

**Minutes of the 35th Annual General Meeting of The Rumworth Morris of Bolton
held at Pilotmansions, 22 Pendle Gardens, Culcheth
on Sunday 20th November 2011**

Meeting opened: 10:50

Those Present: Geoff Hughes (chairman), Peter Bearon, Alison Whitaker, Pete Young, Ian Lomas, Jameson Wooders, Tony Dann, Andrew White, Steve Armitage, Keith Taylor, John Green, Linda Green, John Fox, Haydn Thompson, John Kelly

Apprentices in attendance: Jeff Dent, Derek Wood

Apologies: Denise Bearon, Norman Bearon, Jim Fox, Graham Rollinson, Gary Young

The minutes of the 2010 AGM were read and accepted as true record.

Matters Arising:

- None not on the agenda

Correspondence:

- None except dance invites to be discussed later

Conductor's Report:

- The conductor's report is attached

Treasurer's Report:

- The treasurer's report is attached

Election of Officers:

- Norman has said that he will remain treasurer, but that an assistant is required to collect subs etc.
- It was agreed that Norman should remain treasurer with an assistant treasurette
- The chairman nominated Alison for this post, and as no-one else was willing to stand, she was duly elected
- In the absence of other volunteers, Peter will remain as minutes secretary

Review of Rumworth:

- With the new members who came to the practice on the previous day, and hopefully Andrew Kennedy, who should be coming along to Thursday night practices, we should be OK to continue for another year
- The new head at Keith's school is happy for us to continue practising there
- Peter said that he will try and come along to play on Thursday nights so long as one of the new members will be attending
- There have been times recently when the music has not held together, mainly due to the lack of Alison's drumming. Geoff suggested that there should be some practices for musicians
- It was pointed out that the time the music goes astray is often when we are performing outdoors in large spaces, or processing – it is very hard to practise for this eventuality indoors
- Derek had asked at the practice the previous day whether the music was available as a recording to help him practise what he had learned

- It was also felt that recordings of the music would be useful for Thursday night practices when Peter was not able to play
- The One Accord members of the band will look at recording the tunes, but not until after Christmas
- Peter will also try recording himself at the December practice
- Keith's school is currently scheduled to close in July 2013, so we are OK for practices for the coming year, but need to be thinking ahead. We should check where the work on Deane Church Hall is up to during 2012
- It was agreed that we need an increase in subs. These are currently a lot lower than other teams that we know about
- Subs will be £30 for local members and £10 for distance members, but the treasurer will exercise discretion if this causes a problem to any members

Music:

- The One Accord members of the band sang the musicians' report, the words of which are attached
- Jameson said that Emma might be willing to play (either drum or accordion), but didn't want to commit herself. Peter will send her the music so that she is able to play if available
- Some of the music is already on the members' section of the website – Peter will try and sort out the other tunes so that they are all available
- The question of musician's kit arose. In principle the musicians should continue to dress differently from the dancers; however, there are occasions when this could be relaxed – it all depends on the circumstances
- Alison's arms are still affected by tennis elbow, so she is still only able to play occasionally for short periods of time

Kit:

- We probably have enough blue cord for one set of breeches. Peter said that his old kit could be recycled. We have Chris Whiting's breeches, but these are quite large, so it would be a major task to make them fit any of the new dancers
- It was agreed to borrow former dancers' kit where possible
- We are still OK for red sash material
- We do need a complete set of new gold sashes. Alison will work out how much material is required and email this around so that everyone can look
- It is not worthwhile getting remnants, as there is unlikely to be enough for a full set
- Gold buttons should still be available – check your local markets
- New members will need bowler hats. Silk flowers are now more easily come by than plastic ones – these are OK. Cloth ones should be avoided as these have a tendency for the dye to wash out and ruin white shirts

Archive Committee/Publicity

- The committee still needs to meet
- We still need pictures of No2 Garland and Boatman's that show the distinctive moves
- It was thought that we do need something more up-to-date to hand out, with contact details and where/when we practise. There was some discussion over whether this should be like a business card, or something that explained more about who we were and the history (like the old yellow leaflets)
- Linda will look at producing some information in business card format

35th Anniversary Weekend

- A formal thank you was given to the sub-committee for organising the weekend
- Thanks were also given to all the non-combatants who helped out
- There had been lots of compliments from the visiting teams
- Thanks were given again for everyone who helped make the weekend a success, but especially the sub-committee

Programme for the Coming Year:

- The following events were considered:
 - *Westhoughton, marking 200 years of the burning of the mill by the Luddites (21 April 2012)*
 - *Cadi Ha Morris w/e (25 May 2012)*
 - *Morris in the Vale, Evesham (15-17 June 2012)*
 - *Middlewich Folk and Boat Festival (15-17 July 2012)*
 - *Chapel-en-le-Frith Morrismen Day of Dance, Buxton (21 July 2012)*
 - *Whitworth Rushcart (2 September 2012)*
 - *Various Preston Guild Processions (from 1 September to 8 September 2012)*
 - *Newent Onion Fayre (8 September 2012)*
 - *Dancing in Bolton on either the first or last Saturday in September (the middle two weekends not being available)*
- It was felt that we would not be strong enough to do a full Morris weekend in 2012
- Westhoughton would be fairly low key, and could be combined with a Sunday practice
- The Buxton day of dance seemed to be a fairly free and easy event, so teams can dance where and when they want to. Derek said he knew of a hall in Hope that could be hired so that we could sleep there and have a practice on the Sunday
- It quickly became apparent that we did not have a team for the Newent Onion Fayre, or any of the Preston Guild processions. Nor did we have a team for the last weekend in September. It was decided to arrange something for 22/23 September – this might be practice and AGM, or possibly dancing out if we have a team. Bolton Council need to be told that we do not need the Town Hall Square on either of the September weekends
- The regular 3rd Thursday practices will continue
- We will have a practice weekend locally on 3/4 March
- We will have a practice for the London members late January/early February. This only needs someone to teach the dances, a musician (Peter is happy to do this) and 4 dancers (Andrew said he would be happy to go along)
- A full list of the programme for the coming year is on the attached sheet

Any Other Business:

- Jameson thanked everyone who came to the wedding, and for the very generous present

Annual Awards:

Panic Monitor

Nominations: No nominations
Geoff Hughes therefore remains panic monitor.

Disorientation monitor

Nominations: John Fox for searching the wrong car park for his car in Antwerp.

There being no other nominations, John Fox was duly elected disorientation monitor

The Dave Bennett Memorial Award – to Keith and Jane

Keith and Jane were awarded the Dave Bennett Memorial Award for providing breakfasts on the 35th anniversary weekend

The Super Cook Award – to Norman and Denise

This award has not been given for many years, but was resurrected to say thank you to Norman and Denise for all the work they put into the cooking on the 35th anniversary weekend above and beyond that of others

Wally of the Year

Nominations: Steve Armitage for leaving a vital piece of kit at home in Lymm when on the Langewapper weekend

There being no other nominations, Steve Armitage was duly elected Wally of the Year

Thanks were given to Ian for his hospitality

Meeting closed at 13:20

To do list:

Alison/Norman – sort out the practicalities of being treasurer/treasurette

Peter and/or One Accord subset of musicians – sort out recordings of the tunes

Archive committee – arrange meeting

All – look for suitable pictures of Number 2 Garland & Boatman's.

All – pass any memories/notes of Rumworth to the archive committee (carried over from last year)

Someone (not identified) – check out Deane Church Hall sometime during 2012

Peter – sort out music for all the dances & ensure Emma has a copy

Alison – work out how much gold material needed

All – look for gold sash material

Norman (he volunteered) – write to Bolton Council re Town Hall Square

New members – find bowler hats & flowers

Linda – look at producing business card

London contingent sort out a suitable weekend for a London practice – needs to be 28/29 Jan, 4/5 Feb if you want Peter playing the music (could do 21/22 Jan or 11/12 Feb at a pinch, but would prefer not)

Not discussed

We still need to make up Holme Chapel mollies – carried over from last year

2011/2012 dates

2011

Thursday December 15th Practice

2012

Thursday January 19th Practice

Late January/Early Feb – London Practice

Thursday February 16th Practice

Saturday March 3rd | Practice
Sunday March 4th | Weekend

Thursday March 15th Practice

Thursday April 19th Practice

Saturday April 21st | Westhoughton 200 years since the Luddites*
Sunday April 22nd | Practice

Thursday May 17th Practice

Thursday June 21st Practice

Thursday July 19th Practice

Saturday July 21st | Chapel-en-le-Frith Day of Dance Buxton**
Sunday July 22nd | Practice in Derbyshire***

Thursday September 20th Practice

Saturday September 22nd | Something/Somewhere
Sunday September 23rd | AGM – format of w/e to be decided

* = Alison/Peter to organise

** = Haydn to organise

*** = Derek to try and book hall in Hope for weekend (if not available we need to discuss alternatives)

Peter Bearon
22 November 2011



Conductor's Report 2011

At last year's AGM Rumworth's future was uncertain and I'm sure we all felt that if 2011 was to be our final year of dancing then it had to be a good one. As it turned out our 35th year has been very successful with a number of highlights to make it memorable.

