

# NORTH MARSTON HISTORY CLUB

## DRAFT MINUTES OF AGM

21ST JANUARY 2025

The Annual General Meeting of the NMHC was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

**PRESENT:** John Spargo, Sue Chaplin, David Bayly, Jennifer Heffer, Rosemary Morton, Janet Gowin, Tricia McSweeney, Tony Franklin, Janet Logsdail, Stephen Logsdail, David Midwinter, David Body, Sandra Bunyan, Val Newby, Jackie Lloyd Jones, Jane Derry, Lionel Hitchings, Elizabeth Crocker, Val York, Barbara Fisher, Penny Anderson, Paul Anderson, Diz Minnit, Carole Webb, Robert Webb, David Heffer, Clive Dobbs, Clive Robinson, Hilary King, Jo Ayres, Robert Ayres

**APOLOGIES:** Pete York

### **AGENDA**

**1. Welcome** David Bayly, Joint Chairman, welcomed everyone.

**2. Approval of Minutes of 2024 AGM** The Minutes of the North Marston History Club AGM 2024 were approved by Rosemary Morton and seconded by David Midwinter.

**3. Election of Joint Chairmen** David Bayly and Sue Chaplin were re-elected as Joint Chairmen, nominated by Diz Minnit and seconded by John Spargo.

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

Function	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Joint Chairmen	David Bayly Sue Chaplin	Rosemary Morton	Val York
Secretary	Sue Chaplin	*	*
Treasurer	David Bayly	*	*
Technical & Creative Support	John Spargo	Stephen Logsdail David Midwinter	
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 Liz Crocker and seconded by Hilary King

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

David Bayly gave the following report:

*2024 has been another successful year for the North Marston History Club with a full programme of talks and a stable financial position.*

*In general, the cost of our meetings is covered by membership subscriptions and entry fees for non-members, the raffle and donations for refreshments. We also make a small additional income from the sale of booklets and pilgrim badges.*

*The sale of the 2025 calendar this year has also be particularly successful having, like last year, sold nearly all of the calendars making a profit of approximately £300.*

*Our initiative to mark the centenary of the opening of the Memorial Hall by the installation of two plaques with the names of those who fell in two world wars and the subsequent Malayan Conflict was made possible this year by generous contributions of £2500 from the Winslow Community Board and £1000 from Clocklands and Poors Piece. This money together with the generous contributions of £500 each given in 2023 by Neil Tuckett, The Shop, and MADS, plus sundry donations from a number of other individuals and our contribution of £1000, allowed us to order the bronze plaques from the foundry in March. The history club donation included £200 which was a bequest to us from Janet Long. The total cost of the plaques was £5928.*

*We also gratefully acknowledge the gift of £300 from the North Marston Parish Council which covered the courier transport of the plaques from Edinburgh and the preparation of a display about the people commemorated. This display, prepared by Sue Chaplin, was exhibited in the Memorial Hall following the unveiling of the plaques in November and attracted considerable attention and positive comment.*

*During the year we purchased a SumUp card reader which will allow us to accept payment by debit or credit cards for subs and merchandise. We also bought a number of new wreaths to be used at Memorial Day services.*

*This year John has given talks and village tours to two U3A Groups which have provided a further addition to our income.*

*We now undertake nearly all of our banking operations by mobile banking and would encourage members to make direct payment into our bank account via BACS whenever this is possible. Please ensure that your reference identifies what the payment is for.*

*A simple profit and loss account for the calendar year 2024 is attached herewith. Our bank account stands at £2660.20 which is satisfactory as we look forward to another year of interesting talks and events.*

#### **North Marston History Club**

#### **Year Ending 31st December 2024**

Statement Balance b/f. 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 £3617.36

#### **Receipts**

Membership and Donations	397.00
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Meetings	435.35	
"North Marston Story" Ed 2	0.00	
Sundry Booklets and badges	38.03	
Calendars and Cards	702.36	
Sundry items	105.74	
Memorial Hall Plaques	3895.00	
		5573.48
		<u>9190.84</u>

### Payments

Printing/copying/stationery	211.76	
Meeting expenses incl. hire of WC	562.60	
Website		223.50
Calendars	544.08	
Booklets and Leaflets	28.60	
Sundry Items incl. equipment	321.04	
Memorial Hall plaques.	4639.06	
		<u>6530.64</u>
Balance c/f		<b>2660.20</b>

Statement Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> December      2660.20

J Tait	David Bayly
Hon. Auditor	Treasurer

### North Marston History Club Reconciliation 2024

Bank Balance per statement 01.01.24	£3617.36
Bank balance per statement 31.12.24	£2660.20
Cheques uncashed	
	0.0
	0.00

Income to be banked

0.00

0.00

Reconciled bank balance 31.12.24 2660.20

Diff 957.16

Income 5573.48

Expenditure 6530.64

Diff 957.16

Opening Balance 3617.36

Closing Balance 2660.20

#### **4. Chairman's Report**

Sue Chaplin gave the following report:

*2024 was another very busy and successful year for the History Club.*

*We continued our programme of bi-monthly talks on the diverse topics of the Chearsley pilgrims, the Royal Bucks Hospital, the Suffragettes, air travel safety, medieval bee-keeping and trench humour in the Great War. All were well attended and, by popular demand, we have invited John Flewin back in November to give us the talk on the Royal Bucks Hospital again as several people missed it.*

*Our calendar this year entitled "Marston Through the Seasons" once again proved extremely popular and was virtually sold out by Christmas. Many thanks to David Bayly for again dealing with the internet company to get it ready for publication, a task which can sometimes prove very frustrating.*

*Our thanks to John Spargo for his two talks to U3A members from Thame and Wendover who visited the village this year and also to the committee who provided refreshments.*

*Our website continues to generate a lot of interest and hosts enquiries from people around the world. It remains our major portal for links outside the village and helps with sales of publications, family history searches and general research. This year, for example, we were contacted by a gentleman writing about his grandfather who had been a pupil at Schorne College, the private school sited in the churchyard which was demolished in the 1930s. On a typical day the site gets between 20 and 30 views. Occasionally these might spike to over 50 when there has been an event such as Remembrance Day or some History postings on Facebook. A very big thank you to John for monitoring the webpage and promoting the club on The North Marston Community FaceBook Group which has nearly 1600 members so assures the club of wide-ranging publicity.*

*Without doubt the biggest event of 2024 for the History Club was the erection of the two bronze plaques on the outside of the Memorial Hall commemorating the dead of the First and Second World Wars and the Malayan Conflict. When we came up with this idea and designed the plaques we thought it would be apt for their unveiling and dedication to coincide with the centenary of the opening of the Memorial Hall in 1924. Remembrance Sunday seemed the perfect occasion. We are indebted to Neil Tuckett for all his help arranging for the foundry in Scotland to cast the bronze plaques and to James Tattam for putting them up. We would not have been able to do this without the generous donations we received which David has already mentioned in the Treasurer's report. As I said in my introductory speech on Remembrance Day: 'In the Bucks Herald newspaper article about the opening of the Memorial Hall in April 1924 was written "It is hoped in due course to erect a memorial tablet in commemoration of the men who died in the service of their country". Now, 100 years later, that has been accomplished'.*

*2025 sees the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the History Club and the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of "The North Marston Story". David and I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work and support throughout the year as well as the band of distributors who deliver our newsletters throughout the village. And to end, we'd like to thank all of our members who continue to support us and help keep the show on the road.:*

After the conclusion of the Business meeting a film by John Spargo was shown entitled "The Granborough King-Killer".

Refreshments were served and a raffle was held.

Sue Chaplin  
Secretary to NMHC