

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF RINGWOOD SCHOOL ARTS FOUNDATION
Thursday 7th December 2023. 6.30PM. Dance Studio, Ringwood School

1	<p>Present</p> <p>Clare Rowden, Sarah Irwin, Jo Brooks, (trustees), Nancy Hay, Administrator Ian Hawkins (Head of Performing Arts), Helen Hawkins (Performing Arts Teacher), Lindsay Himmel (Head of Music), Rhiannon Lawton Read (Head of Drama) Samantha Fisher, Paul Fisher, Dr. Geoffrey Ridgway, Dr. Harriet Dean, Sally Rickard, Dom Kippin, Andy Rix.</p>
2	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Jo Short, Allie Hack</p>
3	<p>Welcome and Introduction:</p> <p>In the absence of a Chair, it was proposed by Sarah Irwin and seconded by Clare Rowden that Ian Hawkins should chair the meeting. The trustees from the previous term, colleagues from the performing arts and Nancy Hay, the RSAF administrator were introduced and thanked.</p>
4	<p>Approval of Minutes</p> <p>After an amendment to the minutes separating the Chair's report from Matters Arising, Nancy Hay proposed the minutes be approved. Clare Rowden seconded the proposal and the proposal was accepted.</p>
5	<p>Treasurer's Report 2022-2023</p> <p>Jo Brooks (via Zoom) gave a thorough account of the income and expenditure for the previous year.</p> <p>The detailed report is attached.</p> <p>Commenting on the fundraising from the RMDS soiree, Dr Ridgway asked if some of the proceeds from that event might be donated to RSAF as had been the case in some fundraising activities in which he had been involved.</p> <p>On behalf of the trustees, performing arts teachers and the members, Ian profoundly thanked Jo Brooks for her conscientious work as treasurer, and for taking on extra responsibilities in organising volunteers for events and steering the trustees in the absence of a Chair. A vote of thanks was proposed and seconded by Dr Ridgway.</p>
6	<p>Membership Report 2022-2023</p> <p>Nancy Hay shared the following information.</p> <p>129 members joined during the year. There are six honorary members. 41 of these were new members; 50 were renewals from the previous year; 32 lapsed members re-join.</p> <p>There is now a minimum £15 donation to become member. However, the average donation was £20.</p> <p>Marketing has been limited this past year so we are hoping this year we will drive the membership up.</p> <p>Currently 75 members have re-joined so far this year (2023-2024).</p> <p>Ian Hawkins proposed a vote of thanks to Nancy Hay for her work behind the scenes – keeping the Foundation functioning. Paul Fisher seconded the vote of thanks.</p>

8	Report from Head of Performing Arts (in absence of a Chair's report)
	<p>The trustees, all the volunteers and Nancy Hay were thanked for the enormous support given. The support given to the teachers in the performing arts is very much appreciated and valued. In particular, on behalf of Linday Himmel, Head of Music, the trustees were thanked for the support of a Musician in Residence. Andy Rix was thanked and commended for her time as Chair, steering the Foundation through some difficult times and yet leaving it in good shape. The previous trustees, Clare Rowden, Sarah Irwin and Jo Short were thanked and commended for their commitment.</p> <p>Opportunities to fundraise this year are back in place and fundraising opportunities have subsequently increased and been fruitful.</p> <p>Looking to the future, a number of priorities were proposed:</p> <p>Continuation of support for visiting professionals</p> <p>Increasing the number of trustees to the maximum eight.</p> <p>Supporting Rhiannon Lawton Read in her vision for the Drama department.</p> <p>Discussion of how we can reach out to students who may benefit from involvement in the performing or production arts but who do not engage with it.</p> <p>Making the Alumni a more formal part of the RSAF.</p> <p>Re-introducing some Social Events for Friends of RSAF.</p> <p>Outreach – financial support from others in the community</p> <p>Marketing and Publicity – social media, using members who have these skills.</p> <p>A Team for organising events so it doesn't fall on one person.</p>
9	Voting of Trustees
	<p>Eight members were willing to stand as Trustees.</p> <p>After brief accounts of the reasons each of them were willing to stand the voting took place.</p> <p>The following members were proposed by Harriet Dean and seconded by Andy Rix:</p> <p>Jo Short Allie Hack Dr Geoff Ridgway Paul Fisher Sally Rickard Clare Rowden Jo Brooks Sarah Irwin</p> <p>Jo Brooks was proposed as Treasurer by Nancy Hay and seconded by Clare Rowden.</p> <p>The role of Secretary and Chair will be discussed at the first meeting.</p>
	Any other Business
	<p>There will be a document circulated asking for availability for the first meeting before a date is set.</p> <p>Nancy Hay was thanked for providing refreshments</p>
	Close of meeting
	<p>Ian Hawkins thanks everybody for attending the meeting. The meeting closed at 7.30pm.</p>