

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Friends of Suffolk Archives (FOSA)
Old Wesley Chapel, School Road, Elmswell, IP30 9EE

21 June 2023

Members Present: Stephen Dart, Sarah Doig, Linda King, Neil Langridge, Patricia Mackie, Anne McGee, Betty Milburn, Sue Spiller, Margaret Statham, Martyn Taylor.

In Attendance: Kate Chantry, Sue Heaser, Edward Coales, Derek Kirby, Peter McGee.

1. Introduction and Welcome: The Chair was taken by Sarah Doig who welcomed all those present and thanked Anne and Peter McGee for organising the evening.

2. Apologies for absence: Jonathan Abson, Lorna Adamson, Claire Barker, Keith Briggs, Catherine Buchanan, Anthony Cobbold, Gillian Hodge, Robert Houlton-Hart, Valerie and Cecil Irwin, Susan Maxwell, Simon Mynott, John Orbell, Robert Rous, Paul Scriven, Paul Simmons, Dr Soni, Helen Statham, Chloe Veale, Sarah Zins.

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 November 2022:

These were accepted as a correct record. Their approval was proposed by Patricia Mackie and seconded by Neil Langridge and agreed unanimously. There were no matters arising.

4. Chair's Report:

Sarah Doig expressed her sincere sadness at the death of Gwyn Thomas, who had played such an important role in FOSA. She outlined FOSA's recent acquisitions, the ongoing dialogue with Suffolk Archives and her concern about the dwindling membership. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

5. Financial Report:

Stephen Dart, Treasurer, presented the audited accounts for the year 2022. Income was £2,737.00 and expenditure was £3,561.14. The income was less than the previous year because of fewer donations; and the expenditure was more because the society had purchased more acquisitions. The society's monetary assets at the end of the year were £18,447.27. He reported that we were still operating a Lloyds bank account and the new Co-operative bank account but most of the funds were now in the Co-operative account, leaving the Lloyds account for the subscriptions of the few people who still paid into it. Gift Aid for the last three years, which could amount to around £1,000, had yet to be claimed.

The acceptance of the report was proposed by Diane Kirby and seconded by Martyn Taylor and approved unanimously. A copy of the report is attached.

6. Election of Officers:

The following nominations had been received:

Chair	Sarah Doig
Vice Chair	Betty Milburn
Treasurer	Stephen Dart
General Secretary	Sue Spiller
Minutes Secretary	Sue Spiller
Membership Secretary	Neil Langridge
Publicity Officer	

These were proposed *en bloc* by Linda King and seconded by Margaret Statham and were approved unanimously. There is a vacancy for Publicity Officer.

7. Election of the Committee:

The following nominations had been received: Margaret Statham and Anne McGee. They were proposed by Stephen Dart and seconded by Patricia Mackie and were approved unanimously.

Sarah Doig thanked the officers and committee for their work and support during the year.

8. Appointment of Honorary Auditor:

Stephen Cook had agreed to continue. He was proposed by Martyn Taylor and seconded by Margaret Statham and approved unanimously.

9. Suffolk Archives Report:

Kate Chantry presented her report in the form of a slide show outlining the activities and achievements of Suffolk Archives Service since November 2022. Her presentation covered the following topics:-

- The completion of *The Hold - a Suffolk Archive Service for 21st Century* (funded by The National Lottery Heritage Funded project).
- The approval by the National Archives of The Hold as a 'place of deposit' for local public records, and presentation of the Accreditation Certificate on 11 November 2022.
- The filling of job vacancies.
- The Pentagull Bookings system.
- *Suffolk's Green Story* from November 2022 to June 2023.
- The success of grant funding applications for a summer exhibition of *Wolsey 550 - celebrating the life of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (1473-1530)* and an autumn

exhibition entitled *Arrivals: Celebrating Migration to Suffolk* from November 2023 to April 2024.

- The digitisation of Suffolk parish records and other collections.
- The contribution of volunteers.
- The Tour Trailer.
- Community displays at The Hold.
- Touring displays.
- Online exhibitions.
- Family activities.
- Archive-inspired walk and talk activities in Lowestoft, Clare and Bury St Edmunds.
- Joint conferences with University of Suffolk and other organisations as part of the outreach project.
- The Schools programme.
- Building development in all three office locations.

10. Any other business: There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 7.45pm