



Vale of Evesham Civic Society Annual General Meeting
at Ecgwins Club, 117 High Street, Evesham on 12 April 2022

Minutes

1. Present: Gill Pawson, Brian Chilver, Adrian Peake, Pat and Ian Stanton, Julie and Tim Haines, Sue Campbell, Anne Albright, Tom Ashley, Carol and Richard Thomson, Denise and David Bailey, Jim Powell and Robert Hale.
2. Apologies: Sue Ablett, Galen Bartholomew, Colin and Linsey Tether, Jackie Hale, Caroline Abbey, David and Janet Osborne, John and Barbara Goodwin, Jill Haycock, Franco Scimeca.
2. Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting on 21 September 2021 were approved.
3. Matters arising from previous meeting. None
4. Annual