

**SONNING AND SONNING EYE SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> AGM**

**Held in Pearson Hall on Saturday**

**27 November 2004**

**CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

Chris Clarke welcomed over 80 members and guest speaker Malcolm Stansfield to the inaugural AGM.

He also gave grateful thanks to the many people who had worked to ensure that the Society had reached this place and time.

Since the Society's inception there had been two highly successful events. The first had been the evening at the Mill on 12 September, when Jane Balfour had been the speaker. A Walk, led by Alastair Driver, Brian O'Callaghan and Diana Coulter, followed this on 27 November. Diana had also produced the first Newsletter. All had been very well received, and Chris thanked everyone involved.

At the time of the AGM the Society had 200 members. It was hoped to increase this number, as the more members the Society had, the greater its influence would be.

**REPORTS FROM THE PANELS:**

**PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT**

Chairman John Edmonds introduced the other members of the panel - Carole Rose, Brian O'Callaghan, Philip Padfield, Alastair Driver, Allan Williams, Mark Bodley Scott and Maureen Meer. Members concerned about planning issues were welcome to contact any Panel member.

Wokingham District Council had invited S&SE S to comment on the review of the local plan, and we had done so in some detail. Amongst other things, we considered it important to maintain the railway as the natural boundary between Sonning and Woodley. The Panel also worked with SODC and SE & Dunsden PC.

In Sonning Eye, the Panel had suggested modifications to the plans for the new building at the Sailing Club and had opposed plans for a hard tennis court by Sonning Bridge – which had since been refused.

He hoped the Society would give the people of Sonning and Sonning Eye a sense of belonging. Finally, he said Armine was sorry not to be able to attend, but delighted that the Society was holding it's first AGM.

**TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT**

Ken Henderson said the Panel were watching the progress of the Thames crossing group, and after a struggle had reached agreement that the meeting

to be held on 30.11.04 at Wokingham District Council should be open to the public. However, South Oxfordshire District council were resistant to any suggestions.

The purpose of the Panel was to keep an eye on development within the District and Parish.

#### EDUCATION

Diana Coulter said it was hoped to give people the opportunity to learn something new.

Her thanks went to David Bates for the Society's logo. Stephen Humphreys for setting up the website, Claire Grove for publicity in the Twyford Times and Carole and Gordon Barnett for the program of events in the "Bridge", the Society's Newsletter.

#### TREASURER

Dennis Mason thanked the Fire Brigade Trust and the French Horn for their generous donations. To date the Society had income of £1,391.68, outgoing of £452.00.

#### ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chris Clarke said nominations had been received for these posts, and suggested that if no others were forthcoming, the executive committee be elected en-bloc, which was unanimously agreed.

These were:

Chairman: Chris Clarke, proposed Keith Nichols, seconded Bob Hine.

Vice-Chairman: John Edmonds, proposed Carole Rose, seconded Brian O'Callaghan.

Secretary: Penny Feathers, proposed Carole Barnett, seconded Hermoine (Midge) Russell.

Treasurer: Dennis Mason, proposed Diana Coulter, seconded Brian O'Callaghan.

Committee members:

Brian O'Callaghan, proposed Stephen Humphreys, seconded John Edmonds.

Sally Hughes, proposed Diana Coulter, seconded Brian O'Callahan.

Diana Coulter, proposed Tony Swell, seconded John van Went.

Lynette Padfield, proposed D.A. Woodward, seconded P.S. Padfield.

Chris then asked the membership to elect Allan Williams as Independent Examiner. This was proposed by Gordon Barnett, seconded Lesley Bates and unanimously agreed.

The adoption of the Constitution was proposed by Nigel Rose, seconded by Colin Pierce and unanimously agreed.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chris announced that the date of the next Executive Committee meeting was Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 8p.m. in St. Sarik Room, and said any members who would like to attend would be most welcome.

Diana said the next event would be at Reading Blue Coat School on Friday 28 January 2005 when Dr. John Elliott would speak about "Henry Woodyer – Gentleman Architect". Tickets were available.

Robert Baldwin suggested that the Society speak to the life-long residents of Sonning and Sonning Eye to record their memories and preserve them.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 7:35p.m and was followed by supper and a talk by Malcolm Stansfield.