

Paper 1

SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The 2023 Annual General Meeting on 20th May

Held at Taunton Friends Meeting House, Bath Place, Taunton TA1 4EP

MINUTES

Present

Chris Chanter (Chair), Lizzie Induni(Vice-Chair), Martin Salzer (Hon Treasurer), Christine Webster (Hon Secretary), David Reid (Trustee), Emma Turk (Trustee), James Spencer (Trustee), Stephen Parker, Nigel Pearce (President), Robin Cloke, Betty Cloke, Chris J Webster, Carole Dimmer, Matthew Blows, Massie Dinning, James Vernor, David Bromwich, Bruce Induni, David Victor, Keith Gould, Eileen Gould, Chris Jessop, Robert Dunning, Sue Goodman, David Baker, Pat Wolseley, Chris Sidaway, Trevor Rees, Jill Strobridge, John Page, Mary Ewing, Marilyn Crothers, Mary Siraut, Colin Spackman.

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Chris Chanter welcomed members to the 2023 Annual General Meeting. He thanked Louisa Gillett for all her help as well as the Executive officers of Lizzie Induni, Martin Salzer and Christine Webster. He also thanked all the Trustees for their work over the past year.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from David and Vicky Dawson, Jim Hart, Natividad Jimenez, Shane Hipsley, Rachel Shaw, Simon Bonvoison, Julia Weare, David and Madeleine Roberts, John Townson, Ian Keys, Alan and Caroline Hudson.

3. Inductions

3.1 Induction of Stephen Parker as President for the year 2023/2024.

Stephen Parker was inducted as President for 2023/24

3.2 Induction of Nigel Pearce and David Dawson as Vice-Presidents for the year 2023/2024.

Nigel Pearce and David Dawson were inducted as Vice-Presidents for 2023/24.

4. Minutes

4.1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 7th May 2022.

Members unanimously adopted the meeting minutes as an accurate record of last year's AGM.

4.2 Minutes of General Meeting held on 16th July 2022

Members unanimously adopted the meeting minutes as an accurate record of the General Meeting held on 16th July 2022.

5. Trustee Reports 2022

5.1 Chairman's Report 2022

The Chairman's Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions.

5.2 Annual Report and Annual Accounts 2022

These had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions. Chris Chanter proposed both reports, which were adopted unanimously by the members. Martin Salzer gave a presentation on the society's funds and finances.

5.3 Report of the Heritage Grants Committee 2022

The Heritage Grants Committee report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

6. Elections for 2023/24

6.1 Election of Trustees to the Board

The re-election of Lizzie Induni as a trustee was proposed by David Victor and seconded by David Reid. This was supported unanimously by members.

The election of James Spencer as a trustee was proposed by Chris Chanter and seconded by Bruce Induni. This was supported unanimously by members.

6.2 Election of Executive Officers

The three Executive Officers of Lizzie Induni as Chair, Martin Salzer as Honorary Treasurer and Christine Webster as Honorary Secretary were elected unanimously by members.

The position of Vice-Chair is vacant and Lizzie Induni asked if anyone was interested, to come forward or to let the Executive know.

Chris Jessop put forward the proposal that trustees should be allowed to elect their Vice-Chair. This was supported unanimously by members.

6.3 Election of Committee Members

Committee members were elected en bloc.

6.4 Appointment of Independent Financial Examiner

Anthony Porter of Amherst and Shapland was appointed as the Independent Financial Examiner.

6.5 Appointment of Honorary Librarian and Deputy Honorary Librarian

David Bromwich was appointed Honorary Librarian and Sue Goodman as Deputy Honorary Librarian.

6.6 Appointment of Proceedings Editor

Rob Webley was appointed as Proceedings editor.

7. Reports

7.1 Subject Committee Reports for 2022

7.2 SANHS Museum Collection Report 2022

7.3 SANHS Library and Archives Collection Report 2022

Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions.

7.4 Somerset Record Society Report 2022

Dr Robert Dunning informed the members of the work of the Somerset Record Society over the past 2 years including the completion of Volume 99 in 2021 and a paperback guide to Bishop Registers in 2022.

Matthew Blows addressed the meeting on the progress of conversion to CIO. He explained that the Charity Commission proposes a constitution which, it is hoped, will form the basis of SANHS CIO constitution with slight amendments. Trustees would have limited liability although would still have legal obligations. It was hoped that our application would be submitted within the next few days. Assets and liabilities would be then listed, ready for transfer in December 2023.

It was explained that the two charities would run alongside for a while in 2024 to enable all monies (from subscriptions and donations) to be transferred across. CIO trustees would be appointed by the existing trustees until they could be elected at the 2024 AGM.

A number of questions were asked by members on the practicalities of the conversion.

Chris Jessop thanked the Board for all their work in getting this process started. Lizzie Induni thanked Matthew Blows for all his efforts in this conversion and his support to the Board.

8. Proposals

8.1 To approve the arrangements for the dissolution of SANHS and the transfer of its assets and liabilities to SANHS CIO.

The proposal was unanimously adopted by the members.

8.2 To approve an amendment to the present Society's Constitution to allow the removal of Holding Trustees.

The proposal was unanimously adopted by the members.

Nigel Pearce, SANHS retiring President then gave a Presidential Address on the Changing Face of Commercial Taunton.

The Annual General Meeting finished at 12.45.

