Friends of Shanklin Theatre
Extraordinary General Meeting
Thursday, 15th October @ 7.30pm

Chairman Paul Harris
Assisting Liz Hinkes

1. **Friends Members present**
   It was confirmed that 46 Friends Members were present. As this number represented a Quorum, the meeting was able to proceed.
2. **Apologies**
   Bob Sibley, Ron Bird, Peter Frankling.
3. **Address by the Chairman**

When I stood here at the AGM a few months ago, the last thing I was expecting was to be standing here addressing you again so soon, but unfortunately events have overtaken us.

As you will know by now, the entire Friends Committee, apart from myself, resigned several weeks ago. This followed concerns raised by the Theatre Trust regarding potential financial penalties around Corporation Tax that could have impacted the Committee members personally and financially.

The Trust were unable to provide any assurances regarding these possible penalties which led to the Committee feeling they had no alternative but to resign. I decided that I would remain as Chairman for a little while longer in case a resolution could be found.

I'm pleased to say that, with the help of David Kast, Shanklin Theatre Ltd Managing Director, and Ben Pearson, Shanklin Theatre Ltd Chairman, the correct position regarding these issues has now been clarified. Historic correspondence clearly shows that HMRC do not consider the Friends of Shanklin Theatre as active for Corporation tax and they are not required to submit tax returns. Bright Brown, the Theatre Trust's accountants, have also confirmed that it is definitive that, because of the governance structure agreed in 2016, the Friends will not incur a tax liability. To provide additional comfort for the Committee an insurance policy has also been taken out giving the same level and scope of cover as the Shanklin Theatre Ltd Directors enjoy for any non-tax liabilities that may arise.

In light of this clarification, and with the exception of Ashley Turner, our Treasurer, the existing Committee members have agreed to rejoin the Committee. The purpose of this EGM is therefore to confirm the appointment of the new Committee members.

To confirm, three of the four nominations received are actually returning members – Moira Erwin, Liz Hinkes and Mandy Beatty. Peter Frankling, who stood down as Treasurer at the last AGM, will be rejoining the Committee.

As we have 4 nominations for the 4 vacancies, I just need to ask if anyone has any objections to those nominated. No objections were raised.

As no one has any objections, I can confirm that those nominated are duly appointed to the Committee. We will now arrange an initial Committee meeting to appoint individuals to the various roles. I will contact you all again shortly but I would expect the roles to be as follows:

Liz Hinkes	Secretary
Mandy Beatty	Promotions Officer
Moira Erwin	Events Officer
Peter Frankling	Treasurer

That concludes this evening's meeting. Thank you all again for coming along. Your continued support as Friends of Shanklin Theatre is very much appreciated. I look forward to seeing you all again at our next AGM.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm