

The Cheshire Area of NAFAS
Minutes of Area Council Meeting held at Plumley Village Hall
Monday 15th April 2019

Officers Present: Chairman – Nicky Wylie, 1st Vice Chairman –Chris Gibbons, Area Treasurer – Tracy-Anne Clancy, Area Secretary – Morag McCord and Area Publicity Officer- Catherine Bower. Area President, Val Seed was also present.

Chairman's Remarks:

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Val Seed, Area President. The Area Chelsea exhibit was well on the way with the team working very hard. More information will be given later on in the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Louise Jones, Area 2nd Vice Chair, Diane Fair, Area Education representative, Shiona Fosh, Area Minutes secretary, Sharon Nolan, Chaffinches organiser and Pam Fleming-Williams. Also Appleton Afternoon FC, Chester FC and Handbridge FC.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 February 2019 were agreed and signed by Nicky as correct.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

- a) Error in Area Officers Form issued to Clubs at February Council. – Junior Liaison, Judy Gratton. Her address is 487a Crewe Road, Wistaston.
- b) Diary Dates 2019 Nantwich Show – 31 July.

4. CORRESPONDENCE: No correspondence.

5. REPORTS:

a) Secretary - Morag McCord

Reminders:

- With several new delegates present, please all sign in beside your club name and collect the club packs.
- Delegates advise club committee as soon as possible after Council of any business requiring action. Take notes of the meeting as minutes will be issued later
- Only one vote per club
- Let me know of any changes to your club officers forms as soon as possible and if your delegates are unable to attend Council, contact me beforehand if you are sending another member. My apologies if there were badges missing today.

Correspondence:

- Received several email enquiries regarding club meetings and demonstrators.
- Emails from HQ re NAFAS Diamond Anniversary Celebrations.

In Packs:

- Agenda
- 10 cards from HQ to be displayed with arrangements for National Flower Arranging Day Friday 5 May.
- 5 copies NGS
- Flyers for events for Wilmslow Guild, Disley & District FC and Wirral Flower Festival.

b) Treasurer – Tracy-Anne Clancy

Finance

Balances on accounts as at 10/4/19

Barclays Bank –Current Account (F&GP) £24,918.30 (including £3,947.84 earmarked for Chelsea –see below).

Barclays Saving Account - £5,198.04
 Nationwide Building Society - £16,608.27
 Leek United Building Society - £10,000 (1yr Bond) and £5,000 (2yr Bond).
 Other Barclays Accounts include Flower Arranger and JDS&E

Area Lunch

Area Lunch was successful financially. Profit on event £184.09. In addition, £353.25 was raised from Tombola (run by Sharon Nolan) which was to support Chelsea and £48.50 from Chelsea stall (Sally Melvin). Now have 20 glass vases in store for future events.

“Chelsea Chat”

The budget for exhibit at RHS Chelsea 2019 attached. Total raised by Cheshire Area clubs and events (to date) is £11,974.36. Actual expenditure so far is £7,026.52.

INCOME

Raised by Clubs/Events etc.	11,974.36	
NAFAS contribution	6,500.00	(Not yet received)
Total Income	<u>18,474.36</u>	

EXPENDITURE

Build of Base	1,652.00	(Paid)
Creation of Diamonds	5,100.00	(Paid)
Electrics	230.96	(Paid)
Flowers for Mock Up	43.56	(Paid)
Travel Costs		NAFAS
Accommodation		NAFAS
Additional Night's Accommodation	1,000.00	
Food		NAFAS
Plant List Printing		NAFAS
Van Hire	1,000.00	
Leaflets	800.00	
Perspex Mock Up	127.00	
Perspex	480.00	
Use of Ladders	160.00	
Moving Exhibit into Position	30.00	
Flowers for Exhibit	?	
Team Uniform	120.00	
Sundries	500.00	
Total Expenditure	<u>11,243.52</u>	
Net	<u><u>7,230.84</u></u>	

Expenses Forms – All expenses should be claimed on the expense Claim form and should be claimed quarterly and forms when completed should be sent to the Area Treasurer. Authorised signatories of claim form will be Chair of each Committee and payment will be made by BACS or cheque. Travel expenses based on National allowance.

c) Publicity – Catherine Bower **Flower Arranger**

- Flower Arranger Awards, based on percentage increase of subscriptions 2017-2018
 1st – Lymm FC

2nd – Eddisbury and Handbridge FCs
Awards to be presented at Social Day in July.

