

## THE ICKLETON SOCIETY

### Minutes of the thirty eighth Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 8 May 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

**Present:** Rachel Radford ( Chairman), John Fowler (Treasurer), Madelaine Smith (Secretary), Clare Driver, Andrew Sheppard, Fiona Rose, Jo Bellamy, Terry Sadler, Roy Smith, Dawn Bradley, John & Elaine Statham, John Taylor, Ruth Lingard, Ken Worthing, Steve & Freda Edwards, Sue Fowler, Charles Reese. For talk Gerry Birch, John Holt, June Woodward, Jocelyn Flitton, 3 guests from Great Chesterford.

1. **Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the thirty eighth AGM of the Society.
2. **Apologies.** Apologies for absence were received from Lawrence Wragg, Glynis Hammond, Francis Bird, Norma Sheppard, Hugh & Lizzie Molloy, Peter Bricknell.
3. **Minutes of the thirty seventh Annual General Meeting.** Roy Smith proposed that the minutes be adopted as correct, Clare Driver seconded and there were no objections. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.
4. **Chairman's Report.**

Out of the 3 areas the Society's involved in – planning and development, social events and local history and our archives – the most depressing this year has been planning and development. In a way, there's not a lot to say at the present time. We await the outcome of the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Agri-Tech Hub. Thank you to everyone who responded to the consultation on the Uttlesford Local Plan and the North Uttlesford Garden Community. It will be interesting to see what happens now the make-up of UDC has changed. Thanks too for the responses that were sent about the Wellcome Genome Campus expansion proposals. As members will have picked up from an e-mail I sent recently, Wellcome has made some minor changes to the plan which really don't make it any more acceptable. Please do write to the S Cambs planning department about them by 29 May. We also responded to planning applications by Stansted Airport to increase passenger numbers and by Lancaster Garages for car showrooms on the A505. Again I know some you wrote in as well.

We don't often comment on planning applications within the village but 2 applications we'd objected to for new properties outside the village development framework were refused as was an application to demolish a barn ancillary to a Grade 2 listed house.

We've had a mixture of successful social events throughout the year. Thanks to Clare for organising the mini steam up on a fabulous day in May last year - 2 wonderful engines and a van, Martin Woodhead's model steam engine built by his father and Derek Rule's organ engine were on show. The videos were fantastic particularly the one of Joe Bibby's steam roller stuck in the mud going into his yard and Roy Coulson, Derek Rule, Johnny Newton and Andy Rule coming to help Joe get it out. We had an interesting talk by Sarah Kirkpatrick about the history of Saffron Walden at last year's AGM followed up by a walking tour round the town on a lovely warm evening later in the month. There are so many things I realised I didn't see when I went shopping. Saffron Screen returned with a Pop-Up cinema showing of 'Finding Your Feet' in October. I'll come to the centenary of the end of WW1 in a moment. Thanks to Fiona and Clare for organising the ever popular New Year's Day walk and soup lunch. Thanks also to Clare for organising the annual litter pick and finally this year, we had another ceilidh with the Cambridge University Ceilidh Band which was great fun and Keith and Linda Miller did a much appreciated sausage supper for us.

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're grateful to Hugh Malloy for continuing to go through online newspaper archives to find articles about Ickleton to add to the

Ickleton Chronicle in due course. Andrew reformatted the existing Ickleton Chronicle and that can now be bought as a Kindle version from Amazon as well as in paper form from ourselves. Ian Lester did a fabulous job refurbishing the old telephone box for us and that is now a mini exhibition space for archive photos.

Now turning to the marking of the centenary of the end of WW1, this I feel was a major achievement for the Society. A huge amount of work went into both the book and the exhibition. The project was started by Sheila Birch with the aim of producing a booklet about the men who had died. That was taken over by Neil and subsequently Glynis but other things happened. You may remember that we had a couple of talks about WW1, the impact on villages and the Red Cross Hospitals. Then the Red Cross started putting their records of VADs on to their website and 2 albums of photographs of patients and VADs at the Ickleton Hospital came up for auction on eBay which we managed to purchase with the help of people in the village. Well to cut a longish story short I felt it was important to mark the contributions made by the men who returned from the war, nurses and the volunteers at the hospital and started researching them so the project mushroomed!

We were successful in getting grants from South Cambs District Council and the Wellcome Genome Campus towards printing costs of the book so residents and descendants could have copies free of charge, and also from the Armed Forces Covenant for some of the 'There But Not There' Tommies. The book and the exhibition were a huge success. I must thank Glynis for kicking the project off, helping me set the book out in a way that made it interesting for the reader and for her artistic flare with the display boards for the exhibition. Thanks too to others on the Committee for proof reading, publicity, putting together and manning the exhibition. Also thanks to residents and descendants of people in the book for giving or loaning photographs and other memorabilia and to those who read war poems at the event. The Peace roses were very kindly provided by Clare and planted on the Green by her and Anne-Marie Hoare in memory of Marley and to mark the centenary. As you'll have seen the Parish Council put up plaques by the roses and on the iron seat round the chestnut tree which Andrew and I had discovered was planted by Fred Godfrey to mark the end of the war.

I feel slightly embarrassed to say that Fiona nominated me, and Glynis and Sian provided references, as a result of which I've been awarded one of 6 awards given by the British Association for Local History for personal achievement and I go to a ceremony in London on 1 June.

We've a number of events already planned for the coming months, some already advertised in Icene or an e-mail to members:

- An archaeological dig at Abbey Farm from 1 to 8 June to try and establish what looked like foundations of a building found by the geophys survey. Everyone's welcome to come along and have a look or even, we hope, have a go with the help of the experts.
- A return walk to the Baulks on Sunday 30 June followed by a picnic back in the village – probably lunch time.
- We may be putting on an exhibition to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fire at the Church on 24 August and the subsequent rediscovery of the medieval wall paintings.
- We hope to persuade Sebastian to host another winetasting in the autumn.

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 Fiona for managing our Facebook pages and doing our publicity and to Jo as Membership Secretary. And thank you 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 2019 was provided. John Fowler explained the main items in the accounts and reported that they had been audited by Ken Worthing. Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Clare Driver, seconded by John Taylor and agreed by the meeting.

**6. Members' Questions.** On behalf of another person, Clare Driver asked if we ever write to approve planning matters. The chairman replied that this was not one of our functions, but the responsibility of

the Parish Council. By default if we don't submit objections to developments we are either neutral or support.

**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, Glynis Hammond and Jo Bellamy had been nominated and seconded and were prepared to stand as members 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. Clare Driver proposed and John Fowler seconded that Ken Worthing continue as auditor.

**9. Any Other Business.** none

### **Guest Speaker**

The business of the evening being concluded, refreshments were served, followed by an excellent talk by Hilary Ritchie about the history of Addenbroke's Hospital.