

NORTH MARSTON HISTORY CLUB

DRAFT MINUTES OF AGM

17TH JANUARY 2023

The Annual General Meeting of the NMHC was held on 17th January 2023.

PRESENT: John Spargo, Sue Chaplin, David Bayly, Jennifer Heffer, Rosemary Morton, Janet Gowin, Jayne Springer, Tricia McSweeney, Robert Ayres, Jo Ayres, Richard Cheshire, Tony Franklin, Neil Tuckett, David Perrett, Janet Logsdail, Stephen Logsdail, Ewart Watson, David Midwinter, Bob Sharp, Jane Docwra, Peter Docwra, David Body, John Tate, Clive Robinson, Sandra Bunyan, Val Newby, Lynda Oakes.

APOLOGIES: Elizabeth Crocker, Anne Ketteridge, Paul Ketteridge, Nikki Day, Jayne Dancer, Tom Dancer, Hilary King, Len King, Gill Hitchings, Lionel Hitchings

AGENDA

1. Welcome John Spargo, Chairman, welcomed everyone.

2. Approval of Minutes of 2022 AGM The Minutes of the North Marston History Club AGM 2022 were approved by Janet Gowin and seconded by Rosemary Morton.

3. Election of Chairman John Spargo was elected Chairman, nominated by Jayne Springer and seconded by Peter Docwra..

4.Re-election of Club Committee The following elections took place for roles on the NMHC Committee:

Function	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chairman	John Spargo	Jayne Springer	Peter Docwra
Secretary	Sue Chaplin	*	*
Treasurer	David Bayly	*	*
Membership Secretary	Jennifer Heffer	*	*
Sales Co-ordinator	Janet Gowin	*	*
Archivists	John Spargo Sue Chaplin	*	*
Internet Researcher	Jayne Springer	*	*
Publicity/Distribution	Rosemary Morton	*	*

* These Committee members were nominated, seconded and re-elected on a block vote approved by Lynda Oakes and seconded by Stephen Logsdail.

3. Treasurer's Report

It was great to be able to get back to our usual programme of meetings and events starting in May this year and to see our membership start to get back to normal.

This year we have sold four more copies of "The North Marston Story" as well as a number of Pilgrim Badges and leaflets which gives us additional income.

The sale of Calendars and Christmas Cards each year provides some additional income for the club with this year the cards being particularly successful. We do not make a great profit on the calendars and cards but they are well received and contribute to our ongoing financial stability.

John has given a couple of talks and village tours this year to U3A Groups which provided some further income.

We have just been awarded a grant of £500.00 from the Buckinghamshire Council Community Board to be used for the scanning of various documents for archiving. This will be used during 2023 and it is hoped that we may be able to access further funds from the community Board in the future.

In July a partially subsidized visit to the Maidenhead Heritage Centre was organized which was very successful and well appreciated by all who attended.

As well as our normal costs of printing Newsletters, meeting flyers etc. we have incurred a number of costs associated with improving the audio visual system in the Wesley Centre. These will allow us to be more self-contained for PA at meetings.

We have also purchased additional display equipment which has allowed us to better display leaflets and other promotional material and allowed Sue Chaplin to prepare a great display about the village during World War II which was on show after last year's Remembrance Day Service.

The main costs associated with our meetings are the speakers fee, hire of the Wesley Centre and the cost of publicity flyers. In general, the cost of our meetings are covered by membership subs, the raffle and donations for refreshments.

The closure of our bank TSB in Winslow (and in Aylesbury and Princes Risborough) has meant travelling to Milton Keynes for any face- to- face banking services but most of our banking is now conducted on our phones with cheques paid in at the post office in Winslow. So far it has worked!

Our finances have been relatively stable this year although the uncertainty about when to commence our normal schedule of meetings at the beginning of the year had a somewhat negative effect. As we move into 2023 we have a really interesting schedule of meetings which we are sure will attract significant numbers of people and allow North Marston History Club to flourish.

A simple profit and loss account for the calendar year 2022 is attached herewith from which you will see that we have a health balance of £3225.87 in our bank account. We have no outstanding liabilities and there is still significant income from the calendar sale to be received.

North Marston History Club

Year Ending 31st December 2022

Statement Balance b/f 1st January 2022 £2935.74

Receipts

Membership and Donations	565.00
Meetings	327.81
"North Marston Story" Ed 2	92.00
Sundry Booklets and badges	40.00
Calendars and Cards	812.30
Sundry items (see note 1)	982.55
	<u>2819.66</u>
	5755.40

Payments

Printing/copying/stationery	66.68
Meeting expenses	520.78
"North Marston Story" Ed 2	0.00
Calendars and Cards	713.60
Booklets and Leaflets	180.90
Website	156.00
Wesley Centre Hire	160.00
Visit to Maidenhead Heritage Centre	470.00
Sundry Items	261.57
	<u>2529.53</u>

Balance c/f **3225.87**

Statement Balance as at 31st December 3225.87

J Tate

Hon. Auditor

D Bayly

Treasurer

Note 1 Includes £500.00 grant from Buckinghamshire Council for scanning documents.

4. Chairman's Report

John Spargo gave the following report:

The past year has been a very active one for the History Club and it is notable that fledgeling groups in other villages are starting to pick our brains about setting up something very similar.

It is clear our website is a good advertisement for an active group such as ours and is the portal through which we regularly receive enquiries from distant places concerning a myriad of topics related to the village. We also make good use of the North Marston and Granborough Community Facebook Group which now acts as a village magazine and has a membership approaching 1,000. To help people to access the page, especially those not familiar or confident using Face Book, I will soon be running a brief workshop entitled "Face Book for Waverers".

In the first full programme of talks since the Covid closure we have heard about a host of things from The Great Train Robbery to Doodlebugs with local Work-Houses thrown in for good measure. Our list of talks for 2023 has been circulated, the first of which, "Tragic Titanic", will be held on 21st March. This popular topic is likely to attract a large audience. The theme of our calendar for 2022 Christmas sales was the late Queen's 70-year reign and featured pictures from the week-end of activity commemorating her Platinum Jubilee, including the Royal Scarecrows, Bangers and Bubbles and the High Street party.

The Heritage Trail was enlarged during 2022 and now incorporates 13 Viewpoints. The Club is planning to enhance this further by producing Landmark Plaques for properties mentioned in the Heritage Trail Map Book, subject to householder consent. The Heritage Trail has been used extensively by visiting groups such as University of the Third Age groups, local Beavers, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and village schoolchildren and we anticipate this is set to continue. An event staged at the Memorial Hall in the summer focused on local archaeology and the History Club was a key player in its planning and execution, with the Heritage Trail a very popular focal point.

Towards the end of 2022 the Club was fortunate to receive a £500 grant from the Winslow and Neighbouring Villages Community Board to commission the creation of high-definition digital copies of some of the most frail and unique of North Marston documents in the form

*of deeds, some going back centuries, many on vellum or parchment. In keeping with our strap-line, this really is **safeguarding the future of the past**.*

As ever, I would like publicly to acknowledge the tremendous work of the Club's Executive Committee who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep the show on the road. I also thank you, members of the club, for constantly proving that an idea to form a village History Club in 2010 proved to be something that was appreciated then and continues to be so.

After the conclusion of the Business meeting a film by John Spargo was shown entitled "The History of Carters Lane".

Refreshments were served and a raffle was held.

Sue Chaplin
Secretary to NMHC

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