

HUNTINGDONSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

67th Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th May 2025 In the Town Hall, Huntingdon

1. Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from Ian Beckwith, Jean Burbidge, Liz Davies, Bridget Flanagan, Peter Flower, Ian Gaunt, Marion Palmann, Gillian Rayment, Andy and Grace Pilditch, Christine Stanley, Barbara Warrior, David and Rosemary Way, Angela and John White Horan and Anthony Withers. .

2. Minutes of 2024 AGM. The Minutes of the 2024 AGM were signed as correct by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

4. Treasurer's Report. A copy of the accounts with Kathy Ray F.I.A.B.'s independent report had been approved by the committee. It had been circulated and a signed copy was available at the meeting. The treasurer said the Society was in a sound financial position. During the course of 2024 the Society's net worth increased from £239,599 to £245,897 mainly of course due to an increase in the value of our investments. Our main income was from subscriptions, and members gift-aiding these had brought in a further £200. Publications sales brought in a useful £71. Lecture costs in the year had been low at £378. We had paid 3-years' web-hosting (two in advance) for £480. Excursions broadly broke even but the Wiltshire weekend had made a loss of £700. Given the value of the weekend in the society's activities that was not thought unacceptable. £5,514 had been paid out in Goodliff awards.

5. Goodliff Report. A report had been circulated. There had been good progress with the 2024 projects and two publications supported by it were about to be launched in June. Projects at the Godmanchester, Ramsey Rural and St Neots museums and Great Fen Heritage Group had all gone well. Only slightly negatively, there was some delay with refurbishing the Cromwell Trail and the Friends of St Mary's Godmanchester had been unable to complete their project so had returned their money.

6. Editor's Report. The editor's appeal for material at the 2024 AGM had been answered and he was delighted to be launching a new edition of *Records of Huntingdonshire* that was available for collection. The chairman thanked the editor for making considerable efforts to enable it to be ready for the AGM, confounding the prediction in his own report. It looked super.

7. Chairman's Report. The chairman had circulated a report with the agenda. It had been another productive year but he emphasised the perils of too much resting on too few shoulders and appealed for new volunteers for the committee.

8. Election of Officers and other members of committee

Philip Saunders was proposed as Chairman by David Smith and seconded by Caroline Clifford. There were no other candidates and he was elected *nem. con.*

All the other officers were willing to stand for re-election and on the proposition of Lesley Akeroyd, seconded by David Bowers they were all re-elected *nem.con.* There were no candidates for the office of secretary which office remained vacant.

All ordinary members of committee were prepared to stand for re-election and on the proposition of David Smith, seconded by Jennifer Murby, they were elected *en bloc*.

It was agreed all the present organisations should again be invited to send a representative to the committee. The Norris Museum had not responded to last year's invitation but the chair would contact them and invite them to be represented once again.

9. Election of Independent Person to inspect the accounts

Kathy Ray, FIAB, nominated by the committee, seconded by Val Halliday and David Bowers, was elected to inspect the accounts.

10. Any other business.

There being no other business and in the absence of a speaker the meeting closed at around 8.10 p.m., after which Liz Hodgkinson gave a talk on her recently-published book, *A Mink Coat in St Neots*.