

THORNER & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the 45th Annual General Meeting held at the Fox Inn, Main Street, Thorne on Wednesday 12^h March 2014 at 7.00pm.

1. Apologies: Ann Wigglesworth, Rita Saville Stones & Richard Gibson

2. The Minutes The minutes of the last AGM were left out on the tables to be read. The minutes were agreed as true and accurate record, proposed by Mrs Ann Wamsley and seconded by Cllr Ann Castle

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman David Walmsley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming. He then thanked the committee for their help and support, and also the Parish Council for their continued financial support for the archive storage room.

He said that we have two trips booked for this year, the first to visit the Vulcan Experience at Robin Hood Airport, on 27th March with a pub lunch on the way home, which still had places on the coach. The second on 5th June to Liverpool, which will include a guided tour of the city, and free time to explore whatever places of interest take your fancy.

He then explained that the spring meeting which would be held as usual in the Victory Hall would be given by Victor Hawkins of Wetherby Historical Trust on 'The Old Wetherby Rural District Council' which included many of the surrounding villages including Thorne.

David told the meeting that Angus had in effect resigned as Treasurer in January and that Val Forster had volunteered to take on the post.

4. Secretary's Report

Gwen Brown explained that it had been another busy year for her with much of her time been taken up with correspondence and research. As well as the numerous enquiries from people all over the world, contacting her through the village website, who are doing their family history, she had also spent much of her time researching the families of the soldiers who had volunteered and been recruited for the First World War.

She explained that this was in many ways emotionally very exhausting especially as she knew personally many of their descendants. She then said that Val Forster, Richard Gibson, David Miller and herself had been on a visit to The National Archive at Kew to help with this research and had also been on numerous Day Schools organized by The University at Leeds. Much of this work will be available later in the year on the website and in a book being written by David Miller and published as a joint venture with the Victory Hall. There would also be an exhibition and various other events to coincide with the 100 year anniversary on WWI and the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Victory Hall.

Gwen reported that last year's trip to Pickering and Whitby when the second leg of the journey had been taken by train on the North Yorkshire Railway, had been a great success with all the places on the coach having been booked by the end of March.

5. The Treasurer's Report

Angus started by handing out copies of the statement of accounts for the year ending December 2012. He also then read out the attached report of expenditure and income.

6. Community Archive Report

Richard Gibson had sent his apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting. Gwen and Val said that it had been a very busy year for Richard as all the archive material had to be re-entered into the new computerised archive system. Richard had also been working very hard on setting up the historical society website which should be available very shortly. Members of the committee then discussed the Archive Coffee Morning that had been arranged for Saturday 5th April in the Methodist Meeting Room on Main Street, it was agreed that we needed to hold a sub-committee meeting to organise this as soon as possible. Gwen agreed to contact Richard and organise this on Richard's return.

Election of Officers:

Chairman – David then stood down as chairman and said that he would only stand for a further year. Nominations for chair were then taken.

Chairman - Mr David Walmsley proposed by Gwen Brown and seconded by Liz Lorraines.

Vice Chairman – As there were two nominations for Vice Chair, Angus Yates and Margaret Derrick, a secret voting form was passed around. Result:

Vice Chairman – Mr Angus Yates

Secretary – As there were no other nominations Mrs Gwen Brown was voted in unanimously.

Treasurer – Mrs Val Forster - proposed by Gwen Brown and seconded by Sue Elliott.

Archivist – As there were no other nominations Mr Richard Gibson was voted in unanimously.

The rest of the committee were all prepared to re-stand and a further two nominations were made. Val Forster proposed Mr Graham Castle and Angus Yates proposed Mr Paul Thompson.

The rest of the committee were then unanimously returned en bloc .

Committee Members – Mrs Margaret Derrick, Mrs Sue Elliott, Mrs Ann Wigglesworth, Mr Graham Castle, Mrs Rita Saville-Stones, representative for Shadwell and Mr Paul Thompson for Scarcroft.

AOB None

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm and the evening finished off with a social gathering.