



**Vale of Evesham Civic Society**  
**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**  
**at Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham on Tuesday 9 April 2019**

1. Present: Mr & Mrs Ron Allen, Mr Stu Allerton, Mr Tom Ashley, Mr C Bostle, Mrs S Campbell, Mr B Chilver, Mr J Goodwin, Mrs Jackie Magowan, Ms Lizzie Noyes, Mrs Gillian Pawson, Mr Adrian Peake, Mr J Powell, Mr & Mrs I Stanton, Mr Colin Tether, Mrs M Hodgetts.
2. Apologies: Mr and Mrs D Osbourne; Jill Haycock; Richard Thomson; Cefn Blundell; Dr Sue Ablett; Sue and John Picton; Linda Hart; Lindsay Tether; Barbara Goodwin; Robert Hale; Jean Powell; Ken Pawson; Ann Albright; Caroline Abbey.
2. Approval of Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on 10 April 2018 and signed by the Chairman
3. Matters arising from previous meeting. C Tether reported an update on the Enlighten project. At the meeting of the Evesham Town Council on the previous evening it was agreed that the revised scheme for the Almonry should go ahead; a planning application will be made.
4. Annual Report. The detailed report had been circulated with the Spring Newsletter. Clive Bostle of the Ramblers Association congratulated the committee on its work responding to the various planning applications affecting the town. Sue Campbell reported on the successful trips that she had organised for members last year and reminded members of the trips for the forthcoming summer. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Chadbury Farm Shop to thank them for allowing members to park for the day while going out on a coach trip.
5. Hon Treasurer's Report. The 2018/19 accounts were circulated, having been audited prior to the meeting. Adrian Peake drew attention to the large amounts spent on leaflets and half of the cost of the rebuild of the website. These are capital outlay which will serve the society for a number of years, so will not be a recurring expense. The leaflets are to try to attract new members and many were delivered last year to new properties in town, although with only a small number of members recruited. It was agreed that attendance at the events in town e.g. Evesham Battle re-enactment are better opportunities for member recruitment.
6. Election of Officers
  1. Chairman - Jim Powell agreed to continue for one more year.
  2. Vice Chairman – not elected
  3. Hon Treasurer – Adrian Peake
  4. Hon Secretary – Gill Pawson
7. Election of Executive Committee. It was agreed that all existing committee members continue, namely Richard Thomson, Cefn Blundell, Brian Chilver, Pat and Ian Stanton, Susan Campbell.



8. Appointment of Auditors. It was agreed that Peter Gay should continue.

9. Open Forum.

- Colin Tether thanked Pat Stanton for her efforts to get the old BT Telephone Exchange repainted. Pat commented that there is more repair work needed and she will continue to ask for it to be done.
- John Goodwin commented on the garish shop signs that have appeared on Bridge Street, in the Conservation Area. Ian Stanton reported that he had sent an email to WDC Heritage Officer, with photographs, pointing out that these are inappropriate in the CA. He also referred to the row of satellite dishes on the first floor elevations, which should have planning permission and do not have. Ian will chase for a response.
- Brian Chilver commented that WDC is unable to fulfil its responsibilities for the Conservation Area due to a shortage of skilled staff. However, on behalf of the VECS he undertook a survey of the CA, noting areas that need improvement. He had hoped to work with the Evesham Town Council and VECTA to put together an initiative to encourage property owners to undertake some basic repairs and improvements, for the benefit of the town as a whole. This initiative stalled, but is to be re-instated after the council elections, working with the Town Plan Group. It is likely that any noticeable improvements will take 2 years, so the incentive of the group will be to achieve some improvements in time for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VECS. John Goodwin expressed his thanks to Brian for his efforts so far,
- The state of the listed Avonbridge House was remarked upon. Jim reported that he had written to WDC to ask them to take action for its improvement.
- The use of capital letters in new shop fronts was criticised; these are not in accordance with the Wychavon Shop Front Guide.
- The state of 86 High Street was commented on. Ian Stanton reported that a planning application had just been submitted for the creation of 2 ground floor shops with housing above. He remarked that this may be in the form of a HMO, which would not be desirable in this location.
- Clive Bostle asked if the members know why a property on the left hand side of Worcester Road had not been finished and what the future of the nursery site on Abbey Road is to be. The latter has outline permission for housing; details are awaited. He also asked what the future of the old Police Station is likely to be; this is as yet unknown. He remarked on the eyesore created by old posters around the town.
- Colin Tether praised the work of the Town Council gardeners in keeping the flowers and gardens of the town in good condition. He also praised the work of the anti-letter group in keeping the town virtually litter free.
- Pat Stanton remarked that more needs to be done to keep the bus shelters and gutters clean and that pride in the town needs to be generated.
- Brian Chilver ended the meeting by thanking Jill Haycock for all of her work while on the committee; this was endorsed by the members present.