

**The Arts Society Huntingdonshire**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 13th June 2018**  
**in Hemingford Abbots Village Hall**

**Present:** Elspeth Gibbon (Chairman), Jane Woods (Sec.), Carole Pook (Treasurer), Alison Clough (Memberships Sec.), Sue Denney (Visits Sec.), Jill Donnelly (Volunteers Coordinator), Margaret Gledhill (Young Arts), Pennie Harrison (Asst. Visits Sec.), Sassy Horry, Claire Sarkies, plus 92 members and two visitors.

**Apologies for absence:** Diana Baldwin, Judith Christie, Anne Groome, John Hurley, Chris and Joan Leahy, Tony and Barbara Levene, Stephanie Silcock, Mary Thomas, Graham and Anne Webb, Ruth Wood.

The Chairman welcomed members to this special AGM, marking the 50th anniversary of The Arts Society, and the 35th of the Huntingdonshire group. She made two announcements:

- On 18th July, there would be a talk on the Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo, by Carole Pook, followed by a Mexican lunch;
- On 19th September (*date to be confirmed*), there would be a visit to the University of Cambridge's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology to see the Trumpington Cross.

#### **Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Jill Donnelly, seconded by Margaret Gledhill. Carried.

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman invited members to review the annual reports on the website. There were no questions from the floor, and none had been submitted prior to the AGM.

The Chairman expressed the meeting's gratitude to the late Lady Hemingford, founder of the branch, who had given 30 years of unstinting support, in particular to the establishment of the volunteer groups. The Historic Church Recorders were currently working on St. Peter and St. Paul, Fenstanton, and were committed to begin recording St. Andrew's, Swavesey, in 2019. The Cambridgeshire Gardens Trust researchers were compiling a gazetteer of the walled gardens of Cambridgeshire. The Young Arts group was encouraging children's involvement in art through the Hinchingsbrooke Project and Young Arts competition.

In the lecture programme, particularly outstanding had been Linda Smith (Jacob Epstein), Dr Richard Thomas (Benin bronzes) and Gail Turner (Joaquin Sorolla). Well-

supported visits were made to Grimsthorpe Castle, Waddesdon Manor, the Rembrandt and Faberge exhibitions in Norwich and the Charles I and II exhibitions at the Royal Academy and Queen's Gallery, plus two Special Interest events : Professor Snodgrass' talk on the Elgin Marbles, and a tour of the Fitzwilliam Museum's European ceramics gallery.

### **Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2018**

The accounts had been circulated, and had been approved by the auditor. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Alison Clough; seconded by Val Gentry. Carried nem con.

The deposit account stood at £11,162.90. Carole Pook proposed to use this balance to cushion small losses in the current account, in order to avoid raising the cost of subscriptions. The members approved this proposal. Nonetheless, more subscription income was needed, and members were asked to do their best to publicise the Society among friends and acquaintances, in an effort to increase the membership.

### **Election of Independent Auditor**

The Chairman reported that the auditor, Dr Ken Sneath, was willing to continue. It was proposed by Carole Pook and seconded by Doug Picken that he continue as auditor. Carried nem con.

### **Election of Officers**

Nominations for 2018/19 were as follows:

Chairman: Claire Sarkies. Proposed by Elspeth Gibbon; seconded by Val Temple.

Treasurer: Carole Pook. Proposed by Doug Picken; seconded by Liz Butterfield.

Secretary: Jane Woods. Proposed by Val Gentry; seconded by Tony Levene.

### **Committee Membership 2018/19**

The following committee members had agreed to remain in post: Alison Clough (Memberships), Sue Denney (Visits), Jill Donnelly (Volunteers), Margaret Gledhill (Young Arts), Pennie Harrison (Visits Asst.), Sassy Horry. Re-elected en bloc, and carried nem con.

### **Votes of thanks**

The Chairman warmly thanked Phillip Grosset, Webmaster for the past 13 years, and welcomed Bob Woodham, who would update the site, and handle lecture overheads. Particular thanks to Tony Levene, Secretary since 2009, to Barbara Levene, who had served the Society in many roles since 2006, and the auditor, Dr Ken Sneath. All were presented with tokens of the Society's appreciation.

**Any other business**

There was no other business.

**Date of the next AGM**

Wednesday 12th June 2019.

Claire Sarkies

Chairman

13th June 2018

Jane Woods

Secretary

13th June 2018