

SWORD DANCE UNION

Minutes of the annual general meeting of the Sword Dance Union

Parish Centre, Handsworth

Saturday 17 October 2009

In the Chair: Aubrey O'Brien sent apologies. Sally Wearing temped

Teams represented: Stone Monkey; Handsworth; Grenoside; Redcar; Sallyport; Kingsmen; Sir Harrys; Lord Conyers; Wype Doles; Triskele;; Castleford; Sullivan's; Goathland; Whip the Cat; Maltby; Black Swan; Black Adder; Mabel Gubbins; Lamb and Flag; North British; Snark; Southport; White Star; High Spen Committee; Rapper ~Linda Hewing; Longsword ~Richard Bojanowski; Traditional Rapper ~Chris Cartridge; Treasurer ~Jenny Day; Outside World Liaison ~Sally Wearing; Archive ~Ivor Allsop; Web site ~Paul Davenport; Phil Heaton ~Secretary

Apologies: Barnsley,

The meeting opened at 18.00.

1 Minutes of 2008 Annual General Meeting

These were accepted by the meeting.

2 Reports from Officers

Reports were given by the Secretary and Treasurer.

2.1 Secretary – Phil Heaton

Newsletters: Chris Cartridge had produced two newsletters, nos 6 and 7. He had been trying to stick to one page, but next one may be bigger. He issued them when there was enough information to warrant one. The deadline for the next one was the end of November 2010. To make a Christmas/Dancing out issue.

The Competititon Is developing but it is only one of the reasons for and not the whole point of an annual Longsword gathering.

Hire swords: Have been used a few times. But were available from the secretary in Draycott

Cecil Sharp House swords: Geoff Charlton of Southport trying to find the time to work on the swords to make at least some of them available for use.

Junior Rapper Tournament in Wakefield: This had been organised by Damien Barber in June, and was excellent. SDU and some of its officers had been involved. 12 teams took

part, and the winners came from Pontefract, Barnsley and Loughborough. SDU paid for rosettes.

Longsword Competition: Many thanks to Boz and Handsworth for a splendid day in Sheffield City Centre and Handsworth. Much hard work was in evidence. There were also many Handsworth locals who came to see the afternoon show. The competition aspect still deters teams. PRATS danced in Sheffield but shyed away from the afternoon show. No competition was necessary.

Support: General advice was given throughout the year, CRBs, Workshop problems and Risk Assessments was prevalent.

Insurance: The situation has settled down for the moment.

DART 2010: This will go ahead in Boston, USA, in October at a date set not to conflict with the SDU weekend.

Grenoside: Were organising an event in 2010, which would incorporate the Longsword competition.

2.2 Treasurer – Jenny Day

We started off this financial year (01/11/08) with a balance of £940.12 in the bank. There was an outstanding cheque for £45.68 to clear from the previous financial year and we paid £7.10 car parking fees in relation to the longsword competition in Derby. We have also paid £250 to Handsworth Parish Centre for this years longsword event.

We have increased the membership slightly this year and have received £230 in subs. The only other income was £15 for the hire of swords.

We have £882.34 in the bank at the moment but have still to complete the transactions for this years longsword event.

Accounts:

These were accepted by the meeting. Proposed by Sally , seconded by Richard

3 Election of Officers

1. Chairman resigned due to a broken heart: Sally Wearing elected.

2. New committee members volunteered; Stuart Bater of Handsworth and Graeme Taylor, itinerant sword dancer.

4 Other business

4.1 Longsword competition

Chris Cartridge pointed out that at DERT, the exhibition class was designed for teams to dance but not compete.

Phil said that teams could ask the judges just to give constructive comments but not marks.

4.2 Insurance

According to Stimpson who organised the JMO insurance. Almost every activity carried out by teams and individual members of teams was covered by the insurance

Phil repeated advice that he wasn't sure about the position of individuals who were not members of a team. People could join EFDSS who provided insurance.

4.3 Awards

Discussions had taken place and designs submitted and considered. Watch this space.

4.4 Workshops

We have been approached to run workshops by various organisations.
The Register of teachers needs volunteers.

4.5 Joint Morris Organisation (JMO)

The Event in Nottingham had been very well attended by the SDU sides and the Sword Event was well organised by Linda Hewing. There were some contrived difficulties again with Insurance but Linda solved the problems with logic.

The SDU was happy to support it but not to organise it. It was difficult enough to get teams to Derby for today's events.

4.6 Other issues

Archive: Ivor gave a plea for people to provide material, especially film and video for the archive.

The meeting closed at 17.58.