

Minutes of
The Haslemere Society Annual General Meeting

11 November 2022 at 7:30pm

At Haslemere Hall

Attendees:

Mr Chris Harrison (Chairman & Trustee)
Mr Howard Brown (Trustee)
Mrs Dawn Brown (Trustee)
Mr David Dullaway (Treasurer & Trustee)
Mrs Sonja Dullaway (Trustee & Minutes)
Mr Gareth David

Apologies:

Mrs Jane Stopford Russell (Trustee)
Apologies were also received from a number of members.

1. The AGM was quorate, there being more than 20 members of the Society in attendance.

The Chairman's Report

2. The Chairman welcomed members to the 138th AGM of the Society.
3. The Chairman introduced the Trustees and briefly outlined their roles.
4. Drawing on his statement in the Report and Accounts, the Chairman reflected on the last year, noting that the Society had been renewing its activities after a period of quiet during the pandemic. He touched on the two summer parties in the last financial year as well as the outing to the Watercress Line, as well as the work of the Society's Planning Group and the Heritage Group, and noted that there are no further blue plaques in the pipeline but suggestions would be welcome.
5. The Chairman thanked the Trustees and the various other people who help out in various ways to help make the Society's events a success.
6. The Chairman reflected on some of the most significant events of the past year, including the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, who he noted was the only monarch most people in the Hall had ever known, and the accession of King Charles III, as well as the war in Ukraine. After a moments pause to allow members to reflect on these events, the Chairman called "God Save the King" and this was echoed by members.

Minutes of the last AGM

7. The Chairman noted that these were available on the Society's website and asked if members were happy to approve them. They were approved by a show of hands, no member raising any objection.

Treasurer's Report & Accounts

8. The Treasurer rose and briefly outlined the key items in the accounts, which were displayed on the main screen for members to see. He noted that the Society was in pretty good shape financially, having ended the year with healthy reserves. Subscriptions, the Society's main source of income, have risen. The trip to the Watercress Line appears in the Accounts as strongly profitable but that is because only the monies received are shown; the payments out will fall in the next financial year. In fact, the trip broadly broke even. Overall the Society made a loss of £1,000 for the year. That is driven by two one-off expenses: having to pay the subscription for Civic Voice twice because of delays in their system, and expenses relating to ensuring the Society's views were heard in relation to the Red Court planning application. Without these the Society would have been in profit on the year and the Treasurer stated that he was happy with that position. Finally, the Treasurer noted that while nearly all the Society's assets were cash, the accounts included £192 in wine stocks.
9. The Treasurer invited questions and one member asked what was covered by the line "Donations to local causes"? The Treasurer explained that this was the donation to the local group formed to take part in the appeal relating to the Red Court planning application.
10. There being no further questions, the Treasurer proposed that the accounts be accepted. Fay Foster seconded the motion and it passed on a show of hands, no objections being raised.

Election of incoming Chairman and Trustees

11. The Chairman stated that he and all the Trustees were standing for re-election, and no new candidates were standing, though he encouraged members to contact him if they should be interested in joining the Committee in any capacity. The Chairman proposed that both he and all the Trustees be re-elected. Anne Fitchett seconded the motion. It was approved on a show of hands with no objections.

Election of the Independent Examiner

12. The Chairman stated that Clare David had acted as the Independent Examiner for many years and was willing to continue in that role. He proposed that she be re-elected and Brian Deller seconded the motion. It was approved on a show of hands with no objections.

Slide show

13. The formal business of the AGM being completed, Mick Bradford then provided a talk and slide show on "The Last Flight of the Night Stalker". This was followed by drinks and canapes and the evening ended at around 10pm.