

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Turnfurlong Primary School, Turfurlong Lane, Aylesbury
at 3.30pm on Saturday 18 May 2019

1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

Dave Foster, Trustee of Buckinghamshire Family History Society, chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone to the AGM.

Below is a list of members who had sent their apologies.

Steve Powell
Ann Watson
Rex Watson

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

After amending the date in the sub title to 16 June 2019, it was agreed that the minutes of the AGM at Turnfurlong Primary School, Aylesbury is an accurate record of that meeting.

(Proposed: John Price; Seconded: Joyce Kendell)

There were no matters arising.

3. TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustee's Report was read out.

Review of activities and achievements

The year started with the passing with two people who supported Bucks FHS in their own way. Adrienne Thirkell looked after the libraries. She also did many other things to support Bucks FHS over many years. It was decided to sell the contents of the libraries, and after a request at the last AGM, an offer was placed online for our members before being considered as stock for our shop. Pat Townsend, our bookkeeper for many years, also died. Which made the need to find a Treasurer urgent.

Colin Kightley was able to take on the role of Treasurer in February and is a great asset to the Executive and Bucks FHS. Thank you, Colin.

One of the processes we were able to complete was meeting the standards required for GDPR which took a great amount of time for the Executive Committee. Very few here will see the results, as it had nothing to do with family history, but it had to be done. Another change that had to be done was a move of the society's website and email to another service provider. This was due to the original company being sold and the website being moved. This affected the online shop sales and other facilities. Work on the website is still continuing as the Executive studies the options.

The work by Nicky Dennard and her helpers continues to raise the profile of Bucks FHS at fairs. Much thought goes into which events to attend, the loss of WDYTYA? at Birmingham has made us be more discerning about which events to attend. Many thanks to Nicky and her team.

Open Day went ahead for another year and held its own as far as attendance were concerned. It was decided to hold the 2019 Open Day following an increase of hiring costs by the school. The recruitment of volunteers for organising and helping on the day remains a concern.

Bucks FHS continues to strengthen links with other heritage groups in the county through Bucks Archives & History Network. This is another way of reaching groups who do not know about our events as well as providing knowledge for Bucks FHS.

The Executive committee met six times in 2018 and concentrated on strategy & expenditure. As urgent matters are discussed via email, the Executive could meet less often, but is constrained by the constitution. The Executive committee will consider the options and may ask the next AGM to consider a change to the constitution.

Due to our constitution Tony Sargeant was not able to stand as an officer of Bucks FHS. As nobody came forward to take on the roles of Chairman and Secretary, Therefore Tony Sargeant continued as Acting Secretary. Bucks FHS is in need of strategic leadership in the form of a Chairman.

Thank you to all our volunteers and members who continue to support Bucks FHS.

The report was accepted by the meeting.
(Proposed: Norman McRae; Seconded by Jo Divers)

4. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

As you can see in the accounts there was a small deficit for the year of £19 a movement of £1055 for the year. The main contributing factors include an increase in the cost of publishing Origins, and the reduced numbers of publication sales and searches. Publications for 2017 were high as The Auckland Library in New Zealand purchased an almost complete set of CD's. In addition in August 2017 Find My Past added over 2 million Buckinghamshire records to their databases. It should also be recognised that the website was not as robust during 2018 as it should be. This is being addressed.

For 2018, the Society's monthly meeting also attracted entrance fees which offset some of the costs.

Joyce Kendal commented on the poor quality of the Find My Past's work citing Chalfont St Giles as an example.

In response to Nicky Dennard's question about Fairs, Colin Kightley explained how some income appears in other categories.

Graham Gough questioned the Total Reserves at 31.12.2018, the figure should be £132,350

The amended accounts were accepted.
(Proposed by Graham Gough; Seconded by Geoff Edwards)

5. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

It is proposed that Richard Lane of Richard Lane Accounting continues in the role of Independent Examiner for 2019.

(Proposed by John Price; Seconded by Colin Kightley)

6. ELECTION OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The nominations are:

Position	Name	Note	Proposer	Seconded
Chairman		Vacant		
Treasurer	Colin Kightley		Steve Powell	Rex Watson
Honorary Secretary	Tony Sargeant		Eric Abbot	Rod Stevens

There were no objections and Colin Kightley was re-elected as Treasurer and Tony Sargeant was elected as Honorary Secretary.

Position	Name	Proposer	Seconded
Committee Member	Rosemarie Bucknell	Lesley Marchant	Steve Powell
Committee Member	Dave Foster	John Price	Tony Sargeant
Committee Member	Steve Powell	Colin Kightley	Rex Watson
Committee Member	John Price	Tony Sargeant	Tony Coyne

All the proposed members were accepted.

Tony Coyne is standing down from the Executive Committee and there was a vote of thanks for his work for Bucks FHS.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There has been no other formal business received. There were no other points raised from those attending the meeting.

8. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting was closed at 15:56 pm.