

HAMPSHIRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting

11.40 am, Saturday 18 June 2022, Macdonald Botley Park Hotel, Boorley Green

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 - Chairman, Hampshire Genealogical Society (HGS)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Society was obliged to hold an AGM within six months of the HGS financial year end (31 December). All the documents had been posted on the HGS website.

He then handed over to Dr Nick Barratt, the Society's President, to conduct the first part of the meeting.

2 Apologies

Apologies had been received from David Boardman, Jack & Brenda Deans, Jill Kirby, Ann McKenzie, Diana Philpott, Stephen Pomeroy, Fiona Ranger and Rod Whale.

3 Minutes of 2021 AGM (12 June 2021)

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

Proposer:	Geoff Pavey	In favour:	50
Seconder:	Judy Kimber	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	6

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5 Chairman's Annual Report

The full report had been posted on the HGS website along with the other AGM papers, but Paul Pinhorne gave a summary. It was his fourth AGM as Chairman, and he was pleased to be returning to some normality with a face-to-face meeting. The area groups had started to meet in person too, although most will now use Zoom in the winter months. Some groups had tried hybrid meetings with both physical and virtual presence. This had worked well in some groups but resulted in a drop in numbers at venues for others.

The major achievement since the last AGM was the move to Hampshire Record Office. This was prompted by the expiry of the lease on the Cosham premises in August 2021. He had worked with Ann-Marie Shearer, John Bowman, Phil Brown and Chris Pavey to make the move to a 'one stop shop in the heart of the county'. He thanked them all for their hard work, and others who helped with the move itself. This has resulted in the Society's financial liability for premises being reduced to a third of the previous annual cost. Membership fees have not been increased for ten years and there are no plans to do so!

The Executive Committee, Development Forum and Media Group continued to meet throughout the year via Zoom and Paul was pleased to report that the Society continues to be financially robust with membership holding steady after a slight decrease earlier in the reporting period.

He was sad to report the deaths of a number of members, most notably John Heighes (Group Organiser for Christchurch & New Milton), Dennis Pearce (former Chairman) and Sheila Brine (former Secretary and organiser of many open days). They would all be sorely missed.

In terms of the Executive Committee, Stuart Attrill had stood down at the previous AGM, and Tony Sinclair had been co-opted to the Committee. He was now willing to stand for election. Paul was keen to develop the Society's succession planning in order to cover all its functions if a post-holder was unable to continue. For example, Elaine Boyes has had to step down from her role on the Exec and as Bookstall Manager, and this post is now vacant. There had been various long and short-term illnesses among Committee members, and we need to have back-up for such eventualities.

The Society's IT has been updated following the move to HRO with new laptops purchased and cloud storage being set up.

The Chairman wished to acknowledge the contribution of the Society's post-holders. He thanked Gwen Newland for her work as Secretary, particularly with regard to arranging the Conference Day. He also thanked the Treasurer, Ann-Marie Shearer, for the huge volume of work undertaken.

Membership as of April 2022 was 1,844, down slightly from 1,862 in April 2021. Margaret Bowman is doing an excellent job as Membership Secretary. Paul asked members to consider paying their subscriptions by direct debit or standing order rather than by cheque if possible.

With regard to the bookstall, virtual shows have not been as successful for the Society as face-to-face shows but have brought in a few new members. Elaine Boyes and Trevor Bumstead have been managing online sales.

Thanks were also given to Kay Lovell who, amongst other roles, acts as Facebook Co-ordinator and posts something new every day.

Members' Interests were being co-ordinated by Keith Turner. Members are now able to make their own changes online.

Data Protection is a serious issue and John Bowman leads on this for the Society.

In terms of the groups, Christchurch & New Milton is currently suspended because of the death of John Heighes as no-one else has stepped forward to run the group. Portsmouth group is losing its leader at the end of July - Fiona Ranger had asked for help with running the group but no-one came forward and so the group may fold. The Society needs more people to get involved.

The HGS journal, the Hampshire Family Historian, has continued to be produced four times a year. The Editor, Stephen Pomeroy, is always looking for new articles, of any length. More proof readers are also required.

Thanks were given to Chris Pavey for running the research and admin centre at HRO, attending almost every Tuesday and Thursday. In addition to the HGS desk in the search room, there is also an office, storage and access to the Education Room for meetings etc. The HGS desk is manned from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays but more volunteers are always required - the Society could have a presence on Wednesdays too if there were sufficient volunteers.

There have been constant changes to the website. There is now a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Wizbit, and thanks were given to Richard Backhouse, Web Co-ordinator, with assistance from Jane Painter who updates the group pages. Kay Lovell adds regular hints and tips.

In conclusion, Paul noted that there were lots of other people helping behind the scenes. Without members, group organisers and trustees there would be no Society.

There were no questions on the Chairman's report.

6 Treasurer's Annual Report and Accounts

The Treasurer had produced her report which had been included with the AGM papers on the website.

It was proposed that the accounts be accepted.

Proposer:	Mike Hobbs	In favour:	54
Seconder:	Jan Heath	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	3

7 Appointment of Auditors

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

Proposer:	Jane Painter	In favour:	60
Seconder:	Edward Toomer	Against:	0
		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. Paul temporarily handed over the chairing of the meeting to Nick.

Appointment of Chairman - Paul Pinhorne

Proposer:	Sue Johnson	In favour:	61
Seconder:	Colin Daniels	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	0

Paul was duly re-elected 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:	Maureen Goss	In favour:	61
Seconder:	Keith Hayward	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	0

Re-appointment of Trustees

The following were all willing to continue:

John Bowman
Margaret Bowman
Phil Brown
Kay Lovell
Fiona Ranger
Keith Turner
Angela Winteridge

Proposer:	John Barry	In favour:	63
Seconder:	Sue Decicco	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	0

New Trustee

Tony Sinclair (Winchester Group Organiser & HRO volunteer)

Proposer:	Sue Atrill	In favour:	59
Seconder:	Jackie John	Against:	0
		Abstentions:	0

9 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

The Chairman thanked Angela Winteridge for taking the minutes.

10 Date of 2023 Annual General Meeting

The next meeting will be in June 2023, date and venue to be confirmed.