

**Ford & Fordson Association - Annual General Meeting,  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 11 a.m.  
Keith Sherrell's Oakham Treasures Museum, Portbury, Bristol.**

**Minutes**

On a beautiful Autumn Sunday in October 70 FFA members & guests + 1 child registered to attend the AGM in Bristol. Each person contributed £10 which paid for a delicious hot two course lunch of cottage pie & vegetables with apple crumble and cream. Coffee and tea were made available on arrival and during the day as members enjoyed the exclusive use of Keith Sherrell's conference facilities and admission to the most excellently displayed tractor & heritage museum at Oakham Treasures. (A separate record of attendance is attached).

The Chairman, Peter Godwin, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending the meeting. He also thanked our host, Keith Sherrell and his daughter Helen, for working on a Sunday and allowing the AGM to be held at their museum.

**Apologies:** Received from Joseph Lewis (Somerset), Mr. P. Simpson (Sheffield), Area Reps, Gwilyn Jones (North Wales), David Lemonius (Isle of Wight), Colin Aylward (South Yorkshire), Joan Woodall (West Yorkshire), Gianfranco Bisson (Northern Italy), Dawn & Barry Milsom (Australia – they have their own AGM and meeting the same day), Ted Foster & Arch Tanner (Ford & Fordson Collectors Association Inc. USA), Gerard Schoenmakers (The Netherlands) – but would be coming over to support their two Dutch ploughmen in the FFA ploughing finals in November.

The Secretary acknowledged those Area Reps present at the meeting: Nick & Pat Bryne (Somerset), who announced they would be giving up this role. Kenneth & David Ford (Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, Avon & Wiltshire), Andrew Green (Devon), Keith & Jane Broomhall (Norfolk/ East Anglia), Peter Godwin (Oxfordshire), Pat Pawsey (Suffolk & Essex), Margaret & Derek Badham (Shropshire),

**Minutes of the last AGM**

The Minutes of the 2010 meeting had been posted to all those in attendance with their AGM information letter. The Secretary briefly reviewed the document and highlighted the main points of the meeting including the non-appearance of the Accounts Report last year, which had proved such an important and divisive issue of concern to all FFA members.

The Minutes were proposed by Roger Ingham and Seconded by David Ford and approved by a show of hands and all agreed that the Chairman should sign them as a true record.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes** These are covered in the Chairman's Report.

**Election of New Officers**

The Secretary explained that Peter Godwin would stand down as Chairman and remain on the Committee for the next two years.

Chairman Elect, **Patrick Pawsey** (Suffolk & Essex Area Rep) was proposed by Peter Godwin and seconded by Rodney Gibson. The new Chairman was approved by a unanimous show of hands from the members present and was elected as Chairman for the next three years.

Business Manager / Treasurer – Bob Duke wished to resign due to pressure of work. Rob Rushen-Smith proposed and Keith Broomhall seconded that **Jane Broomhall** (Norfolk / East Anglia Area Rep) as the new Treasurer. The new Treasurer was approved by a unanimous show of hands from the members present and was elected as Treasurer for the next three years

Co-opted Committee Members for Committee:

**Graeme Clark (Ernie)** Website Manager proposed by Rodney Gibson and seconded by Peter Godwin

**Simon Smart** proposed by Rob Rushen-Smith and seconded by Rodney Gibson.

The above was approved by a unanimous show of hands from the members present and was elected to Committee for the next three years

The new Chairman Patrick Pawsey then took over the meeting and thanked everyone for their support.

**Any Other Business**

In his opening speech Pat Pawsey announced the venue for EXPO VIII (8) would be in

Cambridgeshire at the **Swavsey Rally, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2012.**

He also said that one of his priorities was to talk to all the Area Reps to try to encourage the development of the Association at local level.

He said that it was his aim to get 'new blood' and new ideas into the Association and invited anyone interested in joining the committee to contact him afterwards.

The new Chairman reminded the meeting of the dates of **Tractor World Saturday 03 & Sunday 04 March 2012.** (Exhibitor forms will be published in the next few weeks).

He then announced that the Committee had agreed to confer **Honourary Membership** status on:- **David Caley, Nick Battelle**, for their many years of service to the FFA Committee, to **Bob Duke** as a small appreciation of the wonderful job he had done this year in managing the Associations Accounts and Business Affairs after Independence and **Wendy Gibson** the first 'Honorary Lady Member' The meeting unanimously agreed with these proposals.

