

Minutes for FADS AGM held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Apologies

Apologies received from: Graham Batchelor, Steve Baker, Hazel Collins, Andrea Leisk, Liz Toon

Minutes of last AGM

Approved

Matters arising

None

Report from the Chair

Welcome to FADS AGM 2025.

I would like to thank our retiring committee member Graham Batchelor. Graham has previously acted as both our Chair and our Social Guru organising many memorable evenings. Thank you, Graham. We will greatly miss your humour at our committee meetings and hope you continue to feel a part of our society.

The 2024/25 season has been successful with the presentation of three very different plays that were well received by our audiences; and showcased the breadth of talent within our society. In March we saw Agatha Christie's Murder Mystery "And Then There Were None" followed by June's performance of "Little Voice" a bittersweet comedy. The November production of George Orwell's chilling novel "1984" completed our year.

Just as important has been the feedback from both our acting and backstage members who have commented on the friendly, inclusive atmosphere that FADs exude. I would like to thank all those involved for making this happen.

Looking forward to the coming season Our March play "Pack of Lies" a play portraying the 1960's real life spy scandal, that was remembered by many of our audience. The June performance will be Agatha Christie's "The Mirror Crack'd" and the November performance will be the quick paced farce "Boeing, Boeing". Licenses for these plays have been secured.

This year we have taken the decision to move our props/costume stores. This decision was taken and agreed at our Extra-ordinary General Meeting. The Sea Lane Ferring store is now being marketed, and we have received an offer. A local architect will draw up plans and help us submit them to the Planning Office. The process will require significant effort to sort and relocate props and costumes. Initially, they will be moved to a temporary storage facility while the new permanent store is under construction.

Once the permanent store is complete, they will be transferred from the temporary location to their final destination. We are seeking numerous volunteers to assist with this process.

Peter Lewis asked if there was any idea of cost for the new store. Veronica responded that there was a possibility that FADS could incur a Capital gains liability which could effect the amount available, but it could cost anything between £50k/£70k. We may need to employ an accountant to give advice on the tax situation.

Financial Report

Copy of the Audited accounts distributed. Total surplus for the year was £134. John was pleased to announce that each show this year made a surplus with a total of £6,019 from all three shows. This compared to £2,843 from the previous year.

Simon Weston asked why the hall hire cost was so high for the June '24 production. John was unable to give an answer to this, but has agreed to investigate further. One answer may be that the rehearsal period for this show was slightly longer.

Simon also asked why the cost of scripts for the year was higher than the scrip fees collected, John explained that scripts were supplied to cast and backstage crew and FADS policy was only to collect script fees from the actors.

John mentioned that the costs of running the wardrobe/props store this year had increased due to additional cost of approx £1,000 for legal fees incurred following a change of trustees. He also pointed out that the figure of £1,587 shown in the accounts for depreciation was a *book figure* only and could be added back on to the surplus for the year. It was also noted that the sale of refreshments and alcohol could be seen to be increasing our income.

Accounts adopted – proposed by Peter Lewis and seconded by Nigel Bubloz.

A donation of £275 was agreed as a donation to the charity chosen by Colin Hawes as a thank you for preparing and auditing the accounts.

Election of Officers:

Main officers standing:

Chairman – Veronica Cringle – proposed by Roy Stevens seconded by Peter Lewis.

Hon Secretary – Roy Stevens – proposed by Veronica Cringle seconded by Judith Mason-Griffiths

Treasurer - John Croot – proposed by Susan U'ren seconded by Carole Holliday

Election of committee

As is customary the whole committee stood down with the exception of our president, Pat Attree.

Those agreeing to re-election to the committee are: Elizabeth Toon (Membership Secretary), Simon Weston (Publicity & Artistic Com), Judith Mason-Griffiths [committee], Nigel Bubloz [Technical Manager], Carole Holliday [Social Media], Steve Baker [committee], Andrea Leisk [Box Office]

New Committee Members elected: Niall Conlan – proposed by Veronica Cringle, seconded Judith Mason-Griffiths. Martin Oakley – proposed by Carole Holliday seconded Nigel Bubloz.

A.O.B.

Date of next AGM was agreed as Wednesday 1st April 2026

Meeting Closed 8.05 pm