

Huntingdonshire Local History Society

61st Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 17th May 2018
in the Town Hall, Huntingdon

1. Apologies for Absence:

Charles Beresford, Gill Farrar, Val and Richard Halliday, Angela White Horan, David Hufford

2. Minutes of the last Meeting:

The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were signed as correct by the Chairman, Philip Saunders.

3. Matters arising – not otherwise on the Agenda: None

4. Membership Secretary's Report

Jean Burbidge reported that due to the requirements of the new Data Protection Regulations, membership correspondence and subscriptions were now being handled by the Treasurer, David Smith. Jean thanked David for taking on this extra workload – and also thanked Val Halliday for organising the Gift Aid return on subscriptions. Jean saw her role now as a 'Welcome Secretary'.

The Society has 242 Facebook followers – Jean recommended Facebook as a very positive and easy way of keeping the Society in touch with its members.

5. Excursions Report

David Cozens gave a report, attached, on the successful and very enjoyable summer excursions. Overall these were well supported and had been financially successful.

Rosemary Smith spoke about the May weekend; its inclusive cost for 4 days is about £350 per person which everyone felt was good value. Philip thanked Rosemary for organising the 2018 trip (just completed) and for starting to plan 2019.

6. Treasurer's Report

David Smith presented his report, as attached, and showed the continuing sound financial position of the Society. Kathy Ray was the independent auditor of the annual accounts; these had been signed by the Chairman and full copies were made available to members.

There were no questions to the accounts, David was thanked for his work over the year.

7. The Goodliff Bequest

The latest edition of the *Almanack* contains a list of this year's Goodliff Awards. Kate Hadley reported that the standard of applications had been very good – and the sub-committee had been particularly pleased to give an award to a joint application from the Norris and Cromwell Museums for work with schoolchildren. Kate was looking forward to the Awards evening in November when the recipients will give an outline of their projects to the Society.

8. Outgoing Editor's Report

Records of Huntingdonshire had been published at the end of 2017 and distributed in January. Philip said he was relieved 'to have got there in the end!' and comments showed it was well-received. Richard Halliday is taking over as the new editor. He welcomes any potential items for the next edition which he hopes to publish at the end of the year.

9. The Chairman's Address

Philip spoke of 2 projects with which the Society is currently involved. The Huntingdon History Festival is from 30th June to the end of July this year. The Society are helping with the organisation of this, and several committee members are participating in giving lectures, guided walks and helping with displays. The Society feels that this is a good opportunity to engage with the wider public. The organisers hope that future Festivals will have a wider remit beyond Huntingdon to the old County.

Huntingdon Town Council are preparing an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a Heritage Centre in the Town Hall. The Society supports this venture and Kate Hadley is a member of the Working Party.

10. Election of Officers and members of the Committee

Retiring Committee:

<u>Officers</u>	Chairman	Philip Saunders
	Vice-chairman	David Cozens
	Secretary	<i>Vacancy</i>
	Assistant Secretary (Membership)	Jean Burbidge
	Assistant Secretary (Minutes)	Bridget Flanagan
	Treasurer	David Smith (also Webmaster)

<u>Ordinary</u>	David Bowers	Kate Hadley	Jennifer Liddell
<u>Members</u>	Alan Butler	Richard Halliday	Rosemary Smith
	Richard Cook	Pat Jones	Christopher Vane-Percy

Representatives of Organisations

Norris Museum: Sarah Russell (attendance rotating with other Hunts Museums)

Huntingdonshire Archives: Sue Sampson

Huntingdonshire Collection: Caroline Clifford

St Neots Museum: Liz Davies

David Smith took the Chair. On behalf of the Society, he thanked Philip for his leadership and hard work during the last year. He felt the Society was most fortunate to have a Chairman of Philip's calibre.

David Smith proposed and Tony Barraclough seconded Philip Saunders as Chairman. There were no other nominations, and Philip was elected chairman for 2017-18. Philip resumed the Chair.

All the Officers, except Bridget Flanagan who was standing down from the committee, and Jean Burbidge, whose role was changing, were willing to continue to serve for 2018-19. Caroline Clifford proposed and Stuart Orme seconded that they be re-elected *en bloc*. This was agreed.

Of the Ordinary members of the Committee, Pat Jones and Rosemary Smith were standing down, and Philip thanked them for their work. Mike Dudley was proposed as a new member by Kate Hadley and seconded by Rosemary Smith. The Representatives of Organisations were remaining as of last year. Stuart Orme, the new Curator of the Cromwell Museum was proposed as an Ordinary member of the committee by Jennifer Liddell, seconded by David Smith. All proposals were agreed.

Philip thanked Beryl Durant and Rosemary Smith for their help over the year with refreshments at the end of the meetings.

11. Election of a person qualified to inspect the Accounts

Kathy Ray had been nominated by the committee to inspect the accounts. This was agreed *nem con*.

12. Any Other Business. None

Beryl Durant gave a warm vote of thanks for all the work of the officers and committee.

Philip briefly outlined the summer excursions. He hoped that the coach trip to Boston would be well supported; 30 -35 people were needed to make it financially viable.

With the business of the AGM concluded, there was a stimulating presentation by Liz Davies, Curator of St Neots Museum on the Kimbolton Hoard of Iron Age coins.

Members then socialised and enjoyed light refreshments organised by David and Rosemary Smith.

The President's Lecture by Dr Simon Thurley and the presentation of this year's Goodliff Awards will take place on Wednesday 17th July 2019 at Huntingdon Town Hall.

The 2019 Goodliff Awards are being presented at the Society's President's Lecture, which this year is taking place during the Huntingdonshire History Festival. Because it is being advertised with other events and we fully expect a full room, admission, even for members, will be by prior booking. Please either use the excursions booking form (circulated with the *Almanack*) to tell us you are coming, or otherwise let David Smith know by email info@huntslhs.org.uk or phone 01480-350127 by Sunday 30th June at latest.

Summary of 2019 awards

- £750 to Mike Addis**, for purchase of *Lego* pieces for models of local historic buildings to stimulate family interest in the Huntingdonshire History Festival and in Museum displays.
- £1,000 to Cambridgeshire Archaeology**, for preservation packaging for the paper and finds archive of the Godmanchester excavations of the late Michael Green (as part of a broader project to make the archive accessible) .
- £225 to Peter Cooper of Holywell-cum-Needlingworth**, for purchase of digital copies of maps in order to extend his online M4OPS project.
- £750 to the Cromwell Museum Trust**, for publication of a new, scholarly and expanded edition of *Mrs Cromwell's Cookbook*.
- £350 to Ian Dobson**, for archival research into the religious history of St Ives.
- £1,000 to The Friends of St Mary's Church, Godmanchester**, for publication of a history of the church by Dr Ken Sneath.
- £750 to the Norris Museum, St Ives**, for a learning and outreach programme in local history for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils.
- £800 to The Porch Museum, Godmanchester**, for additional display screens and towards new information boards on the history of the Queen Elizabeth School and the photographer Alfred Hendry.
- £350 to Ramsey Rural Museum**, for publishing children's *I-Spy* information cards to enhance their visit experience.
- £500 to Sawtry History Society**, towards GIS archaeological survey equipment and training initially for use in surveying Vinegar Hill, Sawtry.
- £500 to Hugh West**, for publication of *Leighton Bromswold, its Community and its Church*