

The Geomancy Group

Minutes of Biennial General Meeting 21 September 2019

Downs View, Norton Ferris, Wiltshire

Present: Grahame, Ros, Jon, Barry, Susie, Sara, Richard & Jewels

Apologies for absence: John & Jill Moss

1 Chair Report

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes from the 2017 BGM in Mindrum were read by Grahame and accepted.

Ros apologised for forgetting to bring the sacred Quaich once again!

Grahame reported that, due to ongoing ill health, John had apologised (by email) for being unable to attend this weekend and expressed the wish that he felt it best to stand down as Chair. He suggested that, as Ros & Grahame do an outstanding job of organising events, we could manage without a formal Chair. We discussed the need to have a position of Chair given our informal set-up; however the Group feel that it is valuable to have a Chair to coordinate schedules, keep an overview of Group energy, and be the last word in dispute settlements etc., as stated in 'The Code'.

2 Treasurer's Report

Funds have got a bit low as the deposit for Dumfries next March was quite expensive at £600, leaving us with around £400 in the account. Ros questions whether such large houses are cost-effective; should she look for 10 places or smaller rather than 14? Sara queried the cancellation policy. Discussion ensued about likely numbers for the Dumfries trip. Grahame said that he could invite some tutor guests from the area if necessary to make up numbers. Sara suggested that people need to commit by the end of the year and have deposits in the bank, suggesting 25% as a reasonable figure. There was general agreement with this policy.

Action: Ros to write to all regarding deposit payments and subscriptions (done).

Ros gave a summary of her method for finding a place but acknowledged that due to their high turnover, she cannot wait to run it past the Group but must act to book quickly, often paying with her own credit card.

Sara said that she would be prepared to pay extra if it meant that she got her own bed.

We need to check with John & Jill, Sig & Karin, and Kiarna if they wish to come to the Spring meeting in Dumfries.

Prospective members Gary & Caroline also need to be checked about their availability around dates; if they can't come to a meeting next year then they need to be told that they will have to begin the Group entry process again. After discussion, it was agreed to check their availability for Autumn 2020 before confirming dates. A trip to the Isle of Wight was suggested as Gary is knowledgeable about the area.

Action: Grahame to write to Gary & Caroline.

3 Secretary's Report

Grahame apologised for lack of time to prepare his usual website enquiries spreadsheet for this BGM but said that we still get plenty of queries through the website. He said that he will endeavour to produce a summary ASAP.

Action: Grahame to collate spreadsheet of website enquiries for circulation.

4 Election of Officers

Ros proposed Richard & Jewels as co-Chairs. Grahame seconded. Unanimous. Welcome to our new joint Chair!

5 Dates & Venues for 2020 and beyond...

March 30-April 3 2020 Albion House, Castle Douglas, Dumfries & Galloway

11-13 September OR 9-11 October 2020 Isle of Wight? (run past rest of group + Gary)

Action: Grahame to look into minibus hire on island

Spring 2020 – Richard suggested East Anglia

September equinox 2021 Beech Hill (Geomancy Group 20th anniversary)

July 2024 Ros requested that everyone put in their diary July 2024 for the lunar standstill at Callanish.

6 Passing ceremony for Maria

The group acknowledges Maria's passing on Friday 13 last – Susie said that she had felt her presence afterwards. We conducted a small ceremony for this, and also sent healing to John, Jill, and Karin.

7 20th Anniversary plans.

September equinox 2021 will be the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Geomancy Group and everyone is urged to try to attend a reunion at Beech Hill, where the Group was born. It was suggested that it would be nice to invite folks who have either been members or have connected with the Group in other ways. Suggestions welcomed.

8 AOB

Susie asked about the situation with Shaun – Ros said that she has spoken to him and sent several emails and Facebook messages but had no response. Grahame pointed out that Shaun has been written to formally but not responded and is now officially in the 'dormant' member category.

There was no other business.

Grahame Gardner, Secretary, 24 September 2019