

# HAMPSHIRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

11.30 am, Saturday 10 October 2020 via Zoom

Present: Dr Nick Barratt (President)  
Mr Paul Pinhorne (Chairman)  
Mrs Gwen Newland (Secretary)  
Mrs Ann-Marie Shearer (Treasurer)

Members of the Executive Committee and Development Forum  
Members of the Society

### 1 Welcome by Paul Pinhorne, HGS Chairman

Paul Pinhorne opened the meeting and welcomed those members present to the first virtual HGS AGM. He advised that the meeting would be recorded and that if attendees wished to speak, they should raise their hands. When asked to vote, members should hold up their voting cards and continue to do so until the count was completed.

The Chairman then introduced Dr Nick Barratt. Nick was known to many members as a consultant on the first four series of *Who Do You Think You Are?* and as a guest speaker at Society Open Days. Paul was delighted that Nick had agreed to become the Society's President.

The chairing of the meeting was handed to the President until after the Chairman was voted back in. Nick said he was honoured to be asked to become the Society's President. He was addicted to family history but so far had not found any Hampshire ancestors! He was disappointed not to be able to meet members in person and asked members not to forget those in the family history community whose only contact was at face-to-face meetings. It was more difficult to access archives in the current climate, but Nick asked members to think of those still working hard at the various archives and records offices. Post-pandemic he hoped that we could keep hold of the benefits, such as different ways to hold meetings.

### 2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Jane Hurst, Graham Mist, Guy Neville and Judith Sexton.

### 3 Minutes of 2019 AGM (15 June 2019)

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposer:	Marilyn Lovett	In favour:	39
Seconder:	Jane Painter	Against:	1*
		Abstentions:	6

\*The President had no voting rights.

## 4 Matters Arising

5(d) Members' Interests: Don Anderson asked if there was any progress on this. Keith Turner, who manages the members' interests was not present at the meeting. However, it was confirmed that there is improved access and members can update their own entries. Don felt there could be more, such as the facility for members to look at all the names on the database to establish if there were names of interest before completing a request form. The Chairman felt there were data protection implications as the names were attached to members' e-mail addresses. However, the website could just show the surnames. Paul said this would be investigated. **Action: Media Sub-Committee**

9(b) Constitution: Don Anderson asked if the Charity Commission had acknowledged the proposed changes to the Constitution. It was confirmed that all the outstanding items had been accepted by the Commission and our handbook was now as held by the Commission.

## 5 Chairman's Annual Report

The full report had been posted on the website along with the rest of the AGM papers but the Chairman gave a summary:

2019 was a good year for the Society overall and membership numbers had been maintained.

Sadly, the Southampton Group had closed as there was no-one to run it, but this was offset by the re-opening of the Winchester Group. Paul thanked all the Group Organisers for their efforts in keeping the groups running.

He also thanked the Treasurer, Ann-Marie Shearer, for keeping the accounts in good order, and Secretary, Gwen Newland, for handling many of the enquiries the Society received and organising many meetings and bookings. She had also been involved in the management of the website and oversaw the upgrade in 2019.

The Research Centre with its volunteers, led by Chris Pavey, had continued with transcribing and dealing with research enquiries. Roy Montgomery had produced more of his very popular village booklets, which have been a source of income for the Society. He had continued to do this whilst working from home during lockdown. Trevor Bumstead and Elaine Boyes had continued with sales, also from home since lockdown, again providing a good source of income.

Membership Secretary Margaret Bowman had done an excellent job dealing with membership enquiries and membership renewals, especially during the full lockdown period which fell at a very busy time for her.

The HGS bookstall, led by Elaine Boyes, attended several events across the country with her 'dream team'. This allowed the Society to gain new members and provided excellent publicity. Kay Lovell had managed the Facebook page which had a good number of followers and also provided much needed publicity for the Society.

