

Minutes of the AGM for Contemplative Fire 2025

Held at Ripon College , Cuddesdon

Saturday October 4th at 11.45am.

Chair Person: Peter Wright

1. Apologies received from Sarah Burns, Melanie Carroll, Simon and Catherine Musgrove, Jacky Stride, Linda Whitnall, Fran Smettem, Sharon Roberts.

Peter confirmed there were 21 Companions present.

2. Peter invited us into silence to re-member Philip and Jill Roderick. Philip died recently and his funeral was held in Brighton on the 3rd October.

3. Trustees. We said goodbye to Sally Livsey and Siggy Parratt-Halbert. Peter gave them both cards from the community to say thank-you. Sally will continue with her work on the CF accounts.

Ali Dorey and Peter Wright were re-elected

New Trustee is Kathryn Lord. The votes cast were unanimous in favour of electing Ali, Peter and Kathryn.

Peter asked the community to pray for a new trustee to join the other 5 trustees.

4. The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting with the following matters arising.
 - (i) Sally L to follow up on her action to Simon Musgrave's suggestion to consider including a line in the accounts for interest from the bank, now that rates are going up more.
 - (ii) Under item five Community growth and Development. Ali to investigate if we could pay to remove adverts from our You-tube Channel.
 - (iii) Under item 6 AOB the actions have not organically happened. It was pointed out that the 'action ' did not proceed beyond being a proposal, and the plan for a prayer calendar was discussed but the practicalities were not resolved.

After much discussion it was suggested that the "Actions" were premature and had not had time to evolve organically. Charlotte Wright felt it was important that the hiddenness of sending out the cards to Companions should be retained.

5. Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st May 2025

Sally L began by mentioning that all companions are stewards of the money. Money flows in and flows out. She guided us very clearly through the accounts.

Action for Sally L from our discussions

(i) Financial gift from the Community of £1000 and a card to Sarah as a thank you and recognition of all her hard work and a gentle prod from us all to encourage her to put in all the hours she works for the community.

(ii) To put aside £1000 for Communication and Digital development

(iii) Increase the budget of Across the Threshold to £10000

(iv) Kathryn Lord proposed that the community should send a gift of £1000 to Jill Roderick

(v) Thank you, Sally L, for all your work and your inspiring way of sharing the accounts.

6. Safe Guarding. Peter gave his report

7. Community Growth Report Ali Dorey, Charlotte read her report.

8. AOB

Kim and Hilary have kindly offered to take on times of togetherness and Kim encouraged the community to think about offering to share in a T of T

Kim and Ali are planning a dreaming retreat in February 2026. Theme of DREAMING

Mary Hipsley mentioned the theme of her new book entitled Reimagining the Landscape of faith.

Ann W has asked that when emails go out from info at CF that in the subject box Sarah puts what the email be about e.g. Agenda for the CF Weekend.

Sunday Morning

Great answer to Prayer! Soobie Whitfield is willing to be a trustee for the coming year so the trustees have co-opted her to the trustee Board!