

MIDLANDS MECCANO GUILD
MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at BAGINTON VILLAGE HALL
8 OCTOBER 2016 at 2pm

Present: President: Geoff Wright, Chairman: George Illingworth, Secretary: Roger Marriott, Treasurer: Paul Brecknell, and 62 members: this constituting a quorum.

1. **Apologies for absence were noted from:** Philip Drew, Mike Cook; Roy Whitehouse ; Eric Wright; Ken Ratcliffe, Ivor Morgan, Ken and Margaret Senar, John Bland, Cliff Jones.
2. **The CHAIRMAN reported the sad death of Tony Brown and asked members to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of Tony.**
3. **THE TREASURER** presented his REPORT (**see website**) and stated that the strong financial position was largely due to exceptional sales benefitting the guild however it was recommended that both subscriptions and luncheon charges should remain at current levels for the coming year. John Nuttall was thanked for scrutinising the accounts. The treasurer thanked members for their support during his 14 years of office and stated that he would not be seeking re-election.
4. **The SECRETARY** presented his REPORT (**see website**). The current membership is 115 with 3 members having resigned during the year. The bulletin will continue to be produced four times a year. Members were thanked for their support and encouraged to send material for publication to the secretary. Particular thanks were given to Bob Thompson for his support in providing excellent photos for the bulletin and to our honorary catering crew led by Paula Thompson.
5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** The chairman and secretary were both willing to continue and were re-elected unanimously. The chairman sought nominations for the post of treasurer. John Nuttall was proposed as treasurer by Bob Thompson and seconded by Dave Phillips. There being no other nominations, John Nuttall was elected Treasurer unopposed. The members agreed that the Mandates should add John to the approved signatories on both the Current and Savings accounts, and that in due course Paul Brecknell should be deleted. The chairman thanked Paul Brecknell for his outstanding service as treasurer and proposed that he should be made an honorary member. This was seconded by Roger Marriott and supported unanimously by members present.
6. **SUBSCRIPTIONS as stated in the treasurer's report: Subscription levels of £15 for UK members, £18 for Europe and £22 for the Rest of the World. Subscriptions for 2016-17 now become payable.**
7. **EXHIBITIONS: the secretary** thanked those who supported the exhibition at the British Motor Museum at Gaydon, this is a great venue and we have been invited back next year on 16 July 2017. Applications available in March. It was noted that the Skegness exhibition will be a week earlier 23-25 June and the exhibitor fee will be £10.
8. **50TH ANNIVERSARY:** The secretary reported on the progress with the arrangements for the anniversary year. The 100th meeting will be 25th March – **so it is proposed we have a celebration cake at this meeting** and take a group photo if weather permits. There will also be a photo opportunity at the **special anniversary meeting on 29 July 2017**. It was also suggested a competition be held for the best models made from any 50 Meccano parts available up to 1967 (ex nuts bolts and washers). This was generally supported by members and the committee asked to determine the arrangements.
9. **AOB.** The use of the committee room was raised. The committee had asked that the room should no longer be used by traders and alternative space allocated in the main hall (as previously). It was regretted that one of our traders had decided not to attend but the membership supported the committee decision and suggested that any issues should be raised directly with the committee.

Agreed as a true record of the meeting: signed: George Illingworth (Hon. Chairman) Roger Marriott (Hon. Secretary)