

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

MINUTES OF THE 40th AGM HELD ON 29th MARCH 2009 AT THE GORING HEATH PARISH HALL, WHITCHURCH HILL, AT 1.45pm

CHAIRMAN FOR THE AGM: Ian Clarke
MINUTES: Dave Oliver

COMMITTEE 2008-9:

President: Cynthia Graham Kerr
Chairman: Ian Clarke
Vice Chairman: Hazel Williams
Honorary Secretary: David Oliver
Honorary Treasurer: John Gibbs

Ordinary Members:

Susan Sandford
David Nicholls
John White
Elizabeth Lawrance
Nancy Nichols
Michael Green

Number of members present: 37

1. Welcome and opening remarks

The Meeting started at 1:45pm.

Traditionally, President Cynthia Graham Kerr, would have given the welcoming address at the AGM, but due to increasing frailty had asked to be excused duty at the top table. Instead Cyn took a seat in the front row, kindly assisted by Elizabeth Lawrance. Chairman Ian Clarke welcomed everyone warmly on her behalf.

The Chairman outlined the format for the afternoon, which would conclude with a 40th Anniversary Celebration Tea, by special request of the President.

2. Apologies for absence

Received from Colin & Chris Hogbin; Steve Gibson; John White; Barbara East; Neil Bucknell; Brian Williams

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30 March 2008

These having been approved by the committee were put directly to the vote. It was queried that the number of members attending was missing.

Adopted without dissent.

4. Appointment of Mrs Trudi Kidd (acting in place of Mrs Jenny Carpenter) as Examiner for the 2008 Accounts and as Examiner for the 2009 Accounts

Jenny Carpenter had unfortunately had family problems and Trudi Kidd had stepped in. The Hon. Treasurer, John Gibbs, gave a brief introduction to Mrs Kidd and she was appointed without dissent.

5. Adoption of Reports from Officers for 2008 (As published in the Annual Report and Accounts for 2008)

5.1 Chairman's Report

Proposed by Mike Fulton; Seconded by Mike Green

Adopted without dissent

5.2 Treasurers Report

Proposed by Pat Preece; Seconded by Nancy Nichols

Adopted without dissent

6 Adoption of the Examined Accounts for 2008 (As published in the Annual Report and Accounts for 2008)

Proposed by Phillipa Wray; Seconded by David Cox

Adopted without dissent

6 Resolution to adopt a new SOAG Constitution

The Chairman noted that the *existing rules required* a three quarters majority in favour by members present and eligible to vote to adopt the new constitution. There being no questions from the members present and the Constitution having been approved by the Committee, the matter was put directly to the vote.

Adopted without dissent

7 Citation for the honouring of Mrs Cynthia Graham Kerr with 'President Emeritus'

IC noted that after 40 years service our founder President Cynthia Graham Kerr has elected to take Emeritus status. As from today Cyn will no longer be carrying out the full role of President and at some appropriate time in the future we will appoint a new President. From this date Cyn will hold the honorary title of President Emeritus for life..

After the citation was read out, there was a loud ovation.

8 Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members for 2009-10 Officers

The Chairman would be resigning, but the Secretary and Treasurer were able to stand again.

Proposed by Ian Clarke; Seconded by Cynthia Graham Kerr

Officers appointed without dissent

Ordinary Committee Members resigning were Elizabeth Lawrance and John White. Other members of the committee would stand again.

Proposed by Elizabeth Lawrance; Seconded by John White

Ordinary Members appointed without dissent

Ian Clarke noted that we will need to find a new Chairman and more Ordinary Members of the committee.

9 Any other business (That is items on which no votes required)

There was no AOB

10 Closing note from the Chairman

In stepping down as Chairman and from the executive, IC said he had been on the Committee for ten years, including five as Secretary and three as Chairman. He pointed out that he is not getting any younger and needs to reduce his workload, but will still be an active member and will especially remain running the Brightwell Project. He thanked all those he had worked with over the ten years, but especially the committee over the last three years for their tremendous support

He gave special thanks to the other committee members stepping down: John White, who has given many years service as Treasurer and Ordinary Committee Member, and Elizabeth Lawrence, whom we have to thank for the new Constitution and also our new Child Protection Policy, which is a new legal requirement. Also to the field teams who are maintaining the tradition of SOAG being a particularly active society in this way, and to the many members who pay their subscriptions to support the society and attend lectures, not least the unsung heroes behind the scenes who so willingly move tables and chairs and provide tea and coffee. They are all the reason SOAG exists.

Finally he thanked Catherine (Mrs Clarke) for all the support that she had given him over the years for his obsession with archaeology and SOAG, noting that much that had been achieved would not have been possible without her loyal support, wisdom and guidance. The members applauded this.

Vice Chairman Hazel Williams added that she would like to say that SOAG has always had strong leadership and Ian has continued that theme. We need people like Ian to maintain the work of the Society, which he has achieved as well as starting BBCHAP and maintaining and extending liaisons with other groups. Long may his 'obsession' with archaeology continue!

Ian Clarke joined SOAG in 1999 and was co-opted onto the committee by Cyn at the second meeting he attended.

The meeting closed at 2:16 pm.

Signed:

Date: