**FRITILLARIA GROUP OF THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 25th October, 2015, at the New Haw Community Centre, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey.**

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Alice Munsey, Kit Strange, Brian and Jo Walker, Jill Agg.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting were considered and declared a true record. Acceptance proposed by Jill Regan; seconded by Barry Tattersall. Accepted by unanimous vote.
3. **Matters arising:** It was requested that for the 2016 AGM adhesive labels be issued for attendees name tags.

It was also requested that the Treasurer’s Report be circulated by email (where possible) prior to the meeting to save on printing costs. *Post meeting Note: the Committee to consider circulating AGM Notes of Meeting similarly.*

 **Action: Committee**

1. **Chairman’s Report:** The Chairman gave a synopsis of the Group’s events and activities over the past year.He also commented on the website and the seed exchange. A copy of the full report is appended to these minutes.
2. **Treasurer’s Report:** This report also contains some membership matters. Bob Charman stated that he has been working with the AGS at Pershore to set up the system whereby the Fritillaria Group’s Journal is posted by them. This is intended to control the rising cost to the Group of the Journal. This worked satisfactorily for the Autumn journal so is to be continued.

The Treasurer then presented and summarised the current financial status

concluding that there had been a “profit” of £393.28 on the year which was

similar to that recorded last year. The seed exchange and membership had

shown small increases over the previous year. A copy of the Annual Financial

Statement for 2014 – 2015 are appended to these minutes.

The Treasurer then explained the negotiations with AGS, Pershore, for the latter to collect Fritillaria Group membership subscriptions. This is ongoing at the time of this AGM.

The matter of having a Direct Debit facility was explained. The fundamental reason for not being able to use DDs is that the organisation needs to have reserve funds of 1 million pounds.

Having outlined the money transfer process from AGS to the Fritillaria Group, the Treasurer was asked what guarantees were in place to ensure the AGS transferred the monies promptly. The Treasurer provided assurances based on currently available information.

The Statement of Accounts was originally projected on to a screen but were seen to be for the year 2013 - 2014. Consequently, they were circulated around the members during the Treasurer’s report and subsequently accepted by unanimous vote.

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report:** Bob Charman included membership matters in his Treasurer’s Report. Pat Craven, Membership Secretary, stated that a clearly defined process needs to be established to manage the interface between the AGS and the Fritillaria Group.
2. **Election of Officers:** The following officers were proposed and approved for continued office: Alice Munsey, Laurence Hill, Pat Huff, Pat Craven, Paul Cumbleton, Colin Everett, Kit Strange, Colin Rogers and Jack Meatcher.

As Bob Charman was retiring from the Treasurer’s position, Brian Casey had agreed to stand for election as Treasurer. Brian was proposed and unanimous votes confirmed his acceptance by the members.

The Committee had not been able to encourage another member to be considered for a position of Committee member without portfolio. Colin Rogers proposed that the Committee co-opted someone during the coming year with a view to the position being formalised at the 2016 AGM.

1. **Any Other Business:**

The Chairman asked for a vote of thanks for the work of the Committee. The members unanimously approved.

The Chairman then gave a description of Bob Charman’s long and diligent service to the Fritillaria Group. The Chairman then presented Bob with a gift of a watercolour of a *Fritillaria meleagris* painted by Sarah Adams, a well known artist.

40 people attended the meeting.