



THAMES AND CHILTERN VINEYARDS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting 2020

17.30-18.30

Wednesday 25th November 2020 by Zoom meeting

Minutes

Attendees

- Anne Linder – Windsor Great Park Vineyard
- Denise Santilli – Linch Hill Vineyard
- Bob Nielsen – Brightwell Vineyard
- Sian & Richard Liwicki – Bothy Vineyard
- Robert Louth- Winding Wood Vineyard
- Mike Dean – Vernon Lodge Vineyard
- Tim & Stephanie Chafor – Chafor Wine Estate
- Evelyn Joslin – Dreaming Squires Vineyard
- Oliver Richardson – Honorary Member / Welsh Vineyards Association
- Nick Room – RT Wine Solutions Ltd
- Patricia Stefanowicz MW – Vice Chairman
- Jan Mirkowski- Fairmile Vineyard
- Barbara Laithwaite – Wyfold Vineyard

Apologies

- Christopher Cooke – Winding Wood Vineyard
- Phil Rossi – Oaken Grove Vineyard
- Natalia Pezzoni – Stanlake Park Wine Estate
- Ian Bowler – Bowler Associates
- Wendy Sargent – Fawley Vineyard

2. Minutes & Actions from AGM held 3rd May 2019

- One change since the Minutes were issued: Sian Liwicki was replaced as Treasurer by Christopher Cooke. This change was voted in by 22 members by e-mail on 15/10/19.
- Minutes were approved.
- Proposed: Patricia Stefanowicz, Seconded: Bob Nielsen

3. Chairman's Report: Bob Nielsen

- Apart from the COVID-19 pandemic which has affected everyone this year, the major issue facing most T&CVA vineyards in 2020 was the severe late frosts in May which were the worst that many had seen in 20 years and reduced harvest yields between 50 and 100%.
- It was suggested that because the T&CVA region consists of valleys and hills, we suffer from a greater variation of microclimatic conditions than other Wine GB Regions and it may be worth considering a more in depth survey of the vineyards in our region to look at topography and

explore which frost prevention methods work best for us. This suggestion to be taken forward separately.

- WineGB have been extremely active this year and have done a Stirling job in keeping members updated with COVID restrictions, and marketing English & Welsh Wines to keep businesses afloat under very challenging circumstances. We wish to recognise how much we appreciate their efforts and encourage all T&CVA members to use them as a resource.
- The T&CVA Annual Wine Challenge was successfully and safely held despite COVID challenges.
- The English Wine & Food Festival 2020 was postponed due to COVID restrictions and has been rescheduled for June 5th & 6th 2021. A GO/NO GO decision will be made in March before we incur huge expenditure.

4. Vice-Chairman's Report: Patricia Stefanowicz

- TCVA Wine Challenges held Sept 13th 2020 at Brightwell Vineyard with Vice-Chairman leading a panel of 4 highly qualified judges. Judges' comments sent to T&CVA Secretary for distribution to wineries.
- As Technical Advisor, extended visit to Mill Hill Allotment vineyard (formerly Andy Creighton) for discussion about renovating trellising and reinvigorating vineyard.
- Attended numerous WineGB 'events', specifically Viticulture and Winemaking, but also some on Marketing and Sales.
- Attended WineGB 'Secrets of the Soil' Viticulture Technical Conference, 17th-19th November 2020.

5. Treasurer's Report: Christopher Cooke

- The account balance as of the end of October was a healthy £4,454 (Y/E December 2019 was £3,211). As the Festival was postponed this year the only event in the calendar was the Wine Challenge. Although there was a small attendance for obvious reasons, this still produced income of £352 with £195 for wines entered (increased to £5 per wine) plus lunch income of £157. Total costs amount to £468 for judges, lunch and cup trophy engraving, thus a small deficit of £115.
- Regarding the postponed festival, we have reimbursed £473 to stall holders but a number requested we just hold the payment on account for 2021. This consists of £1,473: £973 of stall holder and £500 of sponsorship fees.
- Membership. There are 44 paid up members of TCVA of which 5 are new members. We received £1,000 of subscription revenue on account from WineGB in September with another £145 to come by the year end. Our year end is 31 December— in line with that of WineGB.
- Medal labels. We reprinted earlier in the year and following a call to arms to vineyards there was an excellent response to buying and 'sticking' during lockdown. We will need to reprint early next year as we are out of stock of our gold and silver medal labels.

