

Costa Blanca
ANGLOSPANISH
Association

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Newsletter –February 2017

From the Chair - Greetings to all members. This Newsletter follows the AGM, and so will be my last ! Detailed below are the important points from the AGM.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) took place on Monday 30th January 2017 at The Parador. Apart from the Annual Accounts which were handed out at the meeting, all the appropriate documents for this had been circulated to all members and 64 members attended. (The Minutes, and Annual Accounts will be circulated shortly.)

I herby confirm to all members, the following Agenda points were all approved, unanimously.

As President, I welcomed everyone, and to our new semi-circular seating arrangement – bringing all members much closer to top table and the screen.

Secretary, Jenny Bond, then gave apologies for absence.

The Minutes of the 2016 AGM were then approved.

Treasurer, Maggie Dennis, then presented the Annual Accounts of the Association – with a healthy balance showing. There was just one question from the floor, being the cost of the new Web Site. Maggie reminded all that this expenditure had been approved by the members present at the previous meeting. Jenny Bond then explained that this was a much needed, totally new Web Site, and would now be much more practical to operate. Thanks were then expressed to Jenny for all the hard work she has put into this new version. The Accounts were then approved.

I then gave my President's Report in the style of a photo review of the previous year. This was only possible due to the assistance of Peter Atkinson beforehand. Grateful thanks were expressed. The Review was, I am pleased to say, well received. I then mentioned that we had a healthy membership of 114. This is in contrast to many organisations who are struggling to survive. The Committee must therefore be getting it right ! But nevertheless will continue to try to both present an interesting programme for the year, and also continue to be professional in all they do.

Election / confirmation of Committee Members was then the next Agenda item.

The Committee continuation of Secretary Jenny Bond, Treasurer Maggie Dennis, Membership Secretary Katrina Myerscough and Committee Member Jack Haggarty were then approved.

Diane Wright was then approved as Vice President, as was the election of Committee Member Hilary Wass.

I then advised that I was stepping down from the position of President under our “3 years on the executive” rule. HOWEVER, we now, at last, had a member willing to put himself forward as President – being David Lawrence. As David was then in New Zealand, I gave details of David’s background.

In summary, David was in the Special Investigation Branch of the Military Police. Then European Securities Manager for the Cookson Group - a major international company. Followed by being Head of International Risk, etc., for two other International Groups. David retired from full time work in 2013. David’s wife is Genovate. Sincere thanks were then expressed to David for stepping into this role.. David will be back at the end of March. Until then VP Diane will chair the Committee.

The meeting then progressed to the approval of member Alan Murdoch as Auditor. Thanks were expressed to Alan for agreeing to take up this important role.

THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR 2017 had been circulated and the Committee was pleased to particularly note that The Mayor of Javea has agreed to be one of our speakers. Our Secretary Jenny Bond then pointed out that BREXIT would NOT BE ALLOWED to be raised by members, as this is both a political subject (not appropriate for an Anglo Spanish meeting), and would be too extensive to cover.

A vote of thanks to the Committee was then the last Agenda item. As President, I expressed my heartfelt thanks to them all for all their hard work and for the very professional way they had carried out their roles. They reciprocated their thanks to me for all my hard work as President. Thanks in the form of bottles of wine were then exchanged !

I then advised that, as has become a custom, there would be a glass of complimentary Cava for all members present, with a suitable pause before the Dinner. 45 members then had a very good meal in the lower room of the Parador.

I hope members agree that, once again, our Costa Blanca Anglo Spanish Association has had a most interesting, social and diverse year. I would like to express again my great thanks to all the Committee Members for their time, organisation and support. Also, thanks to all members for participating in such an active way.

My best wishes to all members and the Association for the future. I look forward to attending future events as an ordinary member, and so in a more relaxed way !

Keith

J K S HYDE
Immediate Past President