- Summer edition received 5 April
- Orders for Autumn edition due to Mrs Bower by Friday 17 May – both numbers and delivery address. Delivery due 11 July which may coincide with holidays.
- At last Council asked if deliveries can be made to Post Office. HQ confirmed they did not use this facility but use a good service whilst managing costs.

Publicity

Team

- Nicky has taken photos of Chelsea team's design activities.

Shows

Supply any Club publicity material by early June to allow Mrs Bower to prepare for shows.

- Royal Cheshire Show – 18 & 19 June
- Arley Garden Festival – 22 & 23 June. Upton-by-Chester FC designing exhibit.
- Thanks to Louise and Sharon for agreeing to do demonstrations in main marquee, Saturday and Sunday afternoons.
- If you would like to borrow any Area Publicity items, please let me

d) NAFAS – Nicky Wylie

1. Appointment of new CEO, Stephen Lane. His full report as appendix 1. at end of minutes. It includes

- Finances – Fraud – substantial amount taken from Account but has been reinstated.
- Gift aid – no gift aid has been applied for despite opportunity with Affiliation fees. Being rectified.
- New website and database – being set up.
- New board structure

2. Diamond Anniversary Show

Very few junior entries so date has been extended. Class 13 matrix now an imposed and entries extended by a month.

3. Heritage Fund (for upkeep of Osborne House): £1,072 raised so far from sales of badge.

4. WFA registration open: <https://wafaindia.com/registration/> Appendix 2. at end of minutes.

5. ECT travel: <https://www.ecttravel.com/tours/nafas>.

e) Finance and General Purposes –Nicky Wylie

- National Flower Arranging Day – 3 May 2019. Let Area know what clubs are doing and will offer £20 towards flowers if send photos to Area Facebook page. Cards to accompany arrangements included in packs.

1.Chaffinches – Sharon Nolan

- Membership remains at 8. Some non-NAFAS people attending classes but no new (affiliated) members yet.
- 4 boxes of tombola prizes left over from the lunch to use at the Social Day in July. If anyone wishes to donate tombola prizes for the Social Day, please bring them to the next Council meeting on 24/6/19 or get in touch to arrange handover. No prizes will be accepted on the Social Day itself. (If anyone brings any they will be kept for the next one.)

f) Judges, Demonstrators, Speakers & Education – Chris Gibbons

1. Only one applicant for Designer of the Year Competition – Mark Entwistle. He will represent Cheshire Area at Floral Design Competition in London in August.

2. Judge's Refresher Day went well. Margaret Rumens will be contacting members who wish to take part in training days leading up to taking National Judge's Test in the Autumn. Outgoing Area Judges Representative, Pam Fleming-Williams, was presented with a voucher in recognition of her hard work in Area over many years.
3. JDS&E has met and agreed future dates for workshops and will be presenting budgets in due course.

g) Social– Louise Jones

Great day was had at Cranage for Area Lunch. Feedback has been very good and we look forward to going back next year, with a few changes. Thank you to all who helped at and all who came to the event.

Planning for Social Day 4 July is underway. Speaker, Juliet Lawson, a singer songwriter, will talk about her travels in 60s and 70s.

In the afternoon the demonstrator is Lucy Richardson, a very new and enthusiastic National Demonstrator will entertain us. Cost £15 –same as last year.

Club contacts will receive a poster and application form in next couple of weeks.

h) RHS – Pam Mosedale

- No competitive exhibit at RHS Tatton in 2019

Area will not be competing at RHS Tatton this year due to our commitments with RHS Chelsea instead and we are taking a year out.

