

**MINUTES OF THE 6th AGM
HELD IN PEARSON HALL ON SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2009**

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME.

Bob Hine welcomed everyone present and said how good it was to have both the Society's President and Vice President with us.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mr and Mrs Keith Nichols, Mr and Mrs Patrick Hamblin, Mr and Mrs Hugh Digby, Mr and Mrs A Russell and Mr and Mrs B Arrowsmith.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

Minutes of the previous AGM had been distributed and were proposed by Gordon Barnett, seconded by Jane Gascoine, unanimously agreed and signed.

4. BRIEF REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND PANELS

- a) **Chairman's Report.** Bob Hine said he would be brief as his full report was contained in the Annual Report. It had been an exciting year and he thanked everyone involved with driving the society forward, including the "backroom people" who had supported the various events. Penny Feathers had completed her five-year term as Honorary Secretary, but had agreed to be co-opted onto the Executive following the AGM. In September over the Heritage Open Days Weekend, there had been a wonderful "Village Voices" exhibition in Pearson Hall, which had given great pleasure to many. Although it had been a tremendous team effort, it was Mary Chapman's baby and he was delighted to present her with a gift of thanks. (Mary again stressed that the exhibition was the result of a team effort and she had received enormous support). The Chairman continued by thanking everyone involved with the project, including Jeremy Gilmore for the major part he played with IT, and Steve Chapman for sleeping in the hall to protect the equipment kept there during the weekend.
- b) **Planning & Traffic Report.** Gary Robinson said his arm had been twisted to take on the role of Chairman of the new joint panel, and thanked Brian O'Callaghan and Ken Henderson for their hard work as previous chairmen. He drew people's attention to the photographs of street signs on page three of the Annual Report and asked if so many were needed. There was a resounding "no" from many present. He continued that John Argent had given a presentation on this subject to both SPC and E&DPC. As a result, the Society had been invited to work with SPC's Highways Group.
- c) **Education Report.** Chairman Diana Coulter said her written report covered the work of the panel, but she would like to confirm that the "Village Voices" exhibition would be moving to MERL from the 9th January until April 2010. There would be two special afternoons for Society members on 19 February and 20 March. This would give an opportunity to see it to those who missed it in September as well as offering the chance of a second visit to others. Details would be available in the next edition of Bridge.
- d) **Social Committee.** Penny Feathers said her written report gave details of the committee's work during the year, so she would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who had helped with events in any way, including those who helped to set up the venues, cook and act as hosts, not forgetting Gordon Barnett who had printed tickets and menus for the AGM.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Alan Furness said that it would be seen from his written report that the Village Voices exhibition had dominated the accounts during the past year, and asked if there were any questions. As there were none, John Woodhouse proposed and Sharon Robinson seconded their acceptance which was unanimously agreed.

6. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER.

Bob Hine thanked Allan Williams for agreeing to continue as Independent Examiner. His appointment was proposed by Lynn Woodhouse, seconded by Gordon Barnett and unanimously agreed.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

At this point, the Society's President John Edmonds took over the proceedings and said there were four nominations for election as the Society's officers. These were Chairman: Bob Hine, proposed by Wendy Williams, seconded by Malcolm Stansfield. Vice Chairman: Brian O'Callaghan, proposed by John Edmonds, seconded by Penny Feathers. Honorary Secretary: Andy Bell, proposed by Alan Furness, seconded by Linda Peters. Honorary Treasurer: Alan Furness, proposed by Ken Peters, seconded by Penny Feathers. It was proposed by Carole Barnett, seconded by Michael Hart and agreed unanimously that the above be elected en bloc.

8. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The nominations were: Carole Barnett, proposed by Colin McCulloch, seconded by Brian Brooker. Diana Coulter, proposed by Peter van Went, seconded by Caroline Rimell. Mark Green, proposed by Lesley Green, seconded by Penny Feathers. Michael Hart, proposed by Bob Hine, seconded by Penny Feathers. Dr. Gary Robinson, proposed by Bob Hine, seconded by Penny Feathers. Dr. Annabella Marks, proposed by Jane Bowen, seconded by Jane Gascoine. These were proposed by David Bates, seconded by Colin McCulloch and unanimously elected en bloc.

9. AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION.

As required, notice of the proposed change to the constitution had been given to the membership and endorsed by the Executive Committee 28 days prior to the AGM. It was proposed that the amendment would read as follows: "The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall normally be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and may be re-elected to the same position for up to five years." Acceptance was proposed by Jeremy Gilmore, seconded by John Russell and more than 2/3 of those present agreed to adopt this amendment to the constitution. There were none against.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

President John Edmonds presented Penny Feathers with a gift of thanks for her time as Honorary Secretary and said that the Executive were pleased that she would continue in her role as leader of the Social Committee.

There being no other business, the meeting closed.