

**The Arts Society Huntingdonshire**  
**Minutes of the 39th Annual General Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 8th June 2022**  
**at 2pm in the Corn Exchange, St Ives**

**Present:** Claire Sarkies (Chairman), Jane Woods (Secretary), Carole Pook (Treasurer), Alison Clough (Membership Secretary), Margaret Gledhill (Visits Secretary), Sassy Skinner (Programme Secretary), Bob Woodham (Web Master) plus 66 members.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Tony Barraclough, Thelma Clarke, Sue Denney, Rosemary Huckle, Fran Oakman, Graham and Anne Wedd.

**2. Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes were approved as a true record. Approval proposed by Kay Coope, and seconded by Celia Bennet. Carried nem. con.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Chair's Report**

The Chair welcomed members to the 39th AGM of The Arts Society. According to the Constitution, reports had been posted on the website in advance of the meeting, and hard copies provided to those with no computer access. There were no questions from the floor, and none had been submitted prior to the AGM.

She firstly reported on the success of the much-postponed holiday to North Devon. Thought would now be given to a trip in 2023.

The move to the Corn Exchange had proved most successful; the staff had been exceptionally welcoming and supportive - in particular Joe Masters, the technician. Reliably present, and competent; a great relief to Sassy Skinner, after the unreliable projection and sound equipment at Burgess Hall. However, the Society would have to find temporary shelter from January 2023, while roof repairs were carried out at the Corn Exchange, and the committee was currently researching possible alternatives.

The Chair announced that she had come to the end of her tenure, and warmly thanked her committee (in order of seating): Alison Clough, for so ably managing the membership data; Carole Pook, for keeping a grip on the finances during a difficult two years, and her always stimulating study days; Margaret Gledhill, for her work for Young Arts, and more recently, for taking on the organisation of day trips; Bob Woodham, for maintaining the website, and Jane Woods, for the scrupulousness of her record keeping, and her support for the Chair. She wished in particular to thank Jill Donnelly, for her unstinting support of the Society for many years - the organisation of many excellent day trips and holidays, and of the Young Arts contributions of artworks to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, and the CAYAC competition for young artists. She remains involved with the establishment of a textile prize, in memory of Isobel Lattimore. She was warmly applauded by the meeting.

**5. To receive and approve the Annual Statement of Accounts for 2021-22**

The Treasurer's Financial Statement was posted on the website, and projected on screen. The accounts had already been approved by the Auditor.

She reported a deficit of £1,439.61 in the previous year, but that the credit balance in the Current Account now stood at £2,569.58, and in the Deposit Account at £6,257.33.

Subscription fees for the coming year would be £45 single membership, and £85 for two members sharing the same house.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Douglas Picken, seconded by Mary Knowles . Carried nem. con.

**6. Election of Committee Officers**

Nominations were as follows:

1. Chair - Clare Fox. Proposed by Claire Sarkies; seconded by Kay Coope. Carried nem con.

2. Treasurer - Carole Pook. Proposed by Jill Donnelly, seconded by Richard Probyn. Carried nem con.

3. Secretary - Jane Woods. Proposed by Elspeth Gibbon, seconded by Pat Douglas. Carried nem.con.

The Chair reported that Sassy Skinner would be standing down as Programme Secretary, and thanked her warmly for her most valuable contribution to the Society. The Chair would take over as Acting Programme Secretary until such time as a new member might be elected.

**Confirmation of remaining committee members**

Alison Clough, (Memberships Secretary), Margaret Gledhill (Visits Secretary), Rosemary Huckle (Young Arts), Bob Woodham (Webmaster).

Re-elected en bloc, and carried nem. con.

**7. Votes of thanks**

1. The Chair warmly thanked Joe Masters, the Corn Exchange technician.

2. Grateful thanks were due to Dr K. Sneath for once again acting as auditor.

Gifts were to be made to both colleagues.

**8. Any other business**

**1. Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust**

The Chair drew the membership's attention to the Garden Heritage Volunteers AGM report. Many Huntingdonshire Arts Society members were already part of the group, which is very active and well organised, with a full programme of research, visits and study days, but additional members would be more than welcome, and to this end, a Liaison Officer was required, to ensure that the AS membership was kept fully abreast of all the activities. Any member interested in this role should contact Judith Christie.

## **2. Visit to Wightwick Manor**

The Visits Secretary would take any outstanding payments from participants after the lecture; £19.50 plus an additional £12 for non-NT members. There were still a few places remaining. The coach would leave the Burgess Hall car park at 9am.

## **9. Date of the next AGM**

The next AGM would be held on 14th June 2023.

The business of the meeting being completed, the incoming Chair, Clare Fox, gave a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair, Claire Sarkies, and invited the lecturer, Colin Pink, to give our last lecture of the season, on Paul Nash.

Claire Sarkies  
Chair

Jane Woods  
Secretary

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