

ALG

Archaeological Leather Group

Minutes

of the AGM held at 11.15am on the 20th May 2017 at the Walsall Leather Museum, Littleton Street West, Walsall WS2 8EQ

Present: Yvette Fletcher (Chair), Quita Mould (Secretary), Sue Winterbottom (Newsletter Editor), Angela Middleton (Meetings Co-ordinator), Di Friendship-Taylor, Dominique and Jean Mathieu, Susanna Harris, Mike Glasson and Elisabeth de Campenhout.

1. Apologies: Roy Thomson (Treasurer), Pat Thomson, Vivi Lena Andersen, Barbara Wills, Esther Cameron, Tim Martin and June Swann
2. Minutes of previous meeting: Approved. Sue Winterbottom proposed, seconded by Di Friendship-Taylor. These have been available on the Members' Area of the website since the meeting.
3. Matters arising:

The proceedings of the Leather in Warfare meeting titled *Leather in Warfare: Attack, Defence and the Unexpected* edited by Quita Mould has just been published and is available via the Royal Armouries website with a 25% discount to ALG members. A copy was presented to The Walsall Leather Museum for the Library.

Vivi Lena Andersen was congratulated on recently being awarded a PhD. ALG very happy to help her publish her dissertation in English should she require any assistance.

4. Chair's report

Chair was happy to report that the membership was expanding and that two successful, and most enjoyable, meetings were held over the year. The Spring meeting, organised by Di Friendship-Taylor, was held at Plymouth in Devon with one day based in Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery and the second at Mount Edgcumbe House. The Autumn Meeting, organised by Angela Middleton and Yvette Fletcher, was a day conference *Colouring Leather: it's not all brown!* co-hosted by The Leather Conservation Centre University (LCC) and ICLT at Northampton University. The meeting had an attendance of 30 and publication of the contributions is planned. Details of the forthcoming Autumn Meeting, a day seminar *The Enigma of Japanese White Leather*, to be held at the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers Hall in central London, were announced. Committee members were thanked for all their hard work over the year, particularly Sue Winterbottom for producing the excellent newsletters and Roy Thomson for handling the accounts.

5. Treasurer's report including membership

The Treasurer provided accounts for the financial year ending 31st December 2016 and accompanying notes. The group made a cash surplus of £260.43 during 2016, resulting in a year end cash balance of £5607.62. Membership increased to 73 from 16 countries including the UK. A budget of £1000 was allocated for the *Colouring Leather* conference but £574.56 was spent. At 1st May 2017 the Group has a cash balance of £6265.24.

Due to the closure of the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society the bank account is currently being transferred to NatWest. Notification will be made in the next newsletter.

6. Editor's report

Two newsletters were issued during 2016 and all those who had contributed were thanked, particularly the new contributors who had come forward. Pleased to report that contributions had already been promised for the next (Autumn) issue and that all further contributions will be most gratefully received. Copy deadline 8th September.

7. Election of Committee

Ordinary Members: Tim Martin and Di Friendship-Taylor come to the end of their first term. Di Friendship-Taylor happy to serve a second term, proposed by Yvette Fletcher and seconded by Angela Middleton. Tim Martin was happy to stand down if another member could be found. Dominique Mathieu was happy to stand in his place and so was proposed by Quita Mould and seconded by Susanna Harris. Tim was thanked for all his help and support whilst serving on the Committee particularly in view of his busy schedule and the travelling involved.

Secretary: Quita Mould has come to the end of her first term but happy to continue in the role for a second term, proposed by Yvette Fletcher and seconded by Susanna Harris.

The Treasurer, Roy Thomson, and Newsletter Editor, Sue Winterbottom, were reappointed for a further year.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Updates to the constitution, last revised April 2006

Section 2 Objectives, to be added: 'and anyone interested in helping the group to achieve its aims and willing to pay the subscription agreed by the Committee'.

Section 4 Committee, Election of Committee members, delete: 'by postal ballot of members' and insert: 'held at the Annual General Meeting with nominations proposed and seconded by two members'.

Section 6 Meetings, Annual General Meeting, delete: 'to be held in the Spring', and insert: 'to be called in writing including email, giving at least 4 weeks' notice. Seven members, or one tenth of the membership if less, to form a quorum'.

Section 8 Newsletters, to be deleted: 'Institutional Members shall be entitled to 2 copies of each issue of the Newsletter'.

8.2 Raising the subscription was considered but it was not thought necessary to change the subscription rate at present. The difficulties regarding the supply of information that is later used by others for gain was discussed.

8.3 Suggested that responses/answers to members' questions be summarised and included in Newsletters, so all future responses to be copied to archaeologicalleathergroup@gmail.com please.

The meeting closed at approximately 12.10am

Quita Mould

Secretary