



LINCOLNSHIRE
AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY

Lincolnshire Agricultural Society Annual General Meeting

Thursday 2nd February 2023, Lincolnshire Showground,
Epic Centre.

Apologies: Ambrose Fowler, Bill Henson, Chris Rothery, Daisy Fields, David Hill, David Richardson, Emma Blandford, Gordon Cummings, James Knight, Jonny Dudgeon, Liz Coy, Lord Taylor of Holbeach, Margaret Robinson, Meryl Ward, Michael Godson, Nigel Brown, Peter Arrand, Peter Vergette, Richard Parker, Robert Borrill, Robert Willey, Roger Hansard, Sean Sparling, Shirley Richardson, Simon Day, Stuart Robertson, Tom Garner, Peter Gilbert, Kate Vickers, Sue Stennett, Brian Wadsworth, Simon Gadd.

In attendance: Andrew Buckley, Andrew Price, David Clough , Lizzie Saywell , Linda Lord , Andrew Read , Helen Clough, Jane Moreton , James Matthews , Les Parker , David Burton , Nigel Bottom , Ali Bottom, Andrew Howlett , David Nelstop , David Gladders , Ian Watson , Richard Crust , Mark Poucher , Steve Ward , Andrew Scoley, Alan Stennett , Graeme Beattie , Michael Chennells Bill Meredith , Nick Dowler , Laura Clark , Mark Allibone , C Howard , Kate Knight, Wendy Osgoby , Martin Poucher , Katherine Phillips , Andrew Ward , Richard Needham, Tim Needham , David Pridgeon, Sarah Poucher , Ian Walker, Eileen Walker, Ben Chamberlain , George Thompson , Anona Willows , Jane Hiles , Geoff Bottom , Rupert Bryant, Graham Rowles Nicholson , Richard Holmes , Lynne Dueguid, Linda Patrick , Matt Bagley , Ruth Wilkinson , Andrew Welch , Fred Wallis, Robert Howard , Alan Robson, Simon Pearson , Richard Collett , Helen Clarke, Matt Phillips , Robin Battle , James Lockwood, Chris Bourn , James Bourn , Giles Walter , Toby Dennis, Stuart McKenzie, Ian Walter.

Also in attendance: Alice Joyce, Tim Sleight, Rosie Crust, Suzy Stone, Josie Jamieson.

1. Chairman of the Meeting - Opening Remarks.

Apologies for Absence –

Andrew Buckley welcomes members of the Society; Tim Sleight read the apologies as above.

Andrew Buckley reported the death of LAS Past President, Julian Proctor, Eric Young a loyal exhibitor for many years and Richard Garner who exhibited Suffolk sheep at

Lincolnshire Show for many years as well as Mr Needler who showed Lincoln Red Cattle and were all supporters of the LAS.

A minutes silence was held to remember all members who have passed away in 2022.

2. **To Confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting which took place on 25th February 2022**

No matters arising from the minutes.

Call for a proposer Nigel Bottom
Andrew Ward

Call for a seconder _____

President Chris Bourn signed the minutes of 2022 AGM.

3. **To receive the Trustees Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2022**

The Trustees report and Statement of Accounts were available on the website and the

	19/20	20/21	21/22
T/O	£1,697K	£1,812k	£2,613k
Expenditure	£1,582K	£1,123k	£2,360k
SURPLUS	£130k	£689k	£253k

	19/20	20/21	21/22
Total assets	£14.33Mil	£14.803 Mil	£15.17 Mil
Total liabilities	£0.730Mil	£0.5 Mil	£0.63 Mil

NET WORTH	£13.6 Mil	£14.3 Mil	£14.54 Mil
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Andrew Price commented the Society had a year of transition as income moved from Covid supported trading to hospitality trade. 2022 saw the return of Lincolnshire Show-our thanks to everyone involved.

There is a superb focus on key areas by staff- in particular the showground presentation, business development and event operations.

The Educational offering from LAS goes from strength to strength.

Trustees have reviewed and improved staff job package with life/ health cover for all staff, improved annual holidays, pension advice etc.

The LAS is in a strong financial position. All accounts are in credit and circa £660k on deposit & £250k invested externally.

Andrew Price confirmed 3 targets for LAS:

- **To have 25% over turnover as other operating income/ membership**
(a) presently at 24.1% for year ending 2022. (excl one off revenue 16%)
- **To have no bank borrowing**
(a) currently have the facility but no bank borrowing
- **To have a balance sheet of £15 mil**
(a) currently £14.71 mil up from £13.85 mil in 18/19
(b) very strong balance sheet @98% Net worth

Future plans for 2023:

Trading

- LAS staff attended a strategy day in Nov 22 in conjunction with Ali Bottom/ Witham group and will build on the progress from the meeting.
- Maintain business focus- particularly on gross margins/ cash and costs.

Investment

- The final renovations to the EXO building including the Kitchen and paving on the outside of the building.
- Progress the planning permission & development in NE corner.
- Planning permission at Carlton-le-Mooreland.
- Wastewater management project on showground will be reinstated to move the showground onto mains waste management.
- Improvements to the office facilities for staff.
- LED investing in further energy projects consisting of electrical charging points in the EPIC car park.

