



*Sports and social group for
Vision impaired people*

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held on Saturday 4th February 2006 at Cornerstone Centre, Hove

Present – Christopher Abberley, Jackie Campbell, Raymond Dunstone, Chris Dutton, Jonathan Dutton, Louise Eaton, Mick Etheridge (chair), Alison Evans, Connie French, Paul Gillett (minutes), Sue Joseph, Jim Lee, Valerie Lee, Valerie Mainstone, Rose McCormick, Christina Mendez, Jacqui Petty,

Apologies for Absence – none

1. **Introductions** – Mick welcomed everyone to the third City Synergy annual general meeting.
2. **Minutes** of the last AGM dated 27th January 2005 were read, agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Reports

3.1 Chair's report

Mick's report was read to the meeting; the report highlighted some of the activities during the last year and thanked everyone for their involvement and support.

Mick expressed thanks to Blatchington Court Trust, The Scarman Trust and St George's parish fund for continued funding that had made many of the activities possible.

3.2 Treasurer's report

Jonathan read the report on behalf of Chris Dutton.

The accounts show that we are carrying over £1,144 with an excess of spend over income of £19 for 2004. The bank balance at the end of the year was £5,643 with £500 of the funding from Blatchington Court Trust and £4,000 from Scarman Trust carried forward.

Expenditure for the year was £5,685 including £2,009 for Goalball and £2,645 as the cost for activities (members contributed £1,076 towards this which was shown in the income total). Income for the year was £5,704 of which £4,200 came from grants, and £185 from membership subscriptions.

The management committee recommended keeping subscription at £5 for the coming year. This was proposed by Mick, seconded by Paul and carried by the meeting.

A proposed budget for 2006 was presented to the meeting, it was explained that on current levels of spending we would have around £700 in the bank at the end of 2006. The management committee would be working on finding new sources of funding over the coming months and a sponsored event was a possibility.

Members were advised that it might be necessary to slightly reduce subsidies on activities if fundraising proved difficult but that the committee remained committed to ensuring activities were affordable and were ready to look at ways to help where financial hardship made it difficult for members to get to events.

4. Election of Officers and other committee members

Christina Mendez took the chair for the Chair's election with Mick returning to the role thereafter

The following were elected to stand on the management committee for the coming year

Role	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Officers			
Chair	Mick Etheridge	Valerie M	Jim L
Treasurer	Chris Dutton	Paul	Valerie M
Secretary	Paul Gillett	Connie	Jacqui P
Vice Chair	Alison Evans	Valerie M	Mick
Other Committee members			
	Louise Eaton	Christina	Alison
	Jackie Campbell	Sue	Chris D
	Jim Lee	Christina	Mick

All persons were agreed unanimously by the meeting.

Louise, Jackie & Jim were welcomed onto the committee

5. **Policies**

Paul reported that the committee had created a policy during the year on the reimbursement of volunteer's expenses when on duty at City Synergy activities. The policy was designed to ensure fairness and consistency and reflected our appreciation and commitment to volunteers for the valuable contribution they make to enable the success of our events. The policy was proposed by Mick, seconded by Paul and approved by the meeting.

6. **Activities**

A range of activities were suggested including:

- Woodsmill
- High Beaches Gardens
- Leeds Castle
- Hampton court (audio life stories walk)

- Portsmouth, HMS victory
- Singleton

Mick promised that the committee will investigate these and other ideas and hoped that some could be incorporated into a programme, He reminded the meeting that activity ideas and other feedback were always welcomed.

Connie asked for an appreciation to be noted for all the work put in to organising the activities and to say how much the effort and commitment was appreciated

7. Any other Business

Paul advised the meeting that the committee had commissioned a designer to produce a new logo and leaflet to assist us in promoting our activities, a proof of the logo was circulated. It was explained that our bid to the Scarman Trust had included a commitment to increasing awareness of our activities particularly to those groups that might not easily be reached.

Christina asked whether the leaflets could include Braille embossing, whilst there was some question about the practicality or affordability of doing so the management committee was asked to look into options, perhaps on a limited sample.

8. Date of next AGM – Saturday 3rd February 2007