**Minutes of the Publication Committee of The Arthur Ransome Society held in Birmingham on the 1st February 2020**

**Apologies** received from the Blue Family and David Middleton

**In Attendance** Peter Wright (PWr) Peter Willis (PW) Mike Glover (MG) Julian Lovelock (JL) Barry Gouldbourne (BG) Susan Gouldbourne (SG)

The minutes were agreed as being a true record of the last meeting.

There were no matters arising not covered by this meeting

**Mixed Moss Report** JL had prepared a written report which is attached to these minutes. After some discussion the following is recommended to the trustees as a course of action.

1. That we stay with Titus Wilson and HMRC for 2020 and 2021
2. That MM will be at least 80 pages and contain at least 8 or 16 colour pages.
3. That Cathie Lamont from Australia be appointed editor for 2021 (JL willing to assist with first issue)
4. Numbers from Membership Sec to be obtained by the end of May for printing quantity, it is the aim to only have 30 spare copies.

Members have expressed the view that they do not want to receive MM electronically.

**Signals Report** The next edition will be printed online after the successful trail by the Outlaw last year. This will be done by online company called Mixam by sending a PDF file. They then send the copies to HMRC for distribution. IAGM paperwork will be sent as a separate file or we might ask HMRC to print (they only have a small print capability). This new arrangement should achieve considerable cost savings without reducing quality.

PWr will continue to provide news from the board, and most original features will continue, PW has ideas how to freshen up the look and have new features. The next edition will have tribute to Yvonne Varley who sadly passed away last year. Book reviews will continue in collaboration with MM editor.

**Outlaw Report** The online printing had been a great success without any loss of quality and a big saving in cost, it had involved a little more work but as we do it more often this will become easier.

The committee had received comments with regard to the contrast between dark print on a dark background, the editor is to be asked to give thought to this when designing the layout.

The editor had asked about the provision of prizes for competions it was agreed a budget of £50 pa be allowed for this. The committee wanted to recognize the contribution of the Blue children in the production of the Outlaw and therefore agreed to fund a TARS tee shirt for each of them.

**AOB**

PWr reported that Abbot hall was closed for a two year period and the question of our official mail was raised, it was hoped that as the museum would have their mail redirected that ours would be too, this to be checked.

The website is being overhauled this being done by Diane Wright in conjunction with a young man who is a wiz at web design we are paying him £75 and he has made a start on this, it is hoped to have more freedom on pictures as the literary Exc are happy with this development.

SG had an idea for a story writhing competion this to be developed further.

The meeting closed at 13.45 the next meeting to be held on 19th September2020