

Huntingdonshire Local History Society

58th Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 21st May 2015
in the Town Hall, Huntingdon

1. Apologies for Absence:

Ian Beckwith, Pam Dearlove, Beryl Durant, Seonaid Dudley, Kate Hadley, Chris Leahy, Gemma Painter, Christopher Vane-Percy.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting:

The Minutes of the 2014 AGM were signed as correct by the Chairman, Philip Saunders.

It was agreed that the minutes of the AGM be posted on the website prior to the meeting – but noted that these would only be draft minutes until approved and signed at the meeting.

3. Matters arising – not otherwise on the Agenda:

Philip Saunders (PS) recorded the Society's loss of Bridget Smith, a prominent member, who died in January 2015.

PS briefly outlined the plans to relocate the Cambridgeshire Archives in Ely in 2016.

4. Membership Secretary's Report

Jean Burbidge reported a membership of c135. She continued to gather email addresses from both members and visitors. The Facebook likes and links had grown to 107. She reminded members to invite guests to the Society's meetings, and to encourage new members. Offers of lifts and car-sharing, particularly in the winter evenings, would help many people. Jean thanked everyone for their warm support and said that her husband was doing well.

5. Excursions Report

2014 was a very successful year. David Cozens had organised his final May Weekend trip to Winchester; this was a very busy programme but very enjoyable. Other trips had been to Denton, Derby, Layer Marney & Dunmow Priory, and Flag Fen. PS thanked all the organisers and helpers

6. Treasurer's Report

David Smith (DS) gave a power-point presentation on the Society's finances (report attached). This was much appreciated – the coloured pie-charts and graphs were very clear.

Copies of the accounts were circulated. PS proposed, Bridget Flanagan seconded, that the accounts be adopted, and this was unanimously agreed.

PS thanked DS for his work over the year.

7. The Goodliff Bequest

In the absence of Kate Hadley, the Goodliff Administrator, DS gave the report – as attached. There had been a good selection of individual applicants with very interesting projects. From 12 applications, 1 had withdrawn and 1 was not awarded due to the prematurity of the project. The 10 awards totalled £7100.

PS thanked Kate Hadley and her sub committee for their work. It is hoped that Simon Thurley, the Society's President will be able to present the Awards at the October meeting. Applications for awards for 2016 are invited by 29th February 2016.

8. Editor's Report

PS was preparing for the next edition of Records of Huntingdonshire – the last edition was January 2014. He had received 4 articles so far – and was hopeful of publication in late 2015.

9. The Chairman's Address

The Chairman declined to give an address this year, saying that the reports by the officers of the committee spoke for the Society and all its activities.

10. Election of Officers

Bridget Flanagan took the Chair. She warmly thanked PS for his dedication and work for the Society.

Jean Burbidge proposed and David Smith seconded Philip Saunders as Chairman. There were no other nominations, and Philip was elected chairman for 2015-16.

Philip resumed the Chair. He asked if all the Officers were willing to serve for 2015-16, and with their agreement Rosemary Smith proposed, Caroline Clifford seconded that they be re-elected en bloc. This was agreed. He asked if there was any one willing to fill the vacancy of Secretary – there was not, and this matter will be discussed at the first committee meeting.

PS proposed, Caroline Clifford seconded that the Ordinary members of the committee be re-elected en bloc; this was agreed.

It was agreed that the same organisations be invited to nominate representatives to the committee. These are: The Norris Museum, Huntingdon Library & Local Studies and The Cromwell Museum.

11. Election of a person qualified to inspect the Accounts

Kathy Ray had been nominated by the committee to inspect the accounts. David Cozens proposed and Alan Butler seconded that this nomination be approved. This was agreed.

12. Any Other Business

There was none

Members then enjoyed light refreshments organised by David Cozens and a quiz on local topics organised by Alan Butler and Philip Saunders.