The trip to Antwerp was a great success and although we weren't able to dance our entire repertoire we did manage to perform No3 in front of the Cathedral as I had hoped we would. Mark Hanssens commented that we were dancing to *their* tune but I pointed out to him that we only used good tunes and it was a tribute to Langewapper that we wanted to use it as it is such an excellent dance tune. Our dancing brought a great number of compliments over the weekend and we coped very well, not only with the absence of a key right hand side dancer, but also being an extra man down on Sunday as a result of Andrew's injury; although he did somehow manage to recover sufficiently to find a woman with whom to take part in the Germans' alcohol-heading dance on Sunday evening!

Jameson and Emma's wedding was another superb weekend with some excellent dancing. I have it on good authority that the highlight was dancing Royton in Wokingham (but he would say that!). The beer raffle was fun and Andrew, as is becoming a habit, didn't let us down at the Ceilidh.

Our 35th Anniversary Celebration weekend was a huge success. It was very efficiently organised by the sub-committee (down to the minutest, infinitesimal detail) and everyone worked extremely hard, especially on Saturday evening, to ensure that the weekend lived up to expectations and was a worthy celebration. I was very proud to be a member of the team and I hope that everyone else felt (and feels) the same.

Finally, a formal thank you to Norman and Denise for their contribution to the dancing over the years. Denise has been a mainstay of the band and has frequently been the only musician for practices. Norman has been a superb Right Hand No 1 and also stand-in Conductor on occasion. They will both be missed although hopefully still involved in some way especially if we re-elect Norman as Treasurer in his absence.

In terms of the future, with 3 prospective new members we can hopefully continue to be better than most of the crap out there for a while longer. I just need help from a scientist to find a new semi-conductor for when I'm not available.

The Rumworth Morris of Bolton - Accounts 2010/2011

INCOME

Subs	320.00
Present Collection	170.00
Wedding Camping Fees	100.00
35th week-end - from teams	1,095.00
- Street collection	180.09
- Bar	180.00
- non-Rumworth meals	90.00
- donation	10.00
- Rumworth	20.00
	<u>2,165.09</u>

EXPENDITURE

Web domain	34.99
Open Morris	32.00
Inscape School	282.00
Wedding Camping Fees	100.00
Wedding Present	200.00
Antwerp - J Fox ferry	209.00
Video donation	30.00
35th week-end - Hall Hire	200.00
- Sid	90.00
- Transport	225.00
- Beer	172.20
- Crown Sandwiches	227.50
- Rumworth expenses	801.07
- Rumworth refund	20.00
Refreshments - practice	5.00
Expenses - Treasurer	10.44
- J Kelly	10.00
	<u>2649.20</u>

Profit / Loss on year	-484.11
Balance Brought Forward	979.28
Carried Forward	<u>495.17</u>

Bank statement 5/9/2011	907.99
Unstatemented	-472.38
Cash in hand	59.56

495.17

Accounts prepared by:....Norman Bearon

date:

Audited by.....John Kelly

date:

Rumworth 35th w/e - account summary

	In	Out
Sid		£90.00
Bus		£225.00
Sunday Sandwiches		£227.50
Hall		£200.00
Beer	£180.00	£172.20
Collection	£180.09	
Past Members & visitors	£90.00	
Donation (P Fox)	£10.00	
W/e food etc. costs		£735.02
Travel Exps - Norman		£31.50
Travel Exps - Alison		£34.55
Iron men & Severn Gilders	£425.00	
Bampton	£250.00	
Oyster	£420.00	
	£1,555.09	£1,715.77
Subsidy		£160.68

Notes:

The loss on the year of £484 includes "one-off" costs of £161 subsidy of the 35th w/e and £209 subsidy to John Fox for taking the drum and kit to Antwerp.

Open Morris subs, Web domain fees, hall hire costs amounted to £349 whilst subs income was only £320. Hall costs were paid (as a donation) up to July since when there has been a head change at Inscape school. The appropriate level of payment for the school hall should be discussed. My last donation was based on £20/night.

There still remains a reasonable amount of money in the bank (£495) to cover contingencies but depending on plans as Rumworth continue into another year the question of subs level needs to be discussed. Currently they stand at £20 per head for local members, £5 for long distance members. There is also a question I think as to whether local members not attending practices should pay the full £20.

Rumworth Musicians Report

To be sung to the tune 'Glasgow' (from 'Heaving Harwood')

We are the Rumworth Musicians
And this is our report
We'd like to say thanks to Denise
We owe her such a "lort"

We need gold stuff to make a sash
The problem must be faced
The ones we've got are far too short
To go round Peter's waist

My/her elbows are still hurting me/her
So I/she can't drum a lot
But I/she can still tap with my/her feet
And keep John on the spot

Singing reports is all very well
We hope it made you smile
We've got some other things to tell
Keep listening for a while