

# **Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society**

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**held on Saturday 7 April 2018**

**at Middlesbrough College**

### Members Present

Committee Members: Geoff.Braddy (in the chair), Linda Polley, Martin Peagam, Margaret Wilby, Allan Wilby, Lee.Firth, Jenny Braddy, Val Harrison, Paul Stephenson, Ian Stubbs, plus eighteen other Society Members (making the meeting quorate).

### Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Stewart Ramsdale, Francine Marshall, Alison Brown and Norman Moorsom.

### Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, Geoff Braddy, welcomed everyone to the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society.

*This announcement was greeted with a spontaneous round of applause from those present.*

The Chairman observed that when he joined the Society almost 45 years ago, he could not have possibly imagined that he would be chairing the fiftieth Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman noted some of the achievements of the Society:

- More than 500 articles in over 100 Bulletins
- The Bulletin once named as one of the two best in Britain
- More than 100 Newsletters
- The Newsletter recently announced as the Newsletter of the Year 2018 by the BALH
- More than 400 talks on local history
- 21 Day Schools held at Teesside University (and many others beyond those)
- Well over 100 visits to places of interest
- Several books and map albums produced

*The Chairman acknowledged the debt of gratitude owed to Committee Members, Society Officers, organisers, helpers, speakers and guides who had contributed to the success of the Society over the past fifty years.*

The Chairman noted with thanks that more than 1,500 people had been members of the Society at one time or another over the past fifty years.

Looking to the future, the Chairman expressed a wish that the Society would continue to thrive, but he noted that this would not be in the hands of the present

Officers and Committee: it would need new people to step forward from the membership, and he encouraged everyone present to consider what role they might play.

Ian Stubbs informed the meeting that Norman Moorsom was unable to be present but had sent heartiest congratulations to the Society on achieving its Golden Jubilee.

#### Minutes of the last AGM

The Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 8 April 2017 were received and approved as a true record.

#### Matters Arising

None

#### Secretary's Report for the year ended 31 December 2017

The Secretary, Martin Peagam, presented a report on the activities of the Society over the previous year, and highlighted some key issues:

- Membership remained steady at about 250 plus and the Society continued to offer lots of activities, in contrast to other similar groups that were struggling.
- The Society had provided four Saturday Events at which there had been eight speakers on a variety of topics and three guided walks.
- The Society had delivered two Day Schools, in conjunction with Teesside University and the Dorman Museum
- The Society had published and distributed three Newsletters and two editions of the 'Cleveland History' bulletin.
- The Society had continued to have a social media presence with a web-site, a Facebook page that attracted 951 followers, and an electronic Newsletter called 'The Scroll', of which sixteen issues had been distributed in the year.

The Secretary noted the invaluable contribution made by Committee Members and others which allowed the Society to offer Members the services it provided.

Finally, the Secretary noted that work was already underway in planning events and undertaking activities to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Society

Planned events included:

- A Celebration Meal on Monday 14 May 2018
- A Day School Celebrating Fifty Years of Local History in Teesside, Cleveland and the surrounding areas, to which other local societies and groups would contribute, on Saturday 27 October 2018

Other activities to mark the Golden Jubilee included:

- The creation of short descriptions of Fifty Places, Fifty Buildings, Fifty People and Fifty Events of significance in the area's local history;
- The development of a bibliography of useful publications on the area's local history.

There being no questions, the Secretary's Report was accepted by those present at the meeting (copy attached).

### Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017

The Treasurer, Margaret Wilby, presented the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 (copy attached), highlighting:

- (a) The accounts reflect a commitment to continued prudent management of income and expenditure.
- (b) Whilst the year ended 31 December 2017 showed an excess of expenditure over income of £930.45, this was balanced out by the surplus of income over expenditure of £1,748.37 the previous year.
- (c) The year had seen the Society commit expenditure to the Packett Prize competition.
- (d) Printing and postage costs were higher than the previous year due to the scheduling of the issue of publications, as advised at the previous year's AGM.
- (e) Subscription income was less than the previous year due to the impact of the five-year offer being felt.
- (f) Income from subscriptions was reduced in comparison to the previous year as a consequence of some Members paying in advance previously.
- (g) Income from interest was greater due to the bank rectifying an error.

The Financial Statements as presented were received and approved as a true record.

Thanks were expressed to Messrs Campbell and Saul for their work in auditing the Financial Statements.

### Gifts of Thanks

On behalf of the Committee and Members of the Society, Margaret Wilby, made a number of presentations, by way of expressing gratitude for the services provided by a number of people:

- To Ian Campbell who had provided audit services to the Society since its inception fifty years ago.

- To Dorothy Thomson who had been responsible for the distribution of Newsletter and Bulletins for many years
- To Jenny Braddy, for her work on the Newsletter which had been named as Newsletter of The Year 2018 by B.A.L.H.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the gifts made were not funded by the Society, as that would be contrary to its charitable status, but by personal donations from Committee Members.

### Election of Officers

The meeting received and considered nominations for Officers to serve the Society for one year from the date of the AGM.

Whilst the election for Chairman was taking place, the out-going Chairman stepped down whilst the matter was considered and the business of the meeting was conducted by the Secretary, Martin Peagam, with the consent of those present.

The following Members were duly elected:

Chairman - Geoff Braddy  
(Nominated: Linda Polley Seconded: Ian Stubbs)

Vice-Chairman - Linda Polley  
(Nominated: Ian Stubbs Seconded: Lee Firth )

Hon Secretary – Martin Peagam  
(Nominated: Ian Stubbs Seconded: Paul Boden)

Hon. Treasurer – Margaret Wilby  
(Nominated: Linda Polley Seconded: Lee Firth)

Editor – Val Harrison  
(Nominated: Linda Polley Seconded: Beryl Turner)

Programme Secretary – Allan Wilby  
(Nominated: Paul Boden Seconded: Val Harrison)

The Chairman noted that whilst Margaret and Allan Wilby had agreed to continue as Treasurer and Programme Secretary respectively for another year, both had indicated their intention to step down from the roles at the end of the year, and he appealed to other Members to consider stepping forward and learning the ropes with a view to taking over at the next AGM.

### Election of Ordinary Members of the Committee

The meeting received and considered nominations for Members to fill the eight positions available to Ordinary Members to serve on the Committee for one year from the date of the AGM.

The following Members were duly elected (all Nominated: Ian Campbell Seconded: Paul Boden)

Jenny Braddy; Alison Brown; Lee Firth; Francine Marshall; Stewart Ramsdale; Paul Stephenson; Ian Stubbs

The Chairman noted that there was a vacancy, following the decision of Peter Davison to step down from the Committee, and invited nominations. There being no nominations forthcoming, the Chairman encouraged Members to think about becoming a Committee Member and to seek out himself or the Secretary if they were interested.

By way of encouragement, Val Harrison noted that meetings were enhanced by the presence of delicious cakes.

#### Appointment of Auditors

The meeting received and considered a proposal for the appointment of two independent auditors.

The following were duly appointed:

Ian Campbell (Nominated: Ian Stubbs Seconded: Val Harrison)

Ian Saul (Nominated: Ian Stubbs Seconded: Val Harrison)

#### Any Other Business

The Chairman informed the meeting that no notification had been received of any other business to be considered.

There being no other business, the meeting closed.

Start of Meeting: 10.00am

End of Meeting: 10.30am