Andrew Buckley asked for a proposer and seconder for the accounts.

Graham Rowles Nicholson

Call for a proposer

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Ruth Wilkinson

Call for a seconder

A show of hands from the floor supported the accounts.

4. To Appoint Members to serve on Council.

25 of the 27 council members due to retire in 2023, wished to stand for re-election for a further 2 year term. These council members are:

Andrew Price, Andrew Read, Andrew Ward, Chris Rothery, Dave Bell, David Hill, David Pridgeon, David Richardson, Emma Blandford, Fred Wallis, Graham Rowles-Nicholson, Les Parker, Nigel Bottom, Peter Vergette, Andrew Wilson, Richard Collett, Robert Borrill, Robert Howard, Robert Willey, Robin Dennett, Roger Hansard, Simon Williams, Steve Ward, Tim Needham, J Dudgeon.

Kelly Hewson Fisher and Drew Smith are retiring from council and are not seeking re-election for 2023. Andrew Buckley thanked them both for their service both as council members and in the various roles they have performed for the society.

Call for a proposer	James Matthews
Call for a seconder	David Nelstrop

There were 4 nominations for new council members.

Robert Nelstrop:

Proposer: Nigel Bottom
Secunder: Kath Phillips

Ben Duckworth:

Proposer: Nigel Bottom
Secunder: David Nelstrop

George Thompson:

Proposer: Martin Poucher
Secunder: Nigel Bottom

Gordon Cummings:

Proposer: Alan Stennett
Secunder: Steve Ward

Matt Bagley:

Proposer: Simon Pearson
Secunder: James Lockwood

Show of hands from the floor supported the election of Robert Nelstrop, Ben Duckworth, George Thompson, Gordon Cummings and Matt Bagley. Council members were duly elected.

5. To appoint a President 2023

Andrew Buckley thanked Christopher Bourn as the outgoing President of the LAS, for his time as President Elect and last 3 years as President.

It was decided a proposer and seconder were not a requirement for the election of the President and a show of hands supported the election of Toby Dennis following his role of President Elect. A show of hands to support the election of Toby Dennis as President for 2023.

Toby Dennis was duly elected.

6. To appoint President Elect 2023

Ian Walters was nominated as President Elect for 2023, with the expectation he will continue as President for 2024.

Proposer	Secunder
Jane Hiles	Steve Ward

There were no other nominations for the President Elect.

A show of hands from the floor supported the election.

Ian Walter elected as President Elect for 2023.

7. To Appoint the Honorary Treasurer

Andrew Price confirmed he would continue as the Honorary Treasurer for 2023. There were no other nominations for the Honorary Treasurer.

Proposer	Secunder
Robert Howard	Stuart McKenzie

It was confirmed Andrew Read would continue as Show Director for 2023.

8. To appoint Society Trustees

Andrew Buckley explained trustees are eligible to stand for 3 terms of 3 years.

Andrew Ward has completed his 2nd term as trustee and will not be standing for re-election for another term.

Steve Ward has completed his 3rd term as trustee and will also not be standing for re-election. Steve will be continuing with show committee engagements. Steve will be continuing with education committee engagements.

Chris Rothery has completed his 1st term as trustee and will not be standing for re-election.

Andrew Buckley thanked Andrew Ward, Steve Ward and Chris Rothery for their time as trustees and for their input towards the society over their terms.

Robert Nelstop and James Matthews were nominated for election as new trustees for the society.

Robert Nelstop:

Proposer	Secunder
Nigel Bottom	Kath Phillips

James Matthews:

Proposer	Secunder
Ian Watson	Andrew Read

A show of hands supported the election of existing and new trustees.

9. To appoint Auditors.

Streets Chartered Accountants expressed interest in continuing their services as auditors.

There are no other proposals or objections.

Proposer	Secunder
David Nelstop	Tim Needham

10. To present the President's Award for 2023

Toby Dennis presented the award to Alan Robson for his outstanding contribution to the agricultural industry in Lincolnshire with particular emphasis on his charitable work for the Chaplaincy and Lincolnshire Rural Support Network.

11. Any other Business

(a) **Charity of the Year;** The board of Trustees have agreed to support Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance and the Lincolnshire Community Foundation (LCF) Ukrainian Refugee Integration Fund.

The Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance provides a vital service to the rural surrounding areas which is recognised by the trustees. The LCF is supporting the Ukrainian Crisis and supports the education of those effected.

A show of hands from the floor supported the chosen charities for 2023.

Andrew Buckley reminded members of the 2023 dates:

Lincolnshire Farming Conference- Thursday 9th February

International Women's Day- Wednesday 8th March

Countryside Lincs- Sunday 16th April

The Lincolnshire Show- Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd June

Lincolnshire Food & Gift Fair Members preview Evening: Friday 24th November.
Lincolnshire Food & Gift Fair- Saturday 25th-Sunday 26th November.

No other comments from the floor.
Meeting declared closed.