However, we have been approached by the Show organisers to support a new category in the Flower School – floral ice cream cones. The RHS will provide us with large cones (80 cm high and 30 cm diameter) made from willow to display a bouquet. This is a low maintenance option, it's not competitive and we get to do the nice artistic and floral design part only. The RHS take care of everything else. We have agreed to create 3 floral ice cream cones and to have some publicity materials near the cones to promote Cheshire Area of NAFAS.

- RHS Tatton 2020 – any suggestions?

I'd welcome your ideas and suggestions about what we could do in the Flower School in 2020. The RHS are changing the emphasis from large exhibits to be judged to more education and developing floral skills. It's now time to refresh what we do and how we present ourselves at RHS Tatton. Perhaps you are visiting flower shows and exhibitions during the summer and I'd really welcome some photographs or any feedback about what we could do in the future. And finally, would you or any of your club members like to be involved at RHS Tatton in 2020? It's an opportunity for a new diverse range of people to be involved, there's no gold medals to be won, you just need lots of enthusiasm and you can learn everything else!

i) Royal Cheshire County Show Team – Joan Wilkinson

Apologies were given for getting the sizes of the boxes on the schedule wrong. 'Levitation': 80cm high, 55cm wide and 40cm deep.

Stewarding critical and details of stewarding practice will be given. Contact Liz Kennan if able to steward.

j) NAFAS Sub Committees:

i) Judges – Sue Clissold

Very interesting and informative Judges/Demonstrators/Competitors Refresher Day held on 30 March at Plumley Village Hall, tutor Margaret Rumens with 22 attending including 7 Judges.

Exhibits were based on Period designs, some contemporary and a very lively judging exercise was completed by everyone. Comment cards, Plant ID applicable to Periods as well as Artifacts in appropriate era all contributed to an entertaining and enjoyable day. Margaret was thanked for her expert running of the day and the difficult task of keeping all on track.

Presentations were made to Pam Fleming-Williams from Committee as thank you for all her hard work as being Cheshire Area Judges Rep for so long. A hard act to follow, but can call on her anytime while getting used to new area.

Reminder – all Judges and Competitors to read Margaret Rumens' very comprehensive information on Comment Cards and Social Media. This as a result of recent Judges, Adjudicators and Instructors Day and in particular the last two comments as published on page 13 of NAFAS News – Spring 2019.

Cheshire still looking to run course to train new Area Judges so all reminded to ask members email is: judges@nafascheshire.org.uk.

National Judges dates confirmed as 4 June and 10 September with test on 9 November, all at Osborne House. Contact Margaret Rumens direct for more info on cost etc.

ii) Demonstrators – Pat Murphy

The National Demonstrators' Committee

Elizabeth Graham, (Chairman), Jacqui Arnold, James Burnside, Pam Lewis and Nigel Whyles held a meeting on Tuesday, 29th January 2019. In attendance -Kathy Lee –Director (umbrella to the Committee) Jennifer Burnett – Secretary

Correspondence

Numerous letters of thanks sent to all involved in the National Tests at Thornbury. Emails to all candidates after National Test.

Notification received three former National Demonstrators had passed away recently - Val Davidson, Susie Edwards and Joyce Grimley.

Complaints

None

Training and testing

Recent Tests:- At the National Test 2 candidates ,Lucy Richardson and Delyth Price, were successful with one instructor/adjudicator, Kate Ker, passing the final papers. The test ran very smoothly with great support from the Area.

National Test 2020

The next Pre-National Assessment and National Demonstrators Test will be held at Northwich, in the Cheshire Area, on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd April, 2020.

Adjudicators for this test are:-

Senior: Janet James, Follow on: Michal Bowyer, Pat Dibben

A day of Advice and Guidance on 11th June has been planned at HQ at a cost of £5 with a further practical day later.

Other Events:

Need for assistance for Demonstrators at Diamond Anniversary Show was discussed – eg – ask London & Overseas Area if any demonstrators could help. The names of 8 National Demonstrators for the event have been released.

Plans for possible Symposium in 2021 were discussed. Provisional dates are 20-24 April 2021. Venues and cost to be researched. Elizabeth to canvass opinion as to content.

