**THE PETWORTH SOCIETY**

Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting of Members of the Petworth Society (the Society) held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 16th May 2023 in the Leconfield Hall

**ITEM**

1. The Chairman opened the Meeting. There were 26 Members of the Society present.
2. Apologies for absence had been received from Lord Egremont and Nick Wheeler.
3. The Meeting approved the minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on 17th May 2022, as a true and accurate record.
4. There were no matters arising from the meeting held on 17th May 2022 for discussion that would not otherwise be discussed during the course of the meeting.
5. The Meeting received a report from the Chairman on the Society’s activities during the past year (see attached).
6. The Meeting received a report from the Treasurer on the Society’s finances. The meeting adopted the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts for twelve months ending 28th February 2023. Proposed by Sarah Singleton and seconded Michael Mulcahy.
7. The Meeting elected Alexandra Soskin, Michael Mulcahy, Sarah Singleton and Philip Stephens as the members of the Society Management Committee. Proposed by Graham Whittington and seconded by Tricia Stephens. Miles Costello queried that the size of the Committee did not reach the required number to be quorate.
8. It was proposed that the following changes be made to the Memorandum & Articles of Association:
9. That the quorate requirement be reduced from 5 to 3 but a vote on this this was not carried by the Meeting. Following a discussion, Tom Moore proposed that the quorate number on the Management Committee be defined as 50% of the committee members plus one (i.e. to bring the number to over half). This suggestion was seconded by Mike Mulcahy and carried by the meeting. There was one vote not in favour, from Miles Costello, who requested that this be minuted.
10. That the requirement to have a Vice Chairman be removed. This was proposed by Sarah Singleton and seconded by Michael Mulcahy. The motion was carried.
11. The Meeting proposed the re-appointment of Alain Mardle as the Society’s independent examiner. Proposed by Michael Mulcahy and seconded by Patricia Stephens, and carried in a vote.
12. Any other business.

a. Miles Costello was presented with a scroll as thanks for his many years of work for the Society.

b. Alexandra Soskin reported that, although its future was in question three years ago, the Society was now on a sound footing for the future, and described the various ways in which this was so. That being the case, she announced her intention to stand down as Chairman later in the year.

c. There was general discussion regarding the need for more committee members. The Chairman said the committee was actively seeking additional members, particularly following Nick Wheeler’s recent resignation, and invited members to nominate candidates. It was noted that help with organising events, marketing these events as well as the Society generally, and also a Secretary would be particularly welcome.

d The Meeting was reminded that there is to be a Society talk on Friday 19th May at 7:00 pm.

e. The Meeting was reminded by Sarah Singleton that the Book Sale required more people to help.