

SUDBURY HISTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th April 2018

- 1.00 Welcome** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 19th AGM of the Society. The meeting opened at 10.04am. There were approximately 78 attendees. Barry noted that the AGM should be short as the Group had not provided input (as usual!).
- 2.00 Apologies** received from Rodney Kilby. Barry informed the Group that sadly John Wadsworth has passed away.
- 3.00 Minutes** The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were read. Barry noted that although he had sent a 5 page History of Sudbury relevant to the Walnuttree site as requested by the Planning Council, this had been reduced to a small 4-line paragraph. Planning Application was passed without distributing this information. Barry will raise this subject in the Press. It was promised they would do an excavation and Dr Abby Antrobus of the SCC Dept of Archaeology was keeping an eye on this but she has been removed from this post. The Minutes of the 2017 AGM were accepted unanimously.
- 4.00 Matters Arising** No matters arising.
- 5.00 Chairman's Report**

Barry began by noting that the year had been dominated by the renewal of the proposals for a Bypass for Sudbury and all that it entails. As we try to be a non-political society, we have to tread carefully with our response to controversial issues. However, this is particularly close to the very heart of our Society and we need to remember that our involvement is strictly limited to the protection of and recognising the dangers to the historic core of the town and its common lands. There have been some grossly incorrect claims and statements from various groups and campaigners which have to be dealt with but we can do this effectively by sticking to our concerns and reminding people why the call for a relief road was made in the first place. We can do this by challenging some of the false information being put forward but our responses must be based on facts and not assumptions. We have already begun by redefining exactly what the "Historic Core" actually is and we are thereby challenging the accuracy of the Sudbury and Great Cornard Local Transport Action Plan, better known as the Mouchel Parkman and the Landscape Partnership Report. We shall have to go public on this very soon but we must make it very clear that our claims are based on historic fact. Barry will give a presentation to the Council in the near future.

Meanwhile, we have to return to the domestic matters of our Society. This year two of our long-serving committee members, Coralie Berg and John Beavan are standing down but assure us that they will remain as keen supporters of the Society. Both have given admirable service ever since we started and we owe them a great debt of gratitude. The remaining members have agreed to stand again. Two names were put forward for Committee membership, Maureen and Graham Pulham, and we welcome them aboard. There were no other nominations or Any Other Business put forward.

It remains for me to thank everyone for their support, especially our Hon Treasurer Ann Spiller and secretary Clare Mortimer and the "Chair Gang" and Coffee Teams and all who set up at every meeting. It is very much appreciated. Finally, a very big thank you to Malcolm Snow for agreeing to sort out our Website and yourselves for your continued support.

6.00 Treasurer's Report

Ann went through the Accounts. Membership stands at 145. The coach trips made a profit of £81 which can be kept in case there is a loss in future. Ann thanked both the old and new Coffee Teams. At the Summer Bash, £23.50 was made on the Book Stall. Ann thanked everyone for completing the Coach Trip questionnaire which will be evaluated. She thanked the Committee and a special thanks to Janet Cruttenden for auditing and typing up the 2017/2018 Accounts. Bank balance at year end: £4,093.57.

She thanked Ian Fitzlyon for his help with the membership cards and finally, she gave Barry special thanks for all his wonderful talks.
Proposal to accept the accounts: proposed Kay Mason, seconded Margaret Rawls, passed nem con.

7.00 Website Report

Barry asked for a show of hands regarding the internet. The majority of members used the internet. Malcolm Snow has been doing sterling work on a new website for the Sudbury History Society but volunteers are needed to help with the new website. Reports should be written and photos taken of outings and sent to Malcolm. Everyone should send items of interest to be posted on the website. Barry has taken photos in Friars Street opposite Priory Gate. This was an open space on 1714 Map and is obviously a carriage sweep. Recently plants have appeared in this space and Barry was querying this.

SHS email address is on the website.

8.00 Ratification of the Committee

Committee Members standing again:

Kate Bentley-Walls
Gwen Clephane
Cynthia Hume
Grania Nelson
Clare Mortimer
Ann Spiller

Two new Committee members have been nominated: Graham and Maureen Pulham. To ratify new committee: proposed May Berkouwer, seconded Sue Savage. Passed nem con.

9.00 A.O.B. None

The meeting closed at 10.38