set and prop store by our Technical Stage Management Team after the catastrophic fire of 2021. It is in great shape with a better set up than before the fire and has turned out some great sets and props for 3 very different shows.

Also, recognition to the production teams and committee who have kept things going, rebooked, rescheduled and re-organised continuously.

Special recognition to Marie, who has had to track all elements of the claim and it's subsequent flurry of spending. Big thanks to all the volunteers who supported us through this time. Those efforts meant that we could return to the stage with all the shows we'd planned.

I won't discuss them creatively - our judging panel will do that but just to say that a more varied and exciting season hasn't been seen for a long time. We were lucky to complete all performances with no positive tests, no cancellation and no big issues.

We saw full houses return and ice creams fly off the shelves. We made people laugh, cry, and talk about difficult subjects in a new way. We did exactly what theatre is meant to do and we did it for free as part of a community - Well done to us!

Financial Accounts

Marie talked us through the finances, details available on a separate sheet (attached) and available to us all. This year we have had a few investment purchases, which include a Low Fog Machine, which was £1500. It was a good year financially, especially coming out of Covid. Panto takings were down from last year but we expected this, again due to Covid.

2022 Season

27th - 29th January 2022 - **The Missing Peace** - by Ian Donaghy - Adapted and Directed by Gemma McDonald

Back in 2019 Gemma McDonald read Ian Donaghy's book "The Missing Peace: Creating a life after death" and convinced the Rowntree Players to take on a challenging play about how people survive losing those they love the most. "As I read each story, I could see them on a stage."

Gemma chose and adapted 15 of the monologues to create "The Missing Peace: One Play Fifteen Endings". All was in place...cast, script, rehearsals for an April 16th opening night in 2020 but a pandemic stopped the world from turning and we were told, "the show mustn't go on".

We rescheduled it for September and but it was shelved again until a tentative Jan 2022 date. Even then, the back end of Delta and Omicron looked to threaten the stage with darkness again.

The Missing Peace raised £7654 for the two charities - Bereaved Children Support York and St Leonard's Hospice.

31st March - 2nd April 2022 - **Sex, Drugs Rick n Noel** by David Tristram - Directed by Graham Smith.

The auditions have taken place and the cast announced. Rehearsals are underway and tickets are on sale.

3rd - 10th December 2022 - **Babes in the Wood** - Written and Directed by Howard Ella.

Auditions will be on 17th July and then the cast announced. Tickets are on sale from 1st September.

Committee Elections

There are no resignations.

- Secretary – Alison Ashton was re-elected to the role. Marie-Louise Surgenor proposed and Helen Woodall seconded
- Treasurer – Marie –Louise Surgenor was re-elected. Leni Ella proposed and Paul Mantle seconded

The Chairperson shall be elected at the next Committee meeting. The rest of the committee remains the same and we hope they will continue in their current roles as follows:-

Marie - Finance

Alison - Secretary

Paul - Technical/Stage Manager

Leni, Gemma, Alison and Helen - Marketing and social events

Tammy - Safeguarding

Lee and Sam - Technical and Backstage Assistants

Helen - Panto Company Manager

Gemma - Social Secretary

Lisa - Liaisons with Door 84

We currently have vacancies for committee members so please let us know if you would like to join us.

Awards

William Wallace Award - Presented by Carole and David Metcalfe - David and Carole read a lovely review of all the shows from 2022 (attached) and presented the award to Gemma McDonald

Joan Sadler Award - The committee presented this - Graham Smith did a short speech and the cup was award to Anna Jones for her scenic painting skills.

A O B

As we need more directors for future show, it was suggested that we have a play reading committee as they have done in the past. We should put ads on Radio and Social Media to ask directors to come forward for future shows.

It was suggested that we have ' Welcome Meetings' a few times a year so that anyone interested in joining Rowntree Players either as a director, on stage or backstage roles etc. could come along and meet the committee in a social setting to meet us and see what we're all about.

Thank you to everyone for attending tonight's meeting and for your continued support.

The next AGM will take place during March 2023.