

DURHAM COUNTY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of the fifty second Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Saturday, 25 June 2016 at 11.00 a.m. at County Hall, Durham.

1 In attendance

Pat Atkinson, John Banham, Malcolm Bell, Douglas Burdon, Ian Doyle, Jennifer Gill, Leo Gooch, Tim Griffiths, Paul Harvey, Alan Heesom, Alan Jackson, Audrey Kelly, Doreen Kirk, Chris Ludbrook, George Muirhead, Pat Mussett, Elizabeth Newby, Marie Therese Pinder, Raymond Race, Win Stokes, Geoff Wallis.

Apologies for absence

David Butler, Ian Gomersall, Richard Hird, Margaret McCollum, Mike Robson, Jane Watkinson, Catherine Wright.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the fifty first AGM, previously circulated, were adopted and signed as a true record by the Chair (Dr. Stokes).

3 Matters arising

Dr Stokes said that she was pleased to say the AGM was back on schedule; meeting in June and linked to the David Reid Memorial Lecture.

4 Report of Council 2015/16

Dr Banham presented the Council's report, noting that membership remained at about 180 and that there had been a positive response to the publications produced in 2015 and to the restarting of the talks programme in March 2016. He also stressed the importance of the upgrading of the Society's Website carried out by Mrs Ludbrook. This was linked to an improved ability to send out e-newsletters and information updates to those members with a notified e-mail address. This information included details of the Forum Newsletter.

5 Report on Other Publications

Dr Stokes said that the Editorial Sub Committee would be meeting to consider the other publications currently in preparation. Dr Banham said there had been a delay in publishing Colin Ryder's *A visit to the seaside*.

6 Report on Journal

Dr Stokes congratulated Miss Marian Morrison on receiving the BALH Prize for the best short article 2016. Dr Banham said that Dr Egan had reported that he had three articles ready for Journal 81 and was planning a late autumn publication date.

There was general agreement to retaining the Journal's size (A5) and title, while adding illustrations and colour to the cover and increasing illustrations throughout the text. Support was also given to planning themed editions of the Journal in future.

7 Election of Council Members

Dr Banham reported that the current members of Council were all standing for re-election and asked for additional nominations. Mrs Christine Ludbrook was nominated. The following were duly elected as Council members : Mrs P Atkinson, Dr J Banham, Dr D Burdon, Miss J Gill, Mr R Hird, Mrs C Ludbrook, Miss M McCollum, Mr P Mussett, Mrs M-T Pinder, Mr R Race, Mr M Robson, Dr W Stokes & Mr G Wallis.

8 Accounts and Balance Sheet for 2015/2016

Mr Wallis and Dr Burdon reported on the Accounts and Balance Sheet, which had been audited by Mrs J Garnett. The accounts were approved by the meeting.

9 St. Mary-le-Bow Trust

Miss McCollum and Dr. Banham were re-appointed as the Society's representatives on the St. Mary-le-Bow Trust. Dr. Doyle suggested that the Society should look into preparing an exhibition to show at the Durham Museum and Heritage Centre, which had just celebrated its 40th anniversary. It was agreed to discuss this idea at the Society's next Council meeting.

10 Any Other Business

Dr Banham apologised for not including a specific item for the new Talks Programme on the Agenda. Dr Stokes said that the new venue of the City Theatre was attracting larger audiences than had attended at St Giles and thanked Miss Gill and Mrs Atkinson for organising the talks and refreshments. It was noted that a Newsletter, informing members of the future programme, would be sent out prior to the autumn series of talks, which would start on 17 September.