
Hurstbourne Tarrant Historical Society
Annual General Meeting for the Year 2017/18
The Community Centre (HbT) 7:40pm on 14th May 2018
Minutes

Committee

Chairman: Andy Watson
Secretary: Bryn Evans
Treasurer: Sarah Gould
Publicity: Michael Bateman
Programme: Mike Nash
Member: Margaret Jensen

1 Attendance

The meeting was attended by 44 members. Apologies for absence were received from Sue Evans, Malcolm Brock, Bobbie Jenkin, and Paul Symes

2 Minutes of 2016/17 AGM

The minutes of the 2016/17 AGM held on 8th May 2017 were approved by the meeting with no comments or amendments. There were no actions arising.

3 Officer's reports

Chairman:

Andy said that firstly he would like to express his thanks on behalf of the society to the committee, Bryn, Mike, Sarah, Michael and Margaret, for their help and support throughout the year. The society could not organise and run its programme without them.

He also wished to thank Louise, Andrew, Doreen, David and Yvonne who have worked to provide drinks and refreshments at each meeting. Their help is greatly appreciated.

In the past year nine meetings had been held and a visit to Twyford Waterworks organised. Andy wished particularly to state his thanks to Mike Nash for all Mike's work behind the scenes in setting up the programme, planning and briefing our many speakers and organising the outside visit. Andy thought that two highlights of the year had been Howard Green's talk on Mottisfont and Hugh Williams's on Roman coins and metal detecting.

The two publications, "Hurstbourne Tarrant, Church Street – a short historical walk" and "Hurstbourne Tarrant at War" continued to be popular with copies being sold by the society and also by St. Peter's Church where the proceeds from those sales were kept by the church. Further publications were being considered, including a leaflet on Ibthorpe, village postcards and an occasional series of historical notes.

The society website is now well established and inquiries have been received from as far away as Australia about our local area and the records that the society possesses. Andy wished to thank Bryn Evans for all the work done in building up the society archive and answering the inquiries. We

have progressed with our initiative to digitise all records, particularly photographs and documents, wherever possible so that they can be more easily accessed. Recently copies of the locally published booklets on Ibthorpe, Hurstbourne Tarrant and Netherton have been added to the archive. The society will look to pursue a number of other individual projects over the coming year.

The Village Show on 14th July will have a '1940s' theme. The society will have its usual display tent and Margaret Jensen will be showing some of her very special collection of documents and memorabilia from that time.

Finally Andy said that he wished to thank all the members and visitors for their support during the year and that if anyone had any suggestions, either for subjects to include in future programmes or ideas for the society to pursue, then please make them known to himself or any member of the committee.

Treasurer:

Sarah said that copies of the accounts for 2017/18 were available for members at the meeting but she would use the projector screen to illustrate her comments.

The Accounts to end April 2018 showed a surplus of £644.78. When added to the reserves of the previous year there was currently a balance of £1466.29.

Membership during the year had increased to 21 double and 15 single, a total of 57 persons, which was an increase of 13 over the previous year. The gain in membership income was £78. There was slightly less visitor numbers due to the large attendance at the Prof. Barbara Yorke lecture in the previous year.

The provision of refreshments at meetings had yielded £49.65 and proceeds from the raffles at the Village Show and the Christmas Meeting amounted to £283

Sarah noted that the advance payment to the Community Centre for the coming year's booking of £180 would be payable by end of May 2018. In the year the society had purchased new display boards at a cost of £319.56 which had been shared equally with the Community Centre. In view of the current surplus the committee had also decided to make a donation of £150 to the village Swifts group to cover their cost of hall hire for 5 meetings.

Sarah said that the cost of speakers had been £335 against £155 in the previous year. She explained that the current year was a more realistic cost as a number of speakers had not asked for any payment for their talks in 2016/17.

4 Election of Officers

The members of the current committee all stood down and the Secretary conducted the election of a new Chairman.

Chairman: Andy Watson offered himself for election. Peter Billingham proposed that Andy be re-elected as Chairman, which Trevor Wheeler seconded. There were no other nominations. On a show of hands Andy Watson was elected unanimously.

Andy, as elected Chairman, said that the committee members holding the positions of **Secretary, Treasurer, Programme Secretary, Publicity** and **Member** had all indicated that they were prepared to stand for re-election in their respective positions if proposed and if there were no others nominations for these positions then, for the sake of brevity, he asked for the agreement of the meeting to take the election of committee members 'en bloc'. This was agreed by the meeting. As there were no other nominations this was put to the meeting. Richard South proposed that all the committee members should be re-elected in their present posts, which was seconded by Jane Jones and carried unanimously on a show of hands.

Andy said that the committee was in particular need of an additional member to assist Mike Nash in planning and compiling future programmes of subjects and speakers. He asked that any member who

had an interest to join the committee to assist in this respect could talk to himself or any committee member to discuss the tasks that may be involved in more detail.

5 2018/2019 Programme

Andy said that the programme for 2018/19 was now available and reminded members that subscriptions for the forthcoming year were now due. In view of the financial position it was the view of the committee that the annual subscription rates of £12 for a single membership and £18 for a couple should remain for 2018/19. This was put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

He said that the programme aimed at giving the usual balance of talks on local topics as well as those of wider interest. He drew particular attention to the planned talk by Prof. Emma Clery from Southampton at the September meeting on the subject of 'Henry Austen: Jane's Banker Brother'.

Sarah would be available during the evening to take subscriptions and issue membership cards.

He asked members to note that the visit to St. Cross in Winchester was now scheduled for Monday 16th July. There will be car-share arrangements from the village and would members please contact him if they had any difficulty in obtaining transport.

6 AOB

There was no other business and the Meeting closed at 8.02pm.

7 Next AGM

The AGM for the year 2018/19 will be held on Monday 13th May 2019 at 7:45pm at the Village Community Centre.

Signed as a true record

Dr. Andrew W. Watson
Chairman