



Suffolk Records Society

Registered Charity No 1084279



Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Records Society held in St Andrew's Church, Melton on Thursday 16th May 2019 at 7.30pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 57th AGM including Mr Chas Taylor, Vice Chairman of Melton Parish Council, which had made a generous grant to the Society towards publishing costs; Mr Robert Blake, Chairman of Melton Local History Society and the members of that Society who were also present.

Apologies for absence: Dr David Dymond, President of the Society, Dr Nicholas Karn, Charters Series editor, Revd Professor Sir Diarmaid MacCulloch, Dr Nicholas Amor, James Powell, CEO of Boydell & Brewer, Revd Paul Hambling, rector of Melton and 82 members of the Society.

1482 Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting The minutes, which had previously been circulated, were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

1483 Trustees' Report for the year 2018-2019 The Trustees' report had previously been circulated giving a précis of the work of the Council over the year.

1484 Financial Statements for 2017-2018 The financial statements had previously been circulated. The Treasurer reported that John Webb, an editor of three previous volumes, had left the Society a very generous bequest of £29,847. The bulk of this had been added to the investment portfolio while the balance would make to day to day running costs slightly easier. The Charters series were also in a satisfactory position after publishing volume XX. The report was proposed by John Saunders and seconded by David Sherlock; all agreed. The Treasurer was thanked by the Chairman for his excellent work in managing the Society's finances.

1485 Report of volumes in progress:

There was a succession of volumes in preparation and the next, in 2020, would be Dr Margaret Thomas's volume on Cornelius Collett and the Suffolk Yeomanry which had been based in Woodbridge. Mr Sherlock was thanked by the Chairman for continuing to oversee a production line of excellent volumes.

1486 Election of Chairman

Mr Sherlock took the chair and proposed Mr Victor Gray as Chairman; this was seconded by Jane Fiske; all were in favour and Mr Gray resumed the chair.

1487 Election of Officers

The Chairman read out the list of Officers who had all offered to stand again and were proposed en bloc by Paul Simmons and seconded by Peter Ledger; all agreed.



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1488 Election of Council Members

All the Council members offered themselves for re-election with the exception of Professor Richard Wilson. He had been a member of Council for 18 years, continuing the link with our sister society the Norfolk Record Society. Another member from the NRS would be asked to join the Council in due course. The remaining Council members were proposed en bloc by Tanya Christian and seconded by John Saunders and all agreed.

1489 Election of Vice-Presidents

The Council proposed to appoint two new vice-presidents: Clive Paine, with whom everyone was familiar for his work on local history, teaching local history classes and courses and organising many expeditions around the county's historical sites. The other was Mr Kim Gibson-Wynes who was a life member and had for many years supported the Society with a generous annual grant towards the publishing costs of the volumes. They were proposed by Paul Simmons, seconded by Professor Wilson and all agreed.

1490 Election of Independent Examiner

Mrs Rosie Unthank was proposed as Independent Examiner by Tanya Christian and seconded by David Sherlock; all agreed.

1491 Volume 62

The Chairman introduced Dr John Shaw, the editor of Volume 62 The Loes and Wilford Poor Law Incorporation, 1765-1826.

1492 Votes of thanks

The Chairman thanked Dr Shaw for his talk. He also thanked Rev Paul Hambling, Rector of Melton, Mrs Beryl Lucas the parish administrator, Mrs Ros Champkin, the organiser of the Church room. He also thanked Mrs Barker and Mrs Christian for organising the evening's event and invited everyone to have a glass of wine and refreshments.



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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2019/2020

