**NETWORK THEATRE COMPANY**

Minutes of 81st AGM held on Thursday 11th June 2020 by zoom

**Apologies for absence**

Paul Durgan, Warwick Hawkins

There were 26 attendees.

**Minutes of the 2019 AGM**

These were signed off as a true record of the meeting.

**Chair’s Report**

Documentation for this AGM was posted on the website and the Chair expressed a hope that members had been able to access it in advance of the meeting as this AGM was being held virtually.

The Chair reviewed the year and congratulated Lee Copp ( Memory of Water ) and Owain Jones ( I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change) and Fred Johnson ( When We Are Married ) on their successful directorial debuts at NTC.

She also paid tribute to Alex Farrell for running the 24 hr ‘Play-in-a-day’ in the summer and Kay Murray for organising a wonderful evening of vignettes of past Network plays in celebration of Network’s 80th year.

The VAULT festival ran for 7 out of the proposed 8 weeks, closing down early due to COVID 19 restrictions. However both NTC plays, Rosie de Vekey’s The Future is Mental ( directed by Rosie ) and Fierstein’s Safe Sex ( directed by Jacob Trenerry ) were very well received and attended.

Sadly there were no more productions in the remaining 3 months of the season. The plays that had been scheduled would be held over for when the theatre could re open. Some essential maintenance did take place before the COVID 19 lockdown. The Chair thanked both David Harvey and Paul Lunnon for moving the theatre flats from one side of the back arch to the other drier side ensuring that water damage was kept to a minimum.The Chair and the Technical & Theatre Manager then took the opportunity when the theatre was dark to do some socially distanced refurbishment of the Green room, the bar and the toilets.

The Chair thanked Paul Evans for the tremendous amount of work he did in these 3 months. She also thanked her executive team, Moira Cane and Fred Johnson and all members of the committee for their commitment and enthusiasm over the year.

Finally she thanked the Network membership for their continued support and expressed a wish that things would be running as normal soon.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer thanked Mr Paul Durgan for verifying the Accounts.

The Accounts were posted on the Website for the members to peruse. These Accounts were up to 31st March 2020 so only reflected one month of the COVID 19 restrictions.

The theatre had reserves of £12982 at that time and the Profit and Loss situation showed a profit of £2828.

There was an increase in usage of the theatre during the year by outside companies. There was also a donation of £4000 from the ARCH 200 Club which was spent on maintenance. An upgrade to the electrical system was carried out following a request from Network Rail whose survey revealed that there was some water damage to the existing system.

The shows that Network staged during the year were successful artistically and also

financially. The Treasurer felt that it had been a good programme from his point of view.

A £5 audition fee was introduced during the year which proved to be another good income stream.

Due to the COVID 19 situation Network Rail acknowledged the impact this would have on the theatre’s finances and granted NTC 3 months rent relief.

At the time of the AGM the bank balance stood at £16364.

The Accounts were adopted as a true record.

**Changes to the Constitution**

The AGM empowered the Committee to revise some wording the constitution.

1. It was proposed that the 2 day waiting period following an application to be a member of NTC be removed. However both David Harvey and Emma Byrne confirmed that this was not possible as it was a legal requirement.
2. It was agreed that the NTC President did not need to be elected every year. The incumbent could serve as long as they wished.
3. It was agreed that any person who is a member at the time of the AGM would be eligible for nomination to the committee.

**Questions to the committee**

1. Emma Byrne asked if there was an appetite for recorded pieces under Network banner? SS said that if someone was prepared to take the lead on it the Committee would be happy to receive pitches.

It was agreed that NTC could go forward with virtual readings and even performances. There could be virtual auditions and rehearsals and the final piece could be placed on YouTube. Eventbrite could be used for selling e-tickets to the prospective audience.

Rosie de Vekey and Emma Byrne were happy to gather short pieces and create an event. Alastair Callcutt offered to organise a reading of The Wedding over zoom.

**Election of Officers**

The following people were elected to the Executive roles:

Chair Sue Small

Secretary Moira Cane

Treasurer Fred Johnson

**Election of Committee members**

The following people were elected to the Committee:

Rebecca Mason, Paul Evans, Lee Copp, Alastair Callcutt, Alex Farrell, Owain Jones, Dom Thomson and Kay Murray who will also continue as NTC President.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm