

THE HAWORTHIA SOCIETY

Minutes of The Haworthia Society GM held via zoom at 3.05 pm 27th November 2021

1: Apologies for absence: Bill Darbon, Veronica Read, Suja Vadanana

Officials Present: Les Percy, Tony Roberts, Stirling Baker, Bill Hildyard, Roger Hefford, Les Hewitt, Derek Tribble, Adrian Weatherill

Total number of attendees: 28

2. Minutes from the Last Previous GM: Held in October 2018 at the Birmingham Botanic Gardens. The only outstanding item was a proposal from Alan Rollason, the then chairperson, to consider alternative methods to hold the GM. The committee having discussed this item and also because of Covid, had agreed to hold this GM online via Zoom.

3. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising and the meeting approved unanimously the previous GM minutes.

4. Chairperson's Report: The last GM was held in 2018 but due to the restrictions of Covid-19, the Society was unable to adhere to the bi-annual holding of GM's.

The 2019 Convention was a success with international speakers, Steven Molteno & Sean Gildenhuys from South Africa together with Colin Walker & Stuart Riley providing nine excellent talks.

Alan Rollason resigned as Chairperson and at an extraordinary committee meeting held November 2019, Les Percy was elected to Acting Chairperson, the position to be ratified at the next GM.

Covid-19 has had an effect on Society activities, with the GM in 2020 & the planned Convention this year postponed.

Progress on the latest publication, New Haworthia species, was going slowly, but this should improve in the New Year.

Committee meetings have been held via the Zoom which the Society will continue with especially the GM as it allows all members to be able to be part of the process.

The acting Chairman thanked the rest of the committee for all of their hard work to maintain the Society and special thanks to Roger Hefford who was standing down as Minutes Secretary.

5. Treasurers & Membership Report: These 2020-2021 accounts have been published in the current Haworthiad. The Society accounts were in a healthy state with Covid-19 resulting in decreased expenditure for the period.

Plants sales of £737 included £700 compensation from the NatWest Bank.

Receipts and Payments Account for the period 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

**FINAL
BUT UNAUDITED
DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

Tony Roberts, Haworthia Society Hon. Treasurer

Receipts	2020-21	2019-20	Payments	2020-21	2019-20
Subscriptions, consisting of:			Journal printing	£1,839	£1,813
UK subscriptions 2020 ^a	£266		Other printing	£50	£104
UK subscriptions 2021 ^b	£2,453		Postage and Mailing House costs	£2,618	£2,152
Overseas subscriptions 2020 ^a	£518		Stationery	£82	£84
Overseas subscriptions 2021 ^b	<u>£2,588</u>		Committee meeting rooms/lunches	£0	£399
Total subscriptions	£5,825	£5,587	Travel expenses	£0	£396
Seed sales	£1,857	£2,206	Seed purchases	£330	£300
Books	£218	£237	New binder purchase	£0	£479
Journals and binders	£379	£184	Internet hosting and website	£302	£142
Plant sales, commission, donations	£737	£0	Sundries (RHS memb., flowers, gifts, etc.)	£35	£408
DVD sales	£280	£233	DVD production costs	£5	£5
Badges	£42	£55	PayPal charges	£273	£250
Gift Aid Tax Credit	£425	£418	Bank charges	£1	£1
Sub-total (excl. Convention)	£9,763	£8,921	Sub-total (excl. Convention)	£5,534	£6,532
Convention receipts	£0	£12,041	Convention payments	£0	£12,186
Total receipts	£9,763	£20,962	Total payments	£5,534	£18,718
			Surplus (or if minus, Deficit)	£4,229	£2,244
			Total	£9,763	£20,962

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2021

Balance at 1st April 2020	£25,248	consisting of:	Bank	£25,194 ^c
			Cash (Tony)	£13
			Cash (Bill D.)	£42
Surplus for Year (or if minus, Deficit)	£4,229			
Balance at 31st March 2021	£29,477	consisting of:	Bank	£29,389 ^c
			Cash (Tony)	£12
			Cash (Bill D.)	£75

^a including earlier years

^b including later years

^c of which £1,114 are restricted funds (Conservation Fund)

Plus stock of books, journals, binders and badges

Tony Roberts

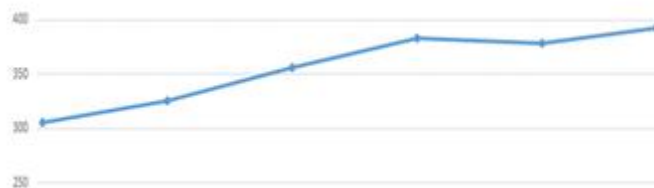
1st April 2021

Receipts and Payments Account for the Period 1st April 2021 to 22nd November 2021

Receipts		Payments	2021-2022
Subscriptions 2021	£645.58	Journal Printing	£1,208.74
Subscriptions 2022	£1,245.43	Other Printing	£21.12
Seed Sales	£311.55	Postage & Mailing House costs	£1,887.85
Other Sales	£376.22	Internet Hosting and Website	£63.10
Gift Aid Tax Credit	£417.34	PayPal Charges	£66.86
Total Receipts	£2,996.12	Total Payments	£3,247.67

Membership 2016-2021

	Members at 31/12/2016	Members at 31/12/2017	Members at 31/12/2018	Members at 31/12/2019	Members at 31/12/2020	2021 Members at 22/11/2021	2022 Members at 22/11/2021
UK	170	169	183	190	191	195	88
Associate members	3	2	3	1	2	1	1
Europe	46	53	57	69	63	68	18
Rest of World	87	101	113	123	122	128	25
Total	306	325	356	383	378	392	132



Membership had steadily increased over the last 5 years.