Since March our Groups and the Research Centre had been closed, but Paul wished to thank all Group Organisers who had maintained contact with their Groups. Many Groups

had taken advantage of video-conferencing for their monthly meetings, and this had allowed overseas members to 'zoom-in'.

The Society had continued to make new records available to members on the website.

Finally Paul wished to thank all members for their continuing support. Without this there would be no HGS.

## 6 Treasurer's Annual Report and Accounts

The Treasurer, Ann-Marie Shearer, had produced her report which had been included with the AGM papers on the website. There were no questions from the floor.

Proposer:	Judy Kimber	In favour:	44
Seconder:	Stuart Attrill	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	2

## 7 Appointment of Auditors

It was proposed to reappoint Morris Crocker, Chartered Accountants, as the Society's auditors.

Proposer:	Kay Lovell	In favour:	45
Seconder:	Gwen Newland	Against:	1
		Abstentions:	0

## 8 Appointment of Charity Trustees

Details of those standing for election or re-election to the Executive Committee had been made available to the membership via the website.

### Appointment of Chairman - Paul Pinhorne

Proposer:	Stuart Attrill	In favour:	44
Seconder:	Marilyn Lovett	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	2

Paul thanked Nick Barratt for running the first part of the AGM and resumed the chair. He thanked members for re-electing him.

### Re-appointment of Principal Officers

Vice-Chair: Chris Pavey  
Treasurer: Ann-Marie Shearer  
Secretary: Gwen Newland

Proposer:	Fiona Ranger	In favour:	42
Seconder:	Jane Painter	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	4

## Re-appointment of Trustees

John Bowman  
Margaret Bowman  
Elaine Boyes  
Kay Lovell  
Keith Turner  
Angela Winteridge

All were willing to continue.

Proposer:	Maureen Goss	In favour:	39
Seconder:	Marilyn Lovett	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	7

## Appointment of New Trustees

Stuart Attrill:

Proposer:	Jane Painter	In favour:	44
Seconder:	Dennis Bill	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	2

Phil Brown:

Proposer:	Ros Boon	In favour:	44
Seconder:	Katie Arnett	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	2

Fiona Ranger:

Proposer:	Nigel Gossop	In favour:	44
Seconder:	Judith Jones	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	2

All were duly appointed so, for the first time in many years, the Executive Committee would have a full complement of 13.

NB: Those being appointed could not vote for themselves, hence the abstentions.

## **9 Proposed Changes to Constitution**

The changes as published on the website had been brought about by the pandemic and were proposed in order to give the Society the facility to hold meetings via video conference rather than face to face if required. The advice of both the Family History Federation and the Charity Commission had been sought.

Both changes involved the insertion of an additional sentence to sections of Clause 5 - Management:

*Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held via video-conference where it is deemed necessary.*

Proposer:	Terence Gilmour	In favour:	45
Seconder:	Mary Voller	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	1

*Meetings of the Development Forum may be held via video-conference where it is deemed necessary.*

Proposer:	Don Anderson	In favour:	45
Seconder:	Tony Sinclair	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	1

The Charity Commission will be informed of the changes to the Constitution.

## **10 Any Other Business**

No items of AOB had been submitted in advance so the Chairman asked if there were any items from the floor.

- (a) Changes to Constitution: Don Anderson asked if the changes to the Constitution would apply to the AGM and any SGM too. The Chairman responded that the Charity Commission had been consulted regarding holding the AGM by video conference this year, which had been approved. The Society will ask by exception if required in the future, and the same for any SGM, but there were no plans to do so. Don felt that the Constitution did not preclude meetings by video conference even though this was not stated expressly. The Chairman noted that some Development Forums may happen via this medium even post-pandemic.

## **11 Date of 2021 Annual General Meeting**

Subject to Covid restrictions, this will take place on Saturday 12 June 2021 at the MacDonald Botley Park Hotel (rearranged from this year).

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and again thanked the President, Dr Nick Barratt.

The AGM closed at 12.05.