

**2nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of Leatherhead & District Local History Society CIO
held in the Abraham Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute
on Friday 15th March 2019 at 20.00
Registered Charity No. 1175119**

In the Chair: Mr Alan Pooley BEM	President
Assisted by: Mr John Rowley	Chairman
Mr Carl Leyshon	Hon. Treasurer
Mrs Jane Summerfield	Hon. Secretary

35 members of the CIO and 4 visitors were present.

The President welcomed everyone to this second AGM of the CIO, which would be followed by a short talk by John Rowley and Patricia Jenkins on their recent book *Memories of Ashted - A Surrey Village in WWII*.

1. Apologies

Prof. David Hawksworth, Duncan Macfarlane, Peter Humphreys, Mr & Mrs Brice, John Wettern, Neil Gilchrist

2&3. Minutes of the 71st (and last) AGM of the Society in its Registered Charity Form No. 802409; and of the 1st AGM of the Society in its CIO form Registered Charity No.1175119, which both took place on Friday 16th March 2018.

These were taken as read. Proposed by Tony Matthews, seconded by Frank Haslam.

ALL AGREED.

There were no matters arising.

4. President's Annual Address - Alan Pooley BEM

Alan Pooley recalled that at the last AGM he mentioned the need for keeping up-to-date records of the modern history of the area. Frank Haslam [Membership Secretary] picked this up and has created the *Streets and Roads* pages for the Society's website. Alan has looked at his records of Fetcham's roads and shops and will liaise with Frank Haslam to see how best to provide these on the website.

Alan continued on the theme of looking at modern history. In the last couple of decades, shopping has been radically altered - our streets are now full of Sainsbury, Tesco, Ocado delivery vans etc., all vying for parking spaces. In a not too dissimilar way history research and recording seems to have rather gone the same way.

Alan referred to his own record notebooks, recording the results of his research back in the early 90s on both family and local history. He then talked about other types of research, from the New Guildford Railway to the Chertsey Riot, to births, marriages and deaths. John Lewarne, a founding member of this Society, transcribed the whole of the Fetcham Church registers. His work is now in a bulky lever arch file in the Fetcham records.

In 1974 the West Surrey Family History Society was formed and began gathering information and produced microfiche records of Parish Registers, which for those who may not have seen them can have 98 small photographs mounted in card about 7 inches x 5 inches.

Alan left us with the following question:

Should the Society remain - as I see it – as being rather reactive – or be seeking to act as the overall fount of historical information for the District?

5. Chairman's Report - John Rowley

The Chairman thanked the President for his inspiring talk. It would be given serious consideration. He proposed that his previously circulated report, along with individual Officers' Reports should be taken as read. However, if there were any questions he would answer them.

Bill Whitman enquired about the progress being made on producing new editions of the *Proceedings*. On behalf of the Editor, Prof David Hawksworth John said that David was trying to maintain the high reputational standard that had been set. He currently had one paper to hand that met this standard, which would be published soon.

Our relatively recently joined Member Nicole Courtney-Leaver has offered to stand for election as a Trustee. We have the capacity to elect Trustees who are not Officers of the Society. She has already taken the Minutes at an Executive Committee meeting when the Secretary was away.

Nicole stepping forward at the meeting might possibly encourage others to stand as well, or was that wishful thinking? John invited her to give a brief resumé of her skills and experience.

6. Treasurer's presentation of the CIO's accounts for 2018 – Carl Leyshon

The Treasurer pointed out that the AGM document included the abbreviated Annual Accounts and that he would be pleased to provide to any member the full Accounts. The Accounts had been reviewed and signed off by the External Examiner.

Ordinary Resolution: To receive the CIO's Annual Report and Accounts for the period ended 31st December 2018.

The President: the Executive Committee has approved the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018. He asked the members at the meeting to receive them;

Proposed by Frank Haslam, seconded by Bill Whitman.

ALL AGREED

7. Ordinary Resolution: Re-appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2019

The President: Adrian Radford having agreed to be our Independent Examiner for another year, the President asked members at the meeting approve this.

Proposed by Bill Whitman, seconded by Roy Mellick.

ALL AGREED.

8. Election: Officers/Members of the Executive Committee for 2019.

The following are Trustees standing for election to the Society for the 2019:

John Rowley	Chairman	Carl Leyshon	Hon. Treasurer
Jane Summerfield	Hon. Secretary	Tony Matthews	Newsletter Editor
Nigel Bond	Archaeology Secretary	Frank Haslam	Membership Secretary
David Hawksworth	Proceedings Editor	Fred Meynen	Programme Secretary
Roy Mellick	Records Secretary, Website Co-ordinator and Acting Books Secretary		
Nicole Courtney-Leaver			

Duncan Macfarlane who is a joint Museum Manager with Peter Humphreys (not currently a Trustee post) is prepared to serve as Interim Museum Curator.

Ordinary resolution: to elect the Trustees/Officers of the Society for the period up to the next Annual General Meeting.

Proposed en-bloc by Brian Hennegan, seconded by Doug Hollingsworth.

ALL AGREED.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 The President said that, sadly, Goff Powell died last year followed not long afterwards by his wife Maureen. They were both great supporters of this History Society and the Leatherhead Museum. He wished to record at this meeting, the grateful thanks of the members for Goff's many years of service with the support of Maureen.

9.2 Peter Humphreys pointed out that as part of The Museum Renovation Project:

a) the drains definitely need repair or/replacing.

b) Surrey County Council approval for scaffolding on the pavement between the south side of the Museum and Devonshire House is being sought.

10. Close of Proceedings

With the final business complete, the President closed this AGM and said there would be a short break to prepare for the presentation of the short talk by John Rowley and Pat Jenkins.

Appendix

The Reports for this AGM from the Officers of the CIO which were sent to members (via email or by post as applicable) can be seen via this link:

<https://www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk/miscellany/AGM-2019-DocPack4a.pdf>

[9/3/20 The Chairman adds that the Museum Management Report provided in that pack is amended as follows at p11:

External Refurbishment Project

Planning of this project has been the major activity of the year. It is the first major building work on the Museum since Hampton Cottage was bought by the History Society in December 1976 and following major restoration work opened as Leatherhead Museum in October 1980. The current refurbishment is of the main upper timber framed parts of the building. In placing the contract care was taken to identify a contractor who had experience of working on historical buildings. As the museum is a listed building, Mole Valley has been involved at all stages of developing the project which is being managed for the Society by Peter Humphreys.

Most of the office contents were moved to a temporary store erected in the garden, just before Christmas.

The builders will be starting work on 13th February 2019 earlier than originally expected. The work should be completed in six weeks, providing the scaffold license is obtained in time. Work will start on the area that is in the worst condition, the southern wall of the first-floor office, by the South West corner. Most of the office contents have already been moved to a temporary store erected in the garden just before Christmas.]

Memories of Ashted - A Surrey Village in WWII

John and Pat gave an illustrated presentation on this book recently published by the Society. To quote the Foreword contributed by Bamber Gascoigne: "This was most interesting. This is a brilliant and most unusual book. There can be very few villages in the country, perhaps none that have such a detailed and lively account of what happened there in the last war".

On behalf of everyone Alan thanked John and Pat for re-visiting Ashted during World War II.

The evening closed with Alan giving thanks to everyone for attending and to those serving tea/coffee.