

# THE LEWIS CARROLL SOCIETY

## 55th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (held virtually via Zoom)

15 November 2024 6.30 pm UK

Meeting ID: 833 50803302 Passcode: 608266

### DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome and Apologies for absence. The Chair, Brian Sibley, welcomed Trustees and members and apologised for the confusion caused by the unexpected last-minute update of the Zoom meeting ID. There were no absent Trustees.
2. Minutes of the 54th AGM and EGM January 2024 were accepted *nem con*. The EGM had voted 36 - 0 in favour of continuing the society. Roger Scowan said the correct number of votes might be 35, because he had two links open. The Chair said he was heartened by the unanimous expressions of support from many members, both local and overseas.
3. Trustees' Reports: The Chair referred to his report and reiterated his thanks to Secretary Jane Skelly, Treasurer Tracy Gribble and Mark Davies for their essential contributions in the current challenging environment. He reported that three new Trustees have joined the committee, and thanked Sarah Stanfield for her willingness to continue as a Trustee for a further year. He spoke of the Society's highly successful meeting with artist Oleg Lipchenko, arranged with the help of Mark and Catherine Richards and held at the Art Workers' Guild in London. The Chair also reported that Mark Davies had edited four issues of the Society's newsletter, Bandersnatch and that the Society had purchased, at a charity auction, an Alice-themed Ox sculpture, decorated by Oxford artist Caroline Ritson. The sculpture would soon be on public display in the Westgate Centre, Oxford with a plaque giving information about Lewis Carroll and the Society.
4. Secretary's Report: After nine years' service, Jane Skelly had decided to stand down as a Trustee. She expressed gratitude to the three new trustees; Alice Chapman, Joe Cheal and Steve Kimminau, the latter who had been assisting the Secretary recently. Of particular note, Alice Chapman has been supporting our 5.1K Facebook followers!
5. Treasurer's Report: The Society's expenditure exceeded income by £737, but this was after the exceptional cost of buying the Ox artwork, for which LCS members directly contributed £1,300. There are ongoing issues with the NatWest bank account, and members needed to be encouraged to pay their outstanding subscriptions!
6. Election of Trustees for the year 2024–2025 (see accompanying notes): Under the terms of the CIO Constitution, trustees Mark J. Davies and Jane Skelly were required to stand down at this election [under rule 13 (2)-(6)], but were eligible to stand for re-election. Jane has decided to retire from Trusteeship, but Mark was offering himself for re-election. Alice Chapman, Joe Cheal, and Steve Kimminau, having been appointed during the year by the elected Trustees, have volunteered to stand as new trustees. At this election Trustees Tracy Gribble, Brian Sibley, Sarah Stanfield and Judith van den Berg were not required to stand down and will continue in post.

#### **Proposed by the Chair:**

To re-elect Mark J. Davies as a Trustee, seconded by Tracy Gribble, carried *nem con*.

To elect Alice Chapman as a Trustee, seconded Sarah Jardine-Willoughby, carried *nem con*.

To elect Joe Cheal as a Trustee, seconded by Tracy Gribble carried *nem con*.

To elect Steve Kimminau as a Trustee, seconded by Jane Skelly carried *nem con*.

7. Any other business: Mark Richards wished to minute thanks to the Chair, Trustees and all members for their enthusiasm and service during the past year.
8. There being no more AGM business, Sarah Stanfield took the Chair and introduced Brian Sibley who gave an illustrated talk, **A Quest for the Jabberwock**, in which he explored the history of Lewis Carroll's juvenile verse 'A Stanza of Anglo Saxon Poetry', how it evolved into his celebrated Looking-Glass poem featuring that manxome foe, the Jabberwock, that was defeated by a beamish boy with a vorpal blade – and what became of them afterwards.