1. Trustees and Council members for the year were Mr Victor Gray (Chairman), Dr David Allen, Dr Nicholas Amor, Mrs Claire Barker, Ms Kate Chantry, Mrs Tanya Christian, Dr David Dymond (President), Mr. Charles Farrow (from Jan. 2020), Dr Jane Fiske, Dr Nicholas Karn, Revd Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, Mr Robert Malster (to May 2019). Mr Clive Mees, Dr Harvey Osborne, Mr Clive Paine, Mr David Sherlock, Professor Richard Wilson (to May 2019). Council consisted of six Honorary Officers and ten elected members.
2. At the 2019 AGM, held in St. Andrew's Church, Melton, Volume 62: The Loes and Wilford Poor Law Incorporation, 1765- 1826, edited by Dr. John Shaw was launched with an introductory talk by the editor.
3. MEMBERSHIP: As of 1 January 2020 there were 259 individual members (including 4 life members) and 71 institutional members. 2019 saw our biggest annual decrease in membership numbers to date. Practical steps are being taken to address and halt, as far as possible, a trend common to most similar record publishing societies.
4. FINANCE: This has been a year of consolidation. Our income from subscriptions, sales and donations has shown some increase, with a significant increase from royalties. Our expenditure has generally been in line with the previous year with an increase in printing costs for the printing of Vo. 63 Suffolk Yeomanry 1794-1820. We have made a donation of £1000.00 to the Suffolk Record Office towards the cost of the purchase of the Cullum Papers. The Charter Series income and expenditure is also as in previous years. The printing costs of Cartulary and Charters of the Priory of St. Peter and Paul are showing as being spread over two financial years
- 5 GENERAL SERIES: Several volumes are in preparation for publication from 2021 onwards, with work well advanced on Crown Pleas of the Suffolk Eyre of 1240 edited by Dr Eric Gallagher.
6. CHARTERS SERIES: The second volume of a two-volume edition of the charters of the Priory of St Peter and St Paul edited by Dr David Allen will be published in September 2020. Dr Vivien Brown's work on the Bury St Edmunds town charters continues.
7. 2018 saw the re-launch of the Society's website www.suffolkrecordssociety.com with the facility to purchase volumes and pay subscriptions online and scope for publishing digital documents, with a view to enhancing the Society's offering to Suffolk historical studies. The first texts have already been published to this site.



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8. Council are actively investigating, with the help of our publisher Boydell & Brewer, ways of exploring the opportunities offered by digital publication. The bequest left to the Society in 2018 by former SRS editor, Dr John Webb, may help support work associated with this move.

9. The Society was scheduled to meet on Thursday 14 th May at The Longshed, Tide Mill Way, Woodbridge for the 2020 AGM, at which we were to launch volume 63, Cornelius Collett and the Suffolk Yeomanry, 1794-1820, edited by Dr Margaret Thomas. In the light of the current Covid-19 emergency, the AGM has been postponed until later in the year.

Victor Gray
Chairman
April 2020



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Suffolk Records Society					
Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30th September 2019					
	2019	2018		2019	2018
Subscriptions	5519	5,158	Boydell and Brewer Ltd	8,048	7,281
Sales	704	551	Postage and Stationary	37	970
Investment Income	2,516	2,459	Warehouse Postage	1,323	1,344
Royalties	2,138	974	AGM	472	211
Grants	250	300	SRS@60	0	360
Donations	610	225	Website Hosting	420	4,117
Legacy	99	29,847	Leaflets/Printing	0	304
Excess of payments over receipts	1,591	0	Sundries	1,765	1,488
			Storage	362	387
			Donation to SRO (Cullum Papers)	1,000	0
			Excess of receipts over payments	0	23,052
	13,427	39,514		13,427	39,514
Excess of receipts over payments	0	23,052	Excess of payments over receipts	1,591	0
Increase in value of investments	9,230	0	Loss on sale of investments	783	653
			Reduction in value of investments	0	533
			Surplus to Accumulated Funds	6,856	21,866
	9,230	23,052		9,230	23,052
Balance Sheet 30 September 2019					
	2019	2018		2019	2018
Accumulated Funds	79,365	57,499	Cash at Bank	8,807	30,758
Surplus (Deficit)	6,856	21,866	Virgin Money	9,589	3,539
			Cash at Brokers	8,514	2,543
			Investments at Charles Stanley	59,482	42,773
			Owed to Charters	-171	-248
	86,221	79,365		86,221	79,365



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Suffolk Records Society			Charter Series		
Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 September 2019					
	2019	2018		2019	2018
Subscriptions	402	407	Editor's expenses	700	200
Sales	202	30	Bank Charges	60	60
Dividends and Interest	238	295	Publishers	2,150	2,150
Royalties	87	54	Postage	261	0
Donation	36	36	Expenses	103	0
Excess of payments over receipts	2,309	1,588			
	<u>3,274</u>	<u>2,410</u>		<u>3,274</u>	<u>2,410</u>
Deficit to accumulated funds	2,403	1,669	Decrease in valuation	94	81
			Excess of payments over receipts	2,309	1,588
	<u>2,403</u>	<u>1,669</u>		<u>2,403</u>	<u>1,669</u>
Balance Sheet 30 September 2019					
	2019	2018		2019	2018
Accumulated funds	18,701	20,370	Cash at Bank	11,529	13,763
(Deficit)/Surplus	-2,403	-1,669	Owed by SRS	172	248
			Investments at Charles Stanley	4,597	4,690
	<u>16,298</u>	<u>18,701</u>		<u>16,298</u>	<u>18,701</u>