

Minutes of the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the Headley Society held on 7 March 2019

Present

Betty White (President), Mick Stenning (outgoing Treasurer), Freda Line (Secretary), Linda Dixon, Caroline Lemka, Geoff Sykes and 35 members of the Society.

Apologies

There were apologies from: Pauline Edge, Stewart Ellison, John Owen Smith (Jo), Sally & Steve Priestley; Bob & Nicky Wilson, Mike Withers and Mr & Mrs Yates

Minutes of the AGM of 1 March 2018

There were no minutes, because the meeting had been cancelled due to bad weather.

President's remarks

Betty opened by noting that Jo sent his apologies. She went on to say that Jo was a very busy man and rarely available to attend monthly meetings. However, he was very committed to the Headley Society and always attends committee meetings. She went on to say that whilst we could manage without Jo at the monthly meeting we could not manage without a Treasurer.

The Society had had yet another busy year and thanks to Caroline and Freda, members had enjoyed varied speakers and events including a visit to the National Trust base at Coopers Field. The date of the Christmas meeting was changed to enable Tony Creasy to entertain us with his Christmas theme, afterwards enjoying a glass of wine and delicious mince pies, thanks to Christine Leonard for the latter. Thanks should also go to Caroline and Steve Priestley for all the work involved in coordinating the very successful WW1 project. The presentation they gave on the 9 November in the Village Hall was well attended.

Betty confirmed that the committee would like to hear members' ideas on what the Society should be doing. Should we be acting more as a campaigning "Residents Association? There were two in existence when the Society was formed, so it wasn't in our original constitution. Also, should we have a plan to do more historical research in Headley? If so, would anyone be interested in participating? Or were members happy with just a speaker each month?

Currently the Society looked after the village archives (above the Parish Office at the Village Hall) There was still much to be done and more assistance from anyone who enjoys indexing and filing would be appreciated.

Betty concluded by saying, the Society had now existed for 33 years and hopefully it would continue for many more years. For several reasons some members had left, either they had moved or no longer wished to come out in the evening. The Society would like to encourage new members, and she asked those present that if they knew anyone who would be interested in joining to invite them along.

Treasurer's Report and Appointment of Auditor

Mick Stenning reported that:

- Total funds as at 31st December 2018 stood at £3,305.27 which included £431.30 representing the Joyce Stevens Memorial Fund
- The Society's finances remained healthy despite a loss of £624.97 for the year
- There was a further drop in Membership Subscriptions amounting to £69 and Speakers' fees rose by £104. In addition to this shortfall the Hall Rent of £340 (unchanged) was as always a considerable annual expense

- Whilst core expenses of speakers' fees and hall rent exceeded income from Subscriptions by £400, the committee felt that as we still have a considerable Bank balance there was no need to raise subscriptions
- He thanked Caroline for her support in laying out the accounts on the computer
- Additionally, he thanked Bob Wilson for examining the accounts and for agreeing to act as the Society's auditor
- Finally, he urged his successor to contact him for any advice required.

The meeting unanimously confirmed Bob Wilson's appointment as auditor.

Programme for 2019/2020

Freda and Caroline outlined the forthcoming programme.

Any Other Business

- Freda noted that there had been several recent bequests and additions to the archive, which would require managing
- Wendy Bennett thanked the Committee on behalf of the members
- Betty, on behalf of the Committee and all present, thanked Mick Stenning – the outgoing Treasurer – for all his many years of invaluable service in managing the Society's subscriptions and finances
- Betty was pleased to announce that Sylvia Henderson had agreed to replace Mick as Treasurer.

Election of Officers and Committee members

All members of the committee had confirmed their willingness to stand again. The officers and committee members were appointed unanimously.

There being no further business, Betty closed the meeting and invited everyone to stay for a light-hearted March-themed quiz.