

**TONBRIDGE, EDENBRIDGE AND MALLING  
CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION**

**EAST PECKHAM AND GOLDEN GREEN BRANCH**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 7.30pm on  
Tuesday 26th March 2019 at Cackle Oast, Golden Green**

<u>Present:</u>	Liz Holland	Chairman
	Howard Rogers	Treasurer
	Jane Rogers	Secretary
	Jill Anderson	Committee Member
	Janet Sergison	Committee Member
	Rose Tanner	Committee Member
	Marion Catt	Committee Member
	Rachel Packham	Committee Member
	Michael Payne	Committee Member and County Councillor
	Matthew Balfour	County Councillor
	Matthew Boughton	Guest Speaker (Borough Councillor, Maidstone)

**1 Opening remarks**

The Chairman opened the meeting, welcoming those present.

**2 Apologies for absence**

The Secretary noted apologies for absence had been received from:  
Clive & Penny Carden  
Len & Margaret Williams

**3 Minutes of AGM dated 8 March 2018**

The minutes of the previous AGM having been read, their acceptance was proposed by Jill Anderson, seconded by Matthew and adopted.

**4 Matters arising from minutes**

There were none.

**5 Correspondence relevant to the Branch AGM**

There was no correspondence relevant to the branch AGM.

**6 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman made a verbal report on the year's activities, including last year's AGM, the two fund raising events held and the two Committee meetings held. She expressed her disappointment that the Summer Wine Tasting Evening had had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

She mentioned the forthcoming May Parish and Borough Council elections and the need for help with leafleting and canvassing.

She finished by thanking the Committee for their continued and enthusiastic support.

Approval of the Chairman's Report was proposed by Rose Tanner and seconded by Jane Rogers, and was adopted.

## 7 **Financial Report**

The Treasurer presented a financial report on the year's activities, showing a total profit of £603.10 raised from the two events held, namely a Coffee Morning and Plant Sale in May, and a Christmas Coffee Morning Craft Sale with talk Tom Tugendhat MP CBE in December.

Approval of the Financial Report was proposed by Jill Anderson, seconded by Jane Rogers, and was adopted.

## 8 **Election of Officers**

The existing Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were unanimously re-elected en-bloc to their posts.

Chairman : Liz Holland

Hon Treasurer : Howard Rogers

Hon Secretary : Jane Rogers

## 9 **Election of Branch Committee**

All current Committee Members were unanimously re-elected.

Committee Members are: Liz Holland, Howard Rogers, Jane Rogers, Michael Payne, Jill Anderson, Janet Sergison, Clive Carden, Penny Carden, Rose Tanner, Marion Catt, Rachel Packham.

## 10 **Election of two representatives to Executive Council, plus a named Deputy**

Michael Payne and Rachel Packham put themselves forward to be our representatives, and both applications were unanimously approved. Howard Rogers was happy to stand as Deputy, although he is already a member of the Executive Council with responsibility for Tonbridge, Edenbridge & Malling Association website.

## 11 **Any Other Business**

There was a discussion regarding the poor attendance at the meeting, and the difficulty in promoting 'new blood' and support. However everyone present felt that the general political climate had had the effect of disenfranchising so many people, it was not surprising.

There was a short discussion regarding possible fund-raising events for 2019. It was agreed to hold the usual Coffee Morning and Plant Sale and Liz kindly offered to hold it at her house again, and that the date would be Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Other suggestions included a Jazz in the Garden type event and/or a Bring and Share Luncheon, but it was decided that there would be further discussion at our next Committee Meeting in May – date to be agreed.

The formal business of the evening was finalised by 8.05pm and at this point, we were addressed by our guest speaker Matt Boughton, Borough Councillor in Maidstone and Assistant to Tom Tugendhat MP CBE.

Matt gave us an excellent insight into his close working relationship with Tom as our MP and the enormous variety of tasks, responsibilities and topics his day-to-day working life entails. He spoke briefly about local and national issues and explained how, during his five years with Tom, he has seen the role of an MP change quite dramatically. The spread of social media has increased the involvement and expectations of the general public and with it therefore the work load. His enthusiasm for his work was refreshing to see, and he clearly enjoys his role. We very much enjoyed hearing from him.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. after refreshments had been enjoyed.