Stirling Baker thanked Tony Roberts for a clear presentation and for all his hard work with the accounts.

6. Editors Report: The editor thanked Phil Blackman and Tony Roberts for their hard work and support without which would have made producing the journal infinitely harder.

After ten years as journal editor, it was getting harder to put together a journal, particularly one with a fairly narrow subject matter and with the increasingly wide range of free journals, blogs, websites and social media and despite the demise of Aloe and Alsterworthia, less new material was available for print. Thank you to our circle of regular contributors who

provide a steady supply of articles, but not enough to fill the journal every issue and work will have to be done going forward if we are to maintain past standards. To that end we are discussing the need to recruit a new pair of hands to assist with journal and take over if necessary.

7. Event & Show Managers Report: Shows with Birmingham and Oxford BCSS branches were badly affected by Covid-19. The last convention was a success with around 60 people attending, with plenty of plants to be bought and viewed. There was also a good auction.

8. Seed Distributor's Report: The new world order, or more specifically the UK & Europe, had created problems not only acquiring seed but also sending outside of the UK.

The latest seed list was made available to non-Europe overseas members on the understanding that they adhered to their country's rules & regulations. Permits to import small lots of seed was required for the USA and a notice to import permit for Australia. Problems with Europe continue.

Since the last GM there have been at least ten seed distributions with a total of over 8000 packets of seed from 320 types making up over 400 orders.

It is hoped to continue to produce interesting seed lists in the coming year.

Seed sales since last GM

Seed list	Packets sold	People	Number listed	Net Sales (Approx)/£
April 2019	1955	75	65	1050
Sept 2019	550	50	20	345
Oct 2019	1000	45	50	550
Dec 2019	425	25	20	224
Total	3930	195	150	2170
May 2020	570	29	10	130
August 2020	1010	46	32	50
September 2020	1235	50	50	510
November 2020	830	40	38	340
Total	3645	165	130	1030
April 2021	290	27	20	150
November 2021	350	25	24	170
Total	640	52	44	320

Stirling Baker thanked Les Percy for all his efforts distributing seed.

9. Sales Managers Report: As agreed with the Committee, the number of old journals in stock has been reduced to a manageable level and this continued to be monitored.

The production of the DVD had reduced requests for journals pre Vol. 29. The 25th Anniversary edition had sold out. The frequency of orders was limited as were requests for the Joyce Coccozza Special edition.

Les Percy had listed the Joyce Coccozza book on ebay.

10. Publicity Managers Report: Nothing to report as Covid-19 resulted in all events being cancelled. Next year opportunities will return with the BCSS National show taking place and possibly Oxford and Birmingham shows. Support on the publicity stand at the National show would be needed during the event.

11. Changes to the Constitution: The acting chairman and treasurer explained that this item had to be taken out of order from the agenda. The proposed changes to the constitution needed to be approved in order to progress the meeting, if not a face to face meeting would need to be held at a later date.

The changes to the Constitution were documented in June 2021 Haworthiad. In summary these were,

1. BGM will be replaced by a GM typically every 2 years and may take place face to face or by other means
2. Committee will meet at least once per year and may be face to face or other means
3. Accounts are published from 1st April to 31st March

The meeting approved the changes unanimously.

12. Election of Officers: Alan Rollason had resigned as Chairman. Les Percy had accepted the role as acting Chairman and agreed to stand as chairman. Roger Hefford stepped down as Minutes Secretary. Adrian Weatherill had agreed to stand as Secretary. All other officers had agreed to remain in position for the next 2 years. There were no other nominations for officers.

All existing and new nominations for society officials were accepted unanimously by the meeting for the next term of 2 years.

13. Election of Society President & Life Vice-President: Derek Tribble agreed to remain as President for the next 2 years. This was accepted unanimously.

The committee proposed that Graham Walker was offered the position of Life Vice-President for his services to the Haworthia Society. He was one of the original members of the Society and in 1992 when it was proposed to close the society; Graham produced a questionnaire for the membership to help keep the society going. He was the Secretary and Shows Manager from 1992 to 1998. He has also been the Auditor since this time. This was approved unanimously by the meeting.

14. Election of Auditor: The current auditor, Graham Walker, agreed to continue for the next 2 years which the meeting approved unanimously.

15. Update on 2022 Haworthia Society Convention: Planning and arrangements for the next Haworthia Society Convention to be held in 2022 at the Hilton Hotel, Leicester was ongoing. Speakers include Dr Ernst Van Jaarsveld, Karen Zimmerman, Jakub Jilemicky and Frantisek Vesely. There would be a price increase for the convention which would be the first for 13 years.

AOB: Steve Thompson thanked the committee for their hard work running the society.

Meeting closed at 4.00 pm and was followed by a presentation by Derek Tribble on “What’s New With Gasteria”

Dr Adrian Weatherill

Secretary, The Haworthia Society