A community shop and café run by the Village for the Village

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Tewin Stores Association Ltd held on Monday 24 February 2020**

**Present:** Gerry Smith (in the Chair), Eleanor Lohr, Amanda Miller, Peter Miller, Simon Newton, Roger Huggins, Deborah Newton, Mary Gregg, David Gregg , Marie St Pier, Keith St Pier, John Gilley, Linda Gilley, Anne Hall, Maureen Yates, Pauline Spring, Graham Spring, Jenny Mason, , Helen Bennell, Graham Bennell, Mick Lloyd, Doreen Lloyd, Linda Crawford, Alice Greenwood, Paul Lohr, Jacquie Mercer, Maureen Masterman, Joy Lawson, Kristina Lawson, Jules Howson, Roe Hill, MJ Kersey, R Guilbert, Mike Purser, David and Jane Room, Roger Toms, Martina Swift, Karin Borg, Linda Crawford.

**Apologies:** Patrick Holden, Ann Lee, Mavis Haggar, Julia Tizzard, Brenda Barber, Bev Barraclough, Nick Whiting, Brian Greenwood, David Henson

1. **The minutes of the previous AGM** held on 13 March 2019 were agreed. Proposed by Linda Gilley and seconded by Pauline Spring.
2. **Chairman’s Report**. Gerry Smith referred to the Annual Report, highlighting the support that Tewin Stores had received from villagers, particularly those who had supported the Share Sale which enabled the Community to purchase the shop premises. He also thanked all the volunteers who support the day-to-day running of the shop and said that the success of Tewin Stores was due to volunteers continuing to come forward. He also thanked Bev Barraclough, Jacquie Houston, Jo Holmes, Alan, Julie and Paul Day for their work. Gerry also said that the development of the café was currently under discussion.

The meeting formally accepted the Annual Report for 2018/9. Proposed by John Gilley and seconded by Helen Bennell.

1. **Election of the Committee**. Gerry Smith announced that Maureen Yates had decided, after many years service, to stand down from the Committee. He thanked Maureen for her contributions. She had raised £1000’s through her knitting and plant sales and he was grateful that Maureen was continuing doing this.

In relation to the election of Committee, he said that the new Rules now stipulate that Committee members hold office for a period, ending at the conclusion of the third AGM after their appointment and that a person retiring from office would be eligible for re-election or re-appointment.  As the longest serving members, Linda Crawford and Doreen Lloyd were formally standing down and were willing to be reappointed.

Gerry went on to say that he was also standing down from the Committee and did not wish to be re-elected. He said that the remaining members of the Committee would continue and that Peter Miller had joined the Committee during the year and he had agreed to take on the role of Chairman.

Peter Miller, Linda Crawford and Doreen Lloyd were appointed unanimously by a show of hands, and Peter Miller was welcomed by the meeting in his new role.

1. The appointment of Holdings as Reporting Accountants was proposed by Graham Spring, seconded by Marie St Pier and agreed.

The formalities having been completed, an informal discussion took place.

1. Peter Miller introduced himself to the meeting and said that since his retirement he was getting to know the village better. As part of his preparation to take on the role of Chairman he was meeting Committee members and getting work experience in Tewin Stores.

Peter went on to say that in relation to the development of the shop, Committee members had had two meetings and that a final meeting to conclude our initial advice to Members was being held in March.

In response to questions from the floor the following was confirmed:

1. that if it became essential to close the shop, this would only be for a very short period of time; that it may be necessary to apply for planning permission, and that the aim would be to minimise disruption.
2. that the aim was to deal with the drains, the electrics, the WC, the kitchen, the courtyard as well as to make disabled access easier
3. that there was £40,000 available from the Share Sale for the refurbishment, that the shop had some reserves it could use, and that the intention is also to apply for grants.
4. Other points that were raised were:
5. JY raised the current difficulty of serving hot food from the kitchen past the counter
6. In response to SN, Gerry said that the refurbishment could separate the café function from the shop
7. DG said that it might be necessary to employ more staff in the future, and that the café could open on a Saturday afternoon
8. RG suggested an email survey of Members opinions. In response Peter said that when the Committee was clearer a plan would be put out and Members would be asked for feedback.
9. M StP said that there might be parking problems with increased custom
10. RH asked if the Committee was planning to retain the current Mission statement: “Tewin Stores and Café, run by the Village for the Village”.
11. EL, LC and K StP all made points in favour of continuing to run the shop with volunteers.
12. JL said how much the shop had improved over the passed 12 years.
13. MM said that she had researched options for the future of the shop. She was advised to send her results to Peter Miller.

Gerry Smith thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting

The meeting ended at 8.25pm