

THE ICKLETON SOCIETY

Minutes of the thirty seventh Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 9 May 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Rachel Radford (Chairman), John Fowler (Treasurer), Madelaine Smith (Secretary), Clare Driver, Andrew Sheppard, Fiona Rose, Gerry Birch, Jocelyn Flitton, Judy Marshall, Terry Sadler, Roy Smith, Dawn Bradley, Neil McKillen, Lewis Duke, Suzi Lober, John Holt, John & Elaine Statham, Stan Webster, Dr Coker, David Whittaker, Ruth Lingard, Hugh Molloy, Ken Worthing, Rita Sullivan. For talk : Martin & Carol Waters

1. **Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the thirty seventh AGM of the Society.
2. **Apologies.** Apologies for absence were received from Lawrence Wragg, John & Christine Taylor, Glynis Hammond, Ingrid Smith, Francis Bird, Norma Sheppard, Lizzie Molloy, Jo Bellamy.
3. **Minutes of the thirty sixth Annual General Meeting.** Roy Smith proposed that the minutes be adopted as correct, Gerry Birch seconded and there were no objections. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
4. **Chairman's Report.**

. A quick canter through the Society's 2017/18 year. We've had a good variety of social events:

- After last year's AGM, Helen Harwood gave us a talk about country life in the 19th century and a real insight into the deprivations and difficulties faced by the majority of the population living in rural areas.
- We had a lovely return visit to Hemingford Manor on a beautiful June day. Diana Boston gave us a tour of her house that had belonged to her late mother-in-law, the author Lucy Boston. The history was fascinating, as were the various items and toys that feature in Lucy Boston's Green Knowe books as well as Lucy's exquisite patchwork quilts. Listening to an old 78rpm recording played on a Lucy's 1929 gramophone and which she played at regular musical evenings she held during WW2 for aircrew from nearby RAF Wyton was very moving. The garden was filled with old roses, orchids, herbaceous plants and shrubs and their scents filled the air – just wonderful!
- Douglas Kent gave us a talk in November about his house in Church Street, saffron Walden which is part of the old Sun Inn, a Grade I-listed building well-known for its decorative external plasterwork ('pargeting'). It was particularly interesting to see the progress he's made since our visit to the house back in 2012. It was also interesting to learn how the house fitted into the history and development of Saffron Walden, something which inspired us to arrange the talk we'll be having this evening.
- There was an excellent turnout for the New Year's Day walk. Many, many thanks to volunteers Jos Flitton, Mary Woolhouse and Liz Igglesden for all their help with the post walk lunch and to Fiona and Alex for leading the walk.
- Particular thanks to Sebastian Payne for another superb wine tasting in March. We were oversubscribed so apologies to those who weren't able to get tickets.
- Thanks as ever to Clare Driver for organising the annual litter pick.

As to events which fall into our next year, we've already had the Mini Steam-up. Many thanks to Clare Driver for organising that – 2 wonderful engines and a van, Martin Woodhead's model steam engine built by his father and Derek Rule's organ engine. Thanks to them. Linked to this evening's talk by Sarah Kirkpatrick, we have the walking history tour of Saffron Walden at 4pm on Saturday 26 May.

On planning and development there have been some successes, albeit limited.

- As most of you saw, I wrote to the Master of Gonville and Caius about their attempt, yet again, to have a motorway service station at Junction 10 of the M11 and received a rather patronizing

response. However, a Mustang having to make an emergency landing on the field seems to have resulted in things going very quiet since then (and fortunately no-one was hurt).

- We responded at length to SmithsonHill's planning application for the Agri-Tech Hub and thanks to all of you did likewise. It was with much relief that we heard the application was refused but, of course, they have announced they will appeal.
- We participated in the campaign to Stop North Uttlesford Garden Community. We bought and put up banners around the village – thank you to those of you who have continued to have banners on walls and fences, particularly as those we put elsewhere round the village have been removed, we assume by County Highways. We produced and distributed leaflets encouraging people to respond to the consultation and giving guidance on points to make, and of course we responded ourselves. Sadly, UDC seem intent on continuing with their plans and are pressing ahead towards the next, and final, consultation before the Plan goes to the Inspector. We intend to replace the missing banners nearer the time of the final consultation and, of course, we'll be doing our best to persuade people to write to UDC as we did last time.
- Finally, we have been keeping a close eye on the Wellcome Trust's developing proposals for expansion of the Genome Campus and continue to be worried about some aspects, namely up to 1500 houses – a new settlement – and buildings for 3rd party companies and institutions, all of which seems to us to amount to property development rather than research and which would have a serious impact on traffic.

The archive continues to grow and we're very grateful to those people who have given or lent photos and other items. As usual we put out a display of archives at the fete. We discovered that Lloyd George asked for a comprehensive Land Valuation survey in 1910 and 2 maps of the village and a schedule held at the County Record Office enable the owner and immediate tenant of each property to be identified. We're very grateful to Lavinia Barker who is working on this, together with the 1911 census to map it to current day properties. We're also grateful to Hugh and Lizzie Malloy for trawling through online newspaper archives to find articles about Ickleton to add to the Ickleton Chronicle in due course.

Our WW1 project is continuing with the aim of publishing a book about Ickleton people who we've discovered served in the forces during that war or contributed in other ways such as working at the Norman Hall Red Cross Hospital. We're hoping to launch the book with an event on Saturday 10 November.

We're grateful to the Parish Council for letting the Society use the old telephone box for displaying archive photos and other items for a period of 3 years. Ian Lester is doing a grand job restoring the box, using the correct paint and so on. We're very grateful for him too.

Finally I'd like to thank the Committee for all their contributions during the year. In addition to people I've already mentioned, John Fowler has continued to look after our finances, Madelaine, as our Secretary has the unenviable task of writing up minutes and correspondence but also always helps with filing archive items and organising our events, and Andrew does sterling work looking after the website. Thanks too to Jo Bellamy for joining the Committee this year and creating the post of Membership Secretary. And thank you once again to all our members for continuing to support the Society.

5. Treasurer's Report. A copy of the accounts for the year to 31 March 2018 was provided. John Fowler explained the main items in the accounts and reported that they had been audited by Ken Worthing. This year our expenditure exceeded our income but we ended the year with funds of £1,140.25 so we are in a satisfactory position. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Clare Driver, seconded by Neil McKillen and agreed by the meeting.

6. Members' Questions. None.

7. Election of Officers and Committee. There were no more nominations and :
Chairman – Rachel Radford had been proposed and seconded and was elected unopposed.

John Fowler and Madelaine Smith had been nominated and seconded and were prepared to stand as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Andrew Shepperd, Clare Driver, Fiona Rose and Glynis Hammond had been nominated and seconded and were prepared to stand as members of the

Committee. Jo Bellamy had been nominated and seconded and was prepared to stand as a new member of the committee. There were no other nominations and the meeting agreed that they be appointed en bloc.

8. Election of the Hon. Auditor. Ken Worthing was thanked for auditing the accounts and confirmed that he was happy to continue as auditor. Judy Marshall proposed and Stan Webster seconded that Ken Worthing continue as auditor.

9. GDPR and amendment to the constitution. The adoption of the Society's GDPR policy was proposed by Ken Worthing and seconded by Gerry Birch and was agreed by the meeting. The necessary amendment to the constitution of the Society was proposed by Clare Driver and seconded by Roy Smith and was agreed by the meeting.

10. Any Other Business. none

Guest Speaker

The business of the evening being concluded, refreshments were served, followed by an excellent talk by Sarah Kirkpatrick about the history of Saffron Walden.