

DORSET AND HAMPSHIRE IYENGAR INSTITUTE

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the DHIYI held at the Botley Centre, Hampshire at 1.30pm on 18th April 2015

Present :

Jenni Doohan (Chair)

Zoe Hobbs (Treasurer)

Carol Batterson (Hampshire Events Organiser)

Kim Trowell (Dorset Events Organiser)

Mary Heath (Liaison Coordinator and Acting Recording Secretary today)

Cheree Low (Public Relations/Web Coordinator)

Nikki Byrne, Louise Kirby, Carolyn Ryan, Julie Smith, Suzie Walker, Marcelle Edwards, Louisa Elliott, Iris Lee, Catherine Otway, Louise Hopley, Tarja Armitage, Helena Chiu

1. Welcome

Jenni welcomed everyone to the 10th AGM of the DHIYI, and thanked Mary for recording the Minutes in Monica Mooney's absence.

2. Apologies for absence

Cara Bowen, Bridget Campbell, Julia Casson, Pauline Collison, Sally Hogsflesh, Monica Mooney, Kathleen Vaile, Jenny Trayford

3. Approval of Minutes of 5th April 2014

The minutes were approved as circulated.

4. Matters arising

Following the suggestion at last year's AGM that either the DHIYI should be more pro-active in raising money for a dedicated Institute Centre, or funds should be used in some other way, Cheree had put together options for consideration at the meeting. For example, if we were to aim to have a Centre, where would it be? What might be the cost? Would we have to pay a stipend to an administrator? Cheree proposed that either a sub-committee be formed to consider these matters further, or the issue be postponed. The matter was then opened to the floor for discussion.

Carol asked how much we had in the account, how much each year we were making, and also questioned where might be a location for a Centre which would be convenient for both Dorset and Hampshire members.

Zoe answered that we had a total of £9436.91 which would be seen in the accounts to be presented, and a surplus for the year 2014/15 of £73.11.

Sandy Bell asked if other Centres/Institutes were privately owned or were co-operatives. It was agreed that both were the case.

Tarja Armitage said she thought the Institute worked well as it was.

Carol proposed postponement of the issue. Seconded by Cheree.

The general consensus was that people were happy with the situation as it was.

5. Chair's Report

Good afternoon and welcome to our AGM.

This is my first AGM as chairman of the Dorset and Hampshire Iyengar Yoga Institute. It is an important year for the Iyengar Yoga community as we have mourned the passing of our revered teacher, BKS Iyengar, in August. It is especially pertinent for us to continue to spread the teachings of Iyengar yoga through our institutes so that we re-dedicate ourselves to his cause.

It is a special year for the institute as it is our 10th anniversary.

It is a special AGM for us as it is the first one we have held in Hampshire. We are very pleased to have Sheila Haswell here to teach us for the day.

Over the last year I have been learning the ropes as the new chairman. I am enjoying the challenges and appreciate having a strong committee with whom to work. Please find a list of the current committee members on the back of the agenda. I thank Giulia Howard-Hole, our previous chairman of 9 years, from the bottom of my heart for her continued support.

We have held 2 general yoga days in Southbourne- the first taught by Lydia Holmes in July and the second taught by Judith Jones in January. In Botley, Brenda Booth taught a general yoga day in November. Teachers have continued their training through the professional development day led by Judith Jones in Botley last October and there have been 2 Teacher Get-Togethers in Southbourne. Cheree Low has been instrumental in launching a new website which is sleek and uncluttered and includes, amongst other things, information on local classes and upcoming events so please look at our website for events planned for later this year.

To mark our 10th anniversary, we are hosting a weekend event (4th-6th September) with Laurie Blakeney, an advanced teacher from the US who will be teaching at the Premier Inn Bournemouth Central. We hope many of you will be able to attend some or all of the classes. If you are not already a member, please join the institute via our website to receive discounts on our yoga days.

As for committee matters, I would like to thank everyone who has or is currently serving on the committee. Current committee members, please stand up and tell us your name and your position.

Without the indefatigable efforts of our committee members, we would not function as an institute so I thank all the committee members, both past and current, on behalf of the DHIYI membership. Two of our committee members are stepping down today - Zoe Hobbs, who has been our faithful treasurer for the last 10 years and Cara Bowen who has been our trusty membership secretary for the last 4 years. Cara was unable to be with us today. We thank both Zoe and Cara for their dedicated and committed service on the committee.

Bridget Campbell, also not here in the flesh but here is her photo, has agreed to stand as the new treasurer and Nikki Byrne has agreed to stand as the new membership secretary. Please find their biographies on the agenda. As there are fewer candidates than committee spaces available, they are elected without challenge. Is everyone happy with their appointments? We welcome them both warmly onto the committee.

Mary Heath, our Liaison Coordinator for the past 10 years, is eager to step down so if anyone is interested in her post please let a committee member know.

Thank you for attending this AGM and for supporting our institute and we hope to see you at the Laurie Blakeney event in Bournemouth at the beginning of September.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

Read by Cheree in Cara's absence.

So far, 113 people have sent in subscriptions for the 2015-2016 DHIYI membership year, which is outstanding! Our members include: 1 member from Berkshire, 68 from Dorset, 37 from Hampshire, 2 from Somerset and 5 from Wiltshire.

The new renewal system that the IYUK introduced this year has been extremely helpful in terms of increasing our membership numbers and, as a bonus, has also made the job of Membership Secretary easier J Woohoo! This new system however, is still in a state of flux. For example, I can tell you that of the 45 members that enrolled with us in the month of February 18 were non-teachers and 27 were teachers. The month of March rolled in with 68 more members but the distinction of teacher/non-teacher was not available to me. There are many emails to-ing and fro-ing with the IYUK regarding the new system and I am confident that these issues will all be ironed out in good time. A big thank you once more for supporting the DHIYI.

7. Treasurer's Report

Zoe reported that the total balance of the DHIYI was £9436.91. There had been a surplus of £73.11.

Zoe thanked everyone for an interesting 10-year journey as our "interim" Treasurer (as originally intended in 2005), and wished the Institute well for the future.

8. Any Other Business

Suzie Walker asked how our income was accrued. Zoe explained that it was mostly through yoga days and weekends, and that although we did have a savings account, because it was a community account it could accrue only 0.5% interest. She added that consideration had been given to accruing resources for use by the Institute.

Tarja Armitage said that she thought the financial situation was a healthy one.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next AGM would be 16th April 2016 at 1.15pm at Trinity Hall.

The meeting was closed at 1.52pm