David Caley, although grateful for the sentiment, declined the honour as he wished to remain an ordinary paying member that would allow him greater freedom to ask questions of the Association in the future.

Nick Battelle was also grateful and said his father Arthur Battelle was already a Honourary member and requested he 'inherits' this honour in the future.

Pat Pawsey then went on to pay tribute to his predecessor, Peter Godwin, for his service to the FFA and leading the Association during his term as Chairman including this last extra year.

The meeting was then opened to the members to ask questions.

**Nick Battelle, Derbyshire** – Wished the new Committee members well.

He then questioned the change of name of the Associations magazine from Ford & Fordson Association to Ford & Fordson Tractors, which was a bug bear for him. (*As was explained last year by Stephen Wright, this was a commercial decision made by the owners of the magazine who felt this title was more inclusive and would attract more enthusiasts of Ford & Fordson tractors*). He also questioned some of the story content in the magazine related to the Editor's broken garage, which was of no interest to him.

Nick went on to ask about membership cards and membership numbers and how he would confirm who are FFA members for discounts with his Old 20 Parts Company in the future. (*This was something the Committee would consider if it could afford and administer properly.*)

Finally Nick was pleased to hear that the FFA was maintaining its links with New Holland (Basildon).

**Andrew Green – Devon Area Rep.** Said he felt the FFA website was crucial to the success of the Association and was pleased with the new website produced by Graeme Clark. He asked if the Minutes of the Committee Meeting could be published on the website in future to help better communication between Committee & members. (*This was a good idea and would be considered by the FFA Committee*)

He also thought the website could be used to encourage members to join and renew direct with the FFA so we could take advantage of the Commission benefits. The Treasurer, Bob Duke, confirmed that the FFA gets no benefit from direct debit sales and subscriptions made via Kelsey Publishing.

**The Secretary** – thanked all the Area Reps present at the meeting for all they had done this past year and encouraged them to keep sending in their reports for the website and the magazine.

**David Caley – East Yorkshire.** Confirmed that he had resigned as Chairman of the FFA in January over difference of opinion with how the FFA should be run. He said that we had a constitution and should try to stick to it for inviting new Committee members. He praised Nick & Pat Bryne, Somerset Area Reps and said they were a model for others.

**Tony Doyle, Leader of Cork Branch - Ford & Fordson Association.**

Said we should all continue to protect the good image of the FFA and remind everyone that it is the original and the best club for Ford & Fordson enthusiasts. Warm applause from the meeting for the remarks from a leading member of the FFA from the Republic of Ireland.

**Roger Ingham – North Yorkshire.** Our Director of Ploughing took the opportunity to make a short report about the FFA Ploughing Championships. This year we have seen fuel costs rising rapidly making us think twice about travelling long distance to ploughing matches throughout the country. Roger said he has been in correspondence with Scotplough and the Welsh Ploughing Society trying to set up a Scottish & Welsh ploughing finals next year and both organisations seem favourable. This will keep an interest in our FFA ploughing division – if the ploughmen can't come to us then we

should go to them! Also a North and South Championships in England might work – food for thought.

This years FFA ploughing finals is at Towton, near Tadcaster on Sunday 06 November as you will have read in the FFT magazine. Thanks to the Editor Peter Love for the good coverage of the event!! Roger is currently investigating a site for the 2012 finals. He finished by saying we must be doing something wrong in this country as we watch our diesel costs rise – but what price our hobby? We are put to shame by two ploughmen from The Netherlands who will travel with a party of supporters led by FFA Country Rep Gerard Schoenmakers from Holland to attend the FFA Ploughing Finals in North Yorkshire in November.

Roger was pleased that Russell's (New Holland dealers) and Cheffins Auctions will again be sponsoring prize money at the FFA Ploughing Finals.

**Peter Love, Editor Ford & Fordson Tractors magazine.** Reminded the meeting that the FFA was now independent organisation and said Kelsey Publishing had not been given enough credit for its regular sponsorship and also handing over all the FFA merchandise to the Association (about £4,000 worth of stock) plus the use of the trailer. We are now trying to look after all the FFA members with services such as the Technical Officers in the committee and himself when asked to support. He was also pleased to support Old 20 Parts in the magazine and give them credit for supplying good new lines in tractor parts

The Chairman Pat Pawsey brought the meeting to a close and thanked everyone for their questions and for attending.

