

ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Minutes 2015



The Ladder Association Annual Members' Meeting 2015

Moxhull Hall, Holly Lane, Wishaw, Sutton Coldfield, B76 9PD

Friday, 13 March 2015, 2.00pm

In attendance: *Martin Brooke (A Bratt & Sons Ltd – Chairman), Cameron Clow (Clow Group Ltd – Retiring Chairman), David Walker (LFI Ltd – Deputy Chairman), Carl Evans (HSS Hire Services Ltd – Council Member), Paul Roddis (HSS Hire Services Ltd – Training Committee Member), Steve Booker (Kentec Training Ltd – Training Committee Chairman), Peter Bennett (Ladder Association – Executive Director), Don Aers (Ladder Association – Technical Manager & Technical Committee Chairman), Stuart Hopkins (Ladder Association – Training Manager), John Bungay (Youngman Group – Council Member), Gill Robinson (Ladderstore Ltd – Training Committee Member), Gail Hounslea (Ladderstore Ltd – Council Member), Hannah Lewis (Lyte Industries Ltd – Council Member), Anita Whitehead (Globe Manufacturing Ltd – Council Member), Mike Clayton (Total Access Ltd – Training Committee Member), David Gray (TB Davies Ltd – Council Member), Mike Law (Wernerco ABRU – Training Committee Member), Alastair Twigg (Associate Member), Chris Kendall (Ladder Association – PR & Marketing Officer)*

1. Apologies

Neil Harper, Chris Shakell, Terry Flanagan, Andy McGrory, Chris Thomas, Paul Bruton, Ian Carwardine

2. Approve Minutes of previous AMM held on 6 March 2014

The adoption of the Minutes of the last Annual Members' Meeting, held on 6 March 2014 in Moxhull Hall, was proposed by Hannah Lewis, seconded by David Gray, and carried unanimously by the members present.

3. Matters arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

There were no matters arising which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

4. Finance (Audited Accounts to December 2014 and subscriptions) *moved from 5*

The approval of the audited accounts to December 2014 (*which had previously been circulated*) and the retaining of unchanged annual subscriptions, was proposed by David Walker, seconded by Gail Hounslea and carried unanimously by the members present.

5. Retiring Chairman's Report

The retiring Chairman, Cameron Clow, gave a report on his term in office, noting that throughout his term in office the Association had added to its reserves, particularly through the growth in training and extended his thanks to the Training Committee for their hard work and contribution to the Association. He next turned his attention to technical matters, noting that EN131 is about to come to completion and that good progress has been made in establishing a product standard for roof ladders. He expressed his thanks to the members of the Executive, the Council, to Michael Fern and Chris Kendall, and his thanks to all the back room staff at the Ladder Association and, finally to Peter Bennett for all of their hard work and assistance to him during his term of office. As his final duty, he presented the Chain of office to the incoming chairman, Martin Brooke.

6. Incoming Chairman's Report

The incoming Chairman, Martin Brooke, extended his thanks to Anita Whitehead for her hard work in Council, noting that she had now decided to step down from Council; he extended a welcome and congratulations to Gail Hounslea from Ladderstore on her joining Council, and gave thanks to the retiring Chairman, Cameron Clow, for all his hard work in his tenure in office. He then gave a presentation which explained the history of ladders and steps and how the Association has developed to address these issues, particularly in respect of training, (noting that some 30,000 people have now been trained by Ladder Association).

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7. Report from Training Committee

Steve Booker gave a presentation explaining the activities of the Training Committee and its plans for the forthcoming year (*refer to presentation notes for details*). He advised that the plans for this year included improving and tidying up the forms and procedures which should roll out in the next few months. *Managing Ladders & Stepladders* is, he reported, nearing completion and work is moving on with the development of the new DVD, featuring the "STEP" process, underlining and supporting the training course. He extended his thanks to Terry Flanagan on his retirement from the Training Committee, and gave his thanks also to the entire Committee and to Stuart Hopkins for their assistance.

8. Report from Technical Committee

Don Aers, the Technical Manager and Technical Committee Chairman, gave thanks to all the members of the Technical Committee for their objectivity and hard work. He outlined the work programme for the coming year, including CEN Standards, BS2037 and 1129, Roof Ladders and ladders with restraining devices. He gave an update on the progress of EN131 – 1&2, noting that it is likely to be published June 2016. He also gave an update on EN131-6, EN131-3 and informed those present that CEN TC93 WG1 has been reactivated to develop standards for Step Stools, in preference to all other activities. Penultimately, he advised that ladders are to be removed from BS2037 and BS1129, as they will be contained in the revised EN131. Finally, he advised the business case for Roof Ladders was progressing well and would hopefully be approved by end of April.

9. PR & Marketing Report

Chris Kendall gave a report on the activities of the PR & Marketing function, (*refer to PowerPoint presentation*).

10. Any Other Business

There was no other competent business.

11. Date & Venue of next AMM

Thursday, 3 March 2016 (*Venue to be confirmed*)