Thames & Chiltern Vineyard Association 2020 P&L	Prior Yr	TOTAL
JAN-DCT		
Wine Challenge 2020 wine submitted		195.00
Wine Challenge 2020 wine lunch		157.20
Wine Challenge 2019 wine submitted	21.00	
Wine medals tickets		320.00
Festival 2020 wine stall		0.00
Festival 2020 food stall		973.00
Festival 2020 sponsorship		500.00
Festival ticket sales		0.00
Festival sundry income		0.00
Wine subscriptions		1,000.00
Sundry		0.00
INCOME		3,145.20
Prior year WC lunch (Daken Grove)	350.00	
Festival site costs		0.00
Festival stand reimbursement		473.00
Festival printing advertising		32.89
Website map design		0.00
Wine Challenge lunch judging		278.20
Medal label print		498.86
Sundry costs engraving website		199.33
EXPENDITURE		1,482.28
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		1,662.92
OPENING B/L	3190.78	
add prior year receipts		
less prior creditor		
BANK BALANCE at End Dct	4,494.70	

Thames & Chiltern Vineyard Association

BALANCE SHEET

	2019	2018
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	£0.00	£0.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
cash at bank	£3,190.78	
debtors	£21.00	
	£3,211.78	£2,790.66
Creditors falling due within 1 year	£350.00	£60.00
NET ASSETS	£2,861.78	£2,730.66
CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Retained surplus b/f	£2,730.66	£2,829.66
This year's surplus(deficit)	£131.12	-£99.00
RETAINED SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	£2,861.78	£2,730.66

Note to CC

- £21 owed by Brightwell for WC wines submitted. Chased but may have to write off
- £350 was for cost of lunch of WC paid in 2020 to Phil Rossi

Wine GB / T&CVA membership at November 2020

Contact Title	Contact First Name	Contact Surname	Business Trading Name	Address 3 Town	Address 4 County-Must be completed
Dr	Bernard	Lamb		London	London
Mrs	Denise	Santilli	Linch Hill Vineyard	Stanton Harcourt	Oxfordshire
Mrs	Feona	Petersen	Dropmore Vineyard	Burnham	Bucks
Mrs	Wendy	Sargent	Fawley Vineyard	Henley On Thames	Oxon
Mr	Christopher	Cooke	Winding Wood Vineyard	Hungerford	Berks
Mr	Lawrence	Kimber	Dinton Wines Ltd	Aylesbury	Bucks
Mr	Alastair	Field	Reading Agricultural Consultants Limited	Reading	Berks
Mr	Stephen	Duckett	Hundred Hills Vineyard	Oxford	Oxon
Mrs	Barbara	Laithwaite	Wyfold Vineyard	Henley on Thames	Oxon
Mr	Tom	Newey	Alder Ridge Vineyard	Hungerford	Berks
Mr	Jan	Mirkowski	Fairmile Vineyard	Henley on Thames	Oxon
Ms	Sian	Liwicki	Bothy Vineyard	Abingdon	Oxon
Ms	Anne	Linder	Windsor Great Park Vineyard	Theale	Berks
Mr	Ian	Bowler		Marlborough	Wiltshire
Mr	Adrian	Marsh	Walnut Cottage Vineyard	Chalfont St Giles	Bucks
Mrs	Patricia	Stefanowicz		London	London
Mr	Ed	Mitcham	Yew Tree Vineyard Ltd	East Hendred	Oxon
Mr	Bob	Nielsen	Brightwell Vineyard	Wallingford	Oxon
Dr	Evelyn	Joslin	Dreaming Squires Vineyard	Oxford	Oxon
Ms	Holly	Morgan	Daws Hill Vineyard	High Wycombe	Bucks
Mr	Tim	Chafor	Chafor Wine Estate	Tingewick	Bucks
Mrs	Kaye	Laithwaite	Harrow and Hope Limited	Marlow	Bucks
Mrs	Eileen	Bell	Hendred Vineyard llp	Wantage	Oxon
Mr	Patrick	Hurd	Hale Valley Vineyard	Great Missenden	Bucks
Mr	Daniel	Goss-Custard	Stanlake Park Company Ltd	Reading	Berks
Mr	Donald	Ealand	Chiltern Valley Vineyard Winery & Brewery llp	Henley on Thames	Oxfordshire
Mr	Phillip	Rossi	Oaken Grove Vineyard	London	London
Ms	Niamh	Kendall	Kidmore Vineyard Ltd	Kidmore End	Oxon
Mr	Ian	Beecher-Jones	Chiltern Hills Farm Ltd	Henley on Thames	Oxfordshire
Mr	John	Needham	The Guildhouse Street Vineyard	London	London
Mr	Ian	Smith	Kingwood Estate Ltd	Reading	Berkshire
Mr	Roland	Christian	Arrewig Vineyard	Chesham	Buckinghamshire
Mr	Neale	Canning	Devil's Hill Vineyard	Henley-on-Thames	Oxfordshire
Mr	Alex	Taylor	Tring Winery	Tring	Hertfordshire
Mr	Gavin	Carver		Oxford	Oxfordshire
Mr	Hugo	Pickering		Chipping Norton	Oxfordshire
Mr	Tom	Jayne	Moorbridge Estate	Newbury	Berkshire
Mrs	Carolina	Brochado Ciesielski	Seer Green Vineyard	Beaconsfield	Buckinghamshire
Mrs	Kim	Cooper		Gerrards Cross	Buckinghamshire
Mr	Tim	Jeffer	The Crop Candle Company Ltd	Henley-on-Thames	Oxfordshire
Mr	Mike	Dean	Vernon Lodge Vineyard	Tiffield	Northants
Mr	Roy	Philips	Parhams Vineyard	shaftesbury	Dorset
Ms	Elisabeth	Else	Wine Cellar Door	Farnham	Surrey
Mr	Paul	Crotty		Wendlebury	Oxfordshire
Mr	Nicholas	Room	RT Wine Solutions	Sonning Common	Oxfordshire

