

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on Saturday 6 April 2019

at Middlesbrough College

Members Present

Committee Members:

Geoff Braddy (in the chair), Martin Peagam, Margaret Wilby, Allan Wilby, Lee Firth, Jenny Braddy, Stephanie Green, Val Harrison, Stewart Ramsdale Paul Stephenson, Ian Stubbs, plus 35 other Society Members (making the meeting quorate).

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from: Linda Polley, Francine Marshall, Gail Saunders, Alison Brown, Norman Moorsom and Paul Boden.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman, Geoff Braddy, welcomed everyone to the 51st Annual General Meeting of the Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society.

He thanked everyone for coming, and also everyone who contributed or took part in the various activities commemorating the Society's Golden Jubilee.

He noted that since the last A.G.M. the Society has had three successful special events and has made progress with building up a local history encyclopaedia on the Society's website.

The Chairman concluded by expressing a hope that the Society would spend the coming year looking forward, having spent 12 months looking back.

Minutes of the last AGM

The Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 7 April 2018 were received and approved as a true record.

Matters Arising

None

Secretary's Report for the year ended 31 December 2018

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

The Cleveland and Teesside Local History Society was established in 1968, and as a consequence this year had focussed on celebrating our Golden Jubilee.

Highlights of the year have included:

- A Golden Jubilee Celebration Meal, held at Middlesbrough College, with a menu prepared and served by College Catering students which reflected food and drink popular in 1968, an appropriate sound-track, a slide-show of images from the past fifty years, and a presentation about how our tastes have changed over the past fifty years.
- A Golden Jubilee Day School at which we welcomed delegates from across the Cleveland and Teesside area and heard from speakers from some of the local history societies in the area, reflecting on their achievements and the challenges we face in the future.
- The selection of 50 People, Events, Buildings, and Places of significance in the history of the area, and the preparation and publication of descriptions of each – the starting point for a database of factual information about the history of our area.
- A special Packett Prize Competition that attracted no less than nine entries, providing a challenge for the judging panel.
- The publication of not one but three special editions of the Society's bulletin, Cleveland History, all put together by Val Harrison.

All this was in addition to our usual activities of providing a programme of varied and interesting speakers on a diverse range of topics, a joint Day school with Teesside University, two guided walks, and producing ten editions of The Scroll and three editions of our Newsletter.

It was particularly pleasing that the CTLHS Newsletter, so ably edited by Jenny Braddy, was named 'Newsletter of the Year' by the British Association for Local History.

As at 31 December 2018 we had 272 paid-up members including 23 institutional members (by way of comparison, on 31 December 2017 there were 257 Members, including 24 institutions).

The Secretary paid tribute to the work done by Lee Firth, the Membership Secretary, over the past eighteen years.

The Secretary acknowledged the support provided by Dorothy Thomson, who was retiring, having been responsible for many years in ensuring that postal

communications, including the Newsletter, are put together and despatched to Members.

The Secretary then paid tribute to Alan and Margaret Wilby.

The former was retiring from the role of Programme Secretary, a role he had occupied for an amazing 37 years.

The latter was also retiring, having served as Treasurer for 10 years.

The Secretary also acknowledged the support provided by others, including other Committee Members, the auditors Ian Campbell and Ian Saul (the latter of whom had audited our Membership records and subscriptions for over twenty years), and Matt Falcus who was the technical brains behind the growing social media presence.

The Secretary noted that after the excitement of our Golden Jubilee year, there might be an understandable tendency to relax, but instead the Committee are building upon the foundations of the past fifty years to take the Society forward, fulfilling the aims of the Society as set out fifty years ago.

The Secretary informed the meeting that the Committee endeavour to provide Members with quality services, and are always open to new ideas as to how we can grow and develop.

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 2018

The Treasurer, Margaret Wilby, presented the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (copy attached), highlighting:

- (a) The accounts reflect a commitment to continued prudent management of income and expenditure.
- (b) The year ended 31 December 2018 showed an excess of expenditure over income of £1,195.93 – largely due to costs associated with special activities to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Year.
- (c) The Committee had made a provision of £1,000 – equivalent to £20 for each year that the Society had existed – for expenditure associated directly with the delivery of Jubilee Year activities: at the year-end there was still £663 not yet allocated to expenditure.
- (d) The Golden Jubilee Dinner had been delivered a balanced budget, but for the purchase of a Celebration Birthday Cake.
- (e) The Golden Jubilee Day School had been delivered with a net expenditure of £337.53.

- (f) The excess of expenditure over income of £1,195.93 in the past year followed another deficit the previous year of £930.45, compared to the surplus of income over expenditure of £1,748.37 the year before that: contributing to a reduction in reserves.
- (g) Notwithstanding the above, the Society was financially healthy – with £15,856.45 in bank accounts at the year end, of which £4,751 -56 is in a restricted fund (so cannot be used for running costs of the society).

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, the Chairman made a number of presentations, by way of expressing gratitude for the services provided by a number of people:

- To Alan Wilby who had served as Programme Secretary to the Society for 37 years.
- To Margaret Wilby who had served as Treasurer for 10 years.

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: Martin Peagam Seconded: Ian Stubbs)

Vice-Chairman - Linda Polley
(Nominated: Ian Stubbs Seconded: Val Harrison)

Hon Secretary – Martin Peagam
(Nominated: Lee Firth Seconded: Stephanie Green)

Hon. Treasurer – Julie Tweedy
(Nominated: Martin Peagam Seconded: Jenny Braddy)

Editor – Val Harrison
(Nominated: Kitty Grove Stephenson Seconded: Stephanie Green)

Programme Secretary – Matt Falcus
(Nominated: Jenny Braddy Seconded Val Harrison)

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: Geoff Taylor)

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

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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: 10.45am
End of Meeting: 11.02am