

ASAO AGM

Denis Dooley opened the meeting providing the attendees with details on the current benefits:

1. Show Knowledge

Members of the ASAO have access to an experience membership body, giving the opportunity to ask advice to other Members through e-mail, Facebook group and a friendly ear at the end of the phone.

2. Legal Advice

Whilst every show is different, the Association is able to provide initial advice and guidance to members.

3. PPL

A specially negotiated discount for ASAO members on annual Phonographic Performing Licences (rates determined by visitor attendance), and a convenient subscription collection service.

4. Health and Safety

Access to a 24 hour, 365 days a year Telephone Helpline, provided by the ASAO's Health & Safety partner. Members are automatically subscribed to this service for reassurance and guidance on all aspects of this complex area, and can request information on current legislation for any event or activity.

5. Ticket Exchange

The chance to share complimentary tickets with other show organisers through an exchange system. Members can apply to other members for tickets to attend shows and events to share best practices and benchmark services, procedures and equipment. (Tickets are limited to 2 per event).

6. Networking

The opportunity to network with other members and show organisers and discuss current topics and issues via interactive Learning Days, the Autumn Conference and regional meetings.

7. Online

ASAO Members have access to the a Members area of the website featuring a range of useful documents including slides from previous conferences, health & safety and GDPR. There is also a Members Facebook Group giving easy and fast answers to queries from other ASAO Members and event organisers.

Mr Dooley continued by explaining that he and the Council have been reviewing the strategic direction of the ASAO and after several months of discussions have agreed the future vision of the organisation would be:

To be the voice of UK Agricultural Shows.

To achieve this the following aims for the next three years have been set:

- Proactively represent and influence decisions at a National Level
- Promote best practice to all members for their benefit
- Deliver guidance and enable sharing of best practice
- Increase income
- Increase membership

These aims will be allocated to Council members who will lead small sub-committees to set actions and achieve the goals. The membership will be kept up to date on progress and hopefully help in finding new members to join the organisation.

Denis continued by stating he was confident this new direction will not only help the ASAO grow but also expand benefits for members. He thanked Council members for their time in preparing this vision and hoped the members will enjoy the new direction for the organisation.