6. Secretary's Report: Denise Santilli

- AGM held 3rd May 2019: 9 attendees
- TCVA Wine Challenges held: Sept 7th 2019 at Oaken Grove Vineyard and Sept 13th 2020 at Brightwell Vineyard
- Very successful 1st English Wine & Food Festival (EWFF) held on June 8th 2019, Brightwell Vineyard, Wallingford: 13 T&CVA vineyards, 6 "Street" Food suppliers, 12 artisan food producers, Jazz quartet, 780 visitors, £3400 in sponsorship secured. Visit www.englishwineandfoodfestival.co.uk . Many thanks to Bob and Carol Nielsen for hosting this event. An official "Thank You" letter and gift of Wine to be sent to Jeanette Howse in recognition of her invaluable input to the English Wine & Food Festival event.

- 2nd EWFF planned for May 30th & 31st 2020 now postponed to June 5th & 6th 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic, again at Brightwell Vineyard. Much of the planning already in place and just need to pick up the leads again in January 2021.
- Local T&CVA Vineyard map developed for the Wine Festival available as pdf.

7. English Wine & Food Festival June 5th & 6th 2021, Brightwell Vineyard, Wallingford

- All plans were well advanced for the 2020 Festival before lockdown occurred. We just need to pick up the plans again from January 2021 onwards.

8. Election of Officers & Committee for 2019-20

The following were elected

- a. Officers:
 - i. Chair & UKVA representative: Bob Nielsen, Brightwell Vineyard
 - ii. Vice-Chair T&CVA Technical Advisor: Patricia Stefanowicz MW
 - iii. Hon Treasurer: Christopher Cooke, Winding Wood Vineyard
 - iv. Hon Secretary: Denise Santilli, Linch Hill Vineyard
- b. Members:
 - i. Margaret McVey (TBC)
 - ii. Jan Mirkowski, Fairmile Vineyard
 - iii. Anne Linder, Direct Wines
 - iv. Sian Liwicki, Bothy Vineyard
 - v. Stephanie Chafor, Chafor Wine Estate

Phil Rossi has resigned from the committee due to work commitments
Evelyn Joslin is willing to continue on the EWFF committee

9. Motions passed

- T&CVA subs for 2021 to maintained at £25 (unanimous vote)
- The word "Association" will be maintained in the name of our organisation (7:1 vote for the name to be kept)

10. Any other business

- Oliver Richardson has sent a link to a Christmas initiative being funded by the Welsh Government. www.welshdrinkschristmas.co.uk Denise has forwarded this to Julia at Wine GB to see if there is an equivalent English initiative.
- Sian Liwicki is very active on Social Media on behalf of the T&CVA and requested that all Vineyards send pictures / news items/ videos to her to post on these platforms to keep the noise level up and increase marketing presence for all T&CVA vineyards.