1. Apologies

Apologies were received from several members including Ella May Wulff, Dee Daneri, David and Rita Plumridge, Barry Sellers and Charles Nelson.

1. Opening Statement by the Chairman, David Edge.

The SGM was convened because Rule 21: Dissolution, of The Heather Society Rules, requires such a meeting to be held to enable the society to be dissolved. The Chairman, David Edge, formally welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He expressed the hope that the members would stay in touch and that the society could go forward successfully in the future as Heather Society.

1. Closure of The Heather Society as a charity, by year end 2020.
2. Status of THS funds.

The Hon. Treasurer, Alison Fitz-Earle, reported a balance of £1,823.32. This considers payments recently made to Arboretum des Grande Brûyers (€4,500) and Plant Heritage (£6,500).

The final balance figure at year end 2020 will be less due to scheduled upcoming payments including: -

* Final newsletter publication and distribution expenses
* Hon. Treasurer’s expenses
* Accountant’s fees (Jason Foxwell)
* Publication expenses for supplement to I.R.H.N.

Any funds remaining at year end will be forwarded to the Charity Commission, who will distribute the funds to appropriate bodies/societies. This is expected to be in the order of £700. Members questioned if we should have given more away, but council felt that there needed to be a small amount in the bank to cover unexpected expenses and give back to the Charity Commission.

1. Transfer of Intellectual Property from The Heather Society to Heather Society.

The intellectual property of THS will be transferred to HS. The 183rd Council Meeting of The Heather Society, which will take place after the conclusion of the SGM, should ratify the transfer. The Hon. Secretary, David Brown, will send a letter to the Chairman, David Edge, to sign to formalise the agreement.

1. Future of the society as a not-for-profit Unincorporated Association known as “Heather Society”.

THS will close on 31/12/20. The new society, “Heather Society”, is currently in formation. “Heather Society” will not have members, but rather donors. Donations will be welcomed, and donors will be made aware of how the funds are used.

The website is currently under reconstruction to reflect the non-charity status of the new “Heather Society”, it will be branded as “Heather World”.

1. Closing remarks by the Chairman, David Edge.

The Chairman’s closing statement has been circulated to all members by Alison Fitz-Earle and is also available to view online. Thanks, were given to all who have helped support THS, both present and past. The Chairman sought to make members aware that Council Officer positions would need to be filled to enable HS to go forward and flourish. A final newsletter is being prepared for publication and distribution and will be mailed to all members in the new year. It will include articles from members around the world. It is hoped that newsletters will continue to be produced by the new society in the future.

Council Officers were thanked for their time and effort by council member, Susie Kay.

Thanks, were given to all for their attendance.

Meeting concluded @ 14.28

14 members were in attendance.

Signed …………………………………………………. Chairman

Dated …………………………………………………..