



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

**MINUTES**

**1. Welcome**

President, Hugh Ellwood welcomed the members to the 14th AGM. A quorum was noted and Mr. Ellwood declared the meeting open.

**Apologies**

Barbara Weston

**2. Minutes of the AGM 2nd November 2022** [available of the website]

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Margaret Carnegie and seconded by Rowland Darbyshire and accepted by the members.

The Chair, Nigel Bramley-Haworth, signed them.

**3. Annual Report and Treasurer's Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022 -31st July 2023** [available on the website]

Presented by Chair, Nigel Bramley-Haworth. The chairman reminded members the committee had decided to make the report and newsletters available on line to manage expenditure, essential during a time of fewer members and reduced income.

There has been a full programme of lectures on diverse subjects, all voted as 'excellent' or 'outstanding' by the members and this is the core of the Society's activity. The chairman thanked all the volunteers who assisted the Programme Secretary and the staff and volunteers at the Lowther who support the Society in a number of ways.

The Society has resumed a programme of social events and Study Days which have been well supported and enjoyed by membership.

The chairman thanked the committee for all their work in organising these events. He welcomed Elaine Wolstencroft, Tony Berwick and Tony Depledge to the committee and thanked them for their contributions since being co-opted. He thanked the retiring committee members for their significant contribution over many years.

The chairman thanked the members who act as volunteers at the various events, especially Rita Calvert who organised this. He thanked Christine Cockburn for organising the raffles which raise money for the good causes we support, such as funding for art materials for children in local hospital and hospice. He thanked Tony Depledge for writing the lecture notes each month. He thanked Fiona Walsmsley Collins for all her work setting up and maintaining the Society archives.

He thanked the membership for their continued support throughout the year and hoped the slow increase in membership and visitors will continue in the forthcoming year.

The chairman commended the Treasurers Report to the members and he thanked Christina McHugh for her work in managing the finances of the Society and exercising strict budgetary control.

No questions relating to the Reports had been received, therefore the Chair proposed acceptance of both Reports to the members; this was seconded by Kirsteen McGlashan-Hansen and accepted by the members by a show of hands.

**4. Election of President**

The Chair proposed Hugh Ellwood and this was seconded by Allan Foster. The members agreed to this election.

## **5. Elections of Vice Chair and Treasurer**

The President explained that to preserve consistency, only vacancies are advertised. Mr Bramley-Haworth, Chairman retires from his role today but despite seeking nominations over several months no one has come forward. Nominations were invited for Vice Chair but none has been forthcoming. The President informed the members that the Vice Chair need not become Chair. He asked if any members present would take on the role – no one came forward. The roles will remain vacant. Mr Ellwood reiterated the need for a chairman to ensure the continuity of a successful society and urged members to consider taking on this role.

Jean Holland retires today from the role as Events Co-ordinator; a nomination has been received for Elaine Wolstencroft, proposed Hilary Cresswell, seconded Christina McHugh. There being no other nominations she was elected unopposed

Denise Malpas retires today from the role as Programme Secretary; a nomination has been received for Anne Gaskell, proposed Denise Malpas, seconded Christina McHugh. There being no other nominations she was elected unopposed

The President thanked Mr Bramley-Haworth, Mrs Holland and Mrs Malpas for their significant contribution to the society. The President read out the names of the returning Committee members and the co-opted members.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Christina McHugh</b>		
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	<b>Hilary Cresswell</b>		
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Lesley Peabody Brewer</b>		
<b>Communications Officer</b>	<b>Pam Foster</b>		
	<b>Elaine Wolstencroft</b>	<b>Co-opted 2023</b>	
	<b>Tony Berwick</b>	<b>Co-opted 2023</b>	
	<b>Tony Depledge</b>	<b>Co-opted 2023</b>	

## **6. Election of Independent Financial Examiner**

Mr. Ellwood agreed to continue to act as Independent Financial Adviser  
The Chair announced his grateful thanks to Mr. Ellwood on behalf of the Society.

**7. AOB and Closing Remarks**

The Chair invited any questions arising from the meeting. There were none. He thanked Mr. Ellwood for overseeing the meeting and thanked the members for supporting the Committee by attending the AGM.

He announced the date of the next AGM; 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024. There being no other business he declared the meeting closed at 13.25

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Nigel Bramley-Haworth, Chair.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

H.Cresswell

4th November 2023