

Minutes of AGM 21st January 2012

PRESENT Paul Barker, Sally Taylor, Peter Kitchen, Jarni Fennell-Ross, Brigitte Sanderson, Julia Limage, Gary Beighton, Rosalyn Spencer, Ian Johnson, Carol Allison-Maybank, Kerrie Ambrose, Richard Mawer, John Walker (Accountant)

APOLOGIES Geoff Mullett, Julia Mullett, Lynn Moors, Andy Dewar, Sarah Dewar, Ingrid Walker.

Paul opened the meeting by thanking Roz and Ian for hosting the evening and giving a review of the previous year's activities. These included the usual mix of events, some of which were better supported than others, and Roz and Paul's meetings with the Louth town partnership food group in relation to possible identification of veggie-aware shops in the area which unfortunately came to naught. Two couples in the group were married last year and to make sure he didn't get any names wrong he wrote them down and passed on congratulations to Roz and Kate and Ian and Phil.

ACCOUNTS John Walker distributed the accounts he had generously provided which showed we had accumulated a surplus for the year of £261. As the group has no real need for a large bank balance it was decided to give donations of £50 each to the Vegetarian Society, Hillside Animal Sanctuary, The Ark Animal Sanctuary and Northcote Heavy Horse Centre.

Membership subs were agreed to be kept the same as previous years at £3 single, £5 couple, £8 family.

WEBSITE A big Thank you was given to Geoff Mullett (in absentia) for his hard work regarding the Group's website, which will continue to be maintained for the next year by him, providing up to date information about the Group's activities, recipes, photos of events etc.

THE FUTURE A discussion was then held regarding the future direction of the group and spacing of events. It was generally felt that monthly events should be kept going as far as possible with perhaps a midsummer break as to go to every two months could result in someone not being able to see the rest of the group for 4 months if they were unable to attend one event. Members were most forthcoming in their willingness to host/ organise events to the extent that a varied programme of events was agreed upon for the full year, with just minor details to be firmed up. A full events list will be issued shortly.

Due to changes in the Vegetarian Society's insurance policy they are now unable to cover events by 3rd parties such as ourselves and therefore it is unlikely that the market stall will be held this year. Although the group enjoyed the day it did seem to be pretty much preaching to the converted in that virtually everyone who approached the stall was actually vegetarian already. It was however decided to try and be more proactive in advertising events and the existence of the group itself by leaflet and poster distribution.

The meeting was then closed by Kit saying OLA!, and everyone enjoyed the array of dishes brought along.