Dates for Committee meetings 2020 & 2021:

28 & 29 January 2020, 15 & 17 June 2020, 15 & 16 September 2020

26 & 27 January 2021, 8 & 9 June 2021, 14 & 15 September 2021 (provisional).

Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 12 June 2019

Chairman closed the meeting and thanked all for input.

Kathy Lee thanked committee and Elizabeth for chairing her first meeting.

iii) Speakers – Carol Black

National Speakers Committee met on 25&26 February in London with Philida Irving as Chairman.

Chairman reported that since last meeting, Speakers Symposium which had been postponed until 2020 due to very busy Diamond Anniversary year, had been reinstated and was to take place alongside the Teachers Conference in Nottingham in March.

Letters and applications been sent to all Area Reps informing of change but due to short notice only 12 had applied.

Chairman reported from meeting with Standing Committee chairman – combined National Demonstrators and National Speakers Tests not an option to be considered in near future. Committee were asked by National Show Committee to submit names of Speakers for this year's show, 6 had agreed to be included.

Next National Speakers Test will be held in 2020

Next meeting will be 17&18 June

iv) Education – Diane Fair

No report.

NAFAS pre discipline 3 day course will run again – Sept, Oct, Nov. Delegates to ask if any members interested.

National Education Committee working on a revision to current Period Guide 1 handbook and Indian and Japanese work would be included. No date given when will be available.

v) Photography- Pam Mosedale

- National Photography Competition 2019

Schedule published on NAFAS website and Photography Facebook page.

Link to schedule: <http://www.nafas.org.uk/photography/>.

6 classes and closing date Sunday 30 June and open to all NAFAS members.

Winning images will be displayed at Floral Art & Design Show in London 8-10 August.

- Royal Cheshire County Show Photography Competition 2019.

Schedule published on Area website and Show's website.

Link to Area website:

<https://nafascheshire.org.uk/diary/2019/Cheshireshow/photoschedule.pdf>

5 classes and entry fee is £1 per photograph, closing date Thursday 30 May. Competition is open to everyone and Judge – Janet Reader from Cheshire Life.

- Cheshire Area Calendar.

Area will produce own calendar 2020 and include some photos representing some of good things about our organisation.

Send any photos appropriate by end May in JPEG format to:

photography@nafascheshire.org.uk

Members will be able to choose photos and calendar format at June Council.

2020 calendar will be for sale at Area AGM in October.

vi) Junior Liaison - Judy Gratton

The background to Junior Flower Arranging – Judy Gratton

Judy is the Floral Art Secretary for Nantwich Show and she has run children's competitions for four years. She has been able to access three primary schools in our area and before the show had done flower arranging sessions to encourage the children. For 3 years she has run 'Have a go' flower arranging session for adults and children in shows.

A report was given about junior flower arranging clubs, giving information on where the members came from, how often they met, how they were funded, the benefits of being a junior affiliated club and the group size.

Action plan was then set out. (Guidance has been taken from

www.outofschoolalliance.co.uk)

6. Chelsea 2019 - Nicky Wylie

Per Benjamin was a great success even though not supported as would have liked. 360 tickets sold including 100 from outside Area. Fundraised approx. £1,800
It was rumoured that the event was a sell-out which it was not. Also, rumoured could not park in Crewe – plenty parking available. Also, rumoured could not select own seats – not true. Seats could be selected by phone or online. These rumours needed to be quashed as were having big impact on success of area events and in end costing area money.
Chelsea team - working well together and well on way to Chelsea. Photos will be published on Area Facebook page.

7. Any Other Business:

- Val Seed – Bramall Hall FC – Ladies Fashion Show 12 June for club funds. Tickets £5 Poynton Sports Club.
- Black metal stands for sale.

Val Seed, President: thanked everyone for coming and as it was last meeting before Chelsea, she wished team every success. She had had a brilliant preview of exhibit and commented that could not put a price on the time team had spent on it.

Meeting finished at 11:40am

Date of Next Council Meeting:: Monday 24 June 2019
10am Coffee/tea Meeting 10:30am
Plumley Village Hall

Signed.....

Dated.....