

Minutes of AGM 15th April 2013

The President, Donald Reid, opened the meeting at 7.45 p.m.

1) Apologies

Apologies received from Tony Jones.

2) Minutes of the AGM 2012

The minutes were adopted as a true and fair record.

Proposed – Pat Fisher Seconded – Brenda Reid

Passed unanimously.

3) Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4) Presentation of Officers' Report

Chairman: Hilary Atkinson

The chairman reported on a busy and successful year. In addition to the well-attended meetings we have been involved with the community by mounting an exhibition and encouraging an interest in local history. There have been a number of trips to places of historic interest.

We have completed two major projects by developing a house style for all our publications and building a web site for the society. Two books have already been published in the new house style and a third one, written by Donald Reid, is published tonight. We have had a number of favourable comments about the design.

The website was launched in September with a lot of help from Mark Whittaker. We are consistently getting about 900 visits each month from about 400 unique users.

Paul Rice who has been a very active member for many years died recently. He was both charming and erudite and we will all miss his presence.

We will be mounting an exhibition at St Martin's for Heritage Weekend on the development of Low Marple and how it evolved.

Finally, everyone is welcome to the Cheese and Wine evening at the Old Vicarage on 15thJuly and also the first meeting of our new season on 16th September when we will have a talk about the early Co-op Movement to complement the trip we made to Toad Lane, Rochdale in February.

Treasurer: Ruth Hargreaves

The Society is financially healthy. Membership has remained steady and Gift Aid brought in a pleasing amount of additional income. Expenditure showed a marked increase because of expenses incurred towards booklet printing and website designs. However, there have been record receipts from book sales and the current stock will give us a good profit. We have a healthy balance of over £5000.

A question from the floor requested that in future comparative income and expenditure for two years should be shown. This was agreed.

Visits Organiser: Judith Wilshaw

Four visits were made in the course of the year; one for each season. All were well supported and have been successful.

A double visit to Broadbottom and Mottram proved very popular and a local expert gave us a tour of both villages. Later in summer we visited Bolsover Castle and Heage Windmill. Numbers were down but we were able to hire a smaller coach.

In the autumn we complemented a talk about Peterloo with a visit to central Manchester to see the site of the massacre. The final visit of the year was to Rochdale to see both the Victorian neo-gothic town hall and the shop marking the start of the co-operative movement.

All of these trips covered their costs and made a modest contribution to future expenses. They help to generate a sense of camaraderie in the society but even more participation would be welcome, particularly for ideas and suggestions for future trips.

Archives: Ann Hearle

The archive team has met regularly every Thursday to carry on the work of cataloguing, indexing, filing and storing existing records and a steady stream of new material. We have just been presented with a collection of pre-war newspaper clippings. We have a core of regular volunteers, each with their own particular task though working as a team. New volunteers are very welcome to join us either occasionally or regularly.

All Reports are available on request

5) Election of Committee

The following members expressed their willingness to stand for re-election:

Donald Reid
Hilary Atkinson
David Burridge
Martin Cruickshank
Ruth Hargreaves
Ann Hearle
Tony Jones
Neil Mullineux
Sheila Thornton
Judith Wilshaw

In addition Louise Thistleton was put forward for election to the committee.

Christine Julier proposed that all the names put forward should be appointed to the committee. Seconded by Gerry Moore and carried by the Meeting.

6) AOB

Visits

The visit to Mellor Mill scheduled for 11th May will now take place the following day, Sunday 12th May.

The visit to Congleton is fully booked but a waiting list has been opened.

Dates for the diary

Locks Day : Sunday 30th June

Wine & Cheese : Monday 15th July

Heritage Weekend : Saturday 14th September Sunday 15th September

September meeting: Monday 16th September

As there was no more business the meeting was concluded at 8.05 pm.

De Rice