

Minutes of the forty-seventh Annual General Meeting, Tiverton Civic Society

held in Tiverton Town Hall on Tuesday 17th November 2015 at 7.30 pm

The Chairman, Jeremy Salter, presiding.

Attendance

- 1.1 Present: Thirty-two members.
- 1.2 Apologies: Frank Connock, Mary Cross, John Rendle, Andrea Rowe.

1 Welcome

- 2.1 Jeremy Salter welcomed the mayor, Dennis Knowles, and members to the meeting, and thanked the officers, committee members and Anne Davies who had contributed to the achievements and running of the Society through 2014.
- 2.2 Jeremy expressed the Society's sadness at the death of their President, Brian Homer.
- 2.3 2015 has been a good year for the Society with high levels of attendance at meetings.
- 2.3 Jeremy thanked Alison Gordon for organising the Society's outings. An excellent visit to Crowcombe had taken place.
- 2.4 The new website is getting an increasing number of hits and members are encouraged to use it. The most popular page covers Tiverton's listed buildings. Exeleigh House is currently in very poor condition. The Conservation Officer, Catherine Marlow, hopes to get something done about this. It is hoped that the website will bring the Society to the attention of new members. The logo was designed by Roy Webber.
- 2.5 Brian and Fern were thanked for producing two excellent Newsletters. The new format was a success and Fern was thanked for seeing this through.
- 2.6 The Society is rapidly reaching crisis point with regard to committee members and officers. The Society can only continue if new members join the committee. The present committee has agreed to continue for one more year. The Chairman is particularly grateful to Andrea Rowe who has agreed to join the committee for 2016. She is the Chairman of the Museum and Rotary Club. Anyone else who is willing to join should contact the Chairman.

2 Minutes

- 3.1 The minutes of the 46th AGM were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 3.2 There were no matters arising.

3 Finance

- 4.1 The accounts were circulated, and explained by Tony Longbourne. The independent examiner's report was summarised. Income had dropped again while expenditure had risen. The deficit is £300 and money had been drawn from the deposit account.
- 4.2 The Treasurer gave notice that the subscription would probably have to rise in November 2016. He would keep members informed at meetings next year and through the newsletter when the decision was taken at committee and by how much the subscription would rise.
- 4.3 Charles Noon felt the insurance was expensive. Tony and Jeremy explained that the insurance was done through Civic Voice which has negotiated a special rate for local civic societies, tailored to the type activities undertaken. Neither officer felt it would be appropriate to change insurance.
- 4.4 The accounts were accepted *nem con*, proposed by Anne Davies, seconded by Gordon Davies.

5 Civic Voice Membership

- 5.1 Civic Voice continues to be a very active organisation. It provides a regular stream of useful advice. Their campaigns have many supporters in the House of Commons.
- 5.2 Jeremy has attended two courses in Exeter run by CV, one on war memorials and one on heritage assets.
- 5.3 They are actively supporting the formation of local action plans.
- 5.4 They have formed a new all-party parliamentary group.
- 5.5 They continue to sponsor a design award.

Mayor Dennis Knowles in the Chair

6 President for 2015.

- 6.1 Janet Rendle was nominate as the new president, proposed by Fern Clarke and seconded by Alison Gordon, and agreed *nem con*.

7 Election of Chairman.

- 7.1 Jeremy agreed to stand as Chairman and was elected *nem con*.

Jeremy Salter in the chair

8. Election of Committee

- 8.1 The following officers and members of the committee agreed to stand for 2016: Vice Chairman, Brian Jenkins; Hon. Treasurer, Tony Longbourne; Hon. Secretary, Fern Clarke; Membership Secretary, John Rendle; Committee members Mary Cross, Frank Connock, Andrea Rowe.
- 8.2 All the committee members were proposed by Chris Mumford and seconded by Dennis Knowles, and elected *nem con*.

8 2015 Programme

- 8.1 The programme is not yet finalised for the full year.
- 8.2 The March meeting will be on 15th March.
- 8.3 The full programme will be posted on the website.

The business meeting was closed, and the speaker, Douglas Rice, gave an interesting talk on Tiverton during the seventeenth century civil war. This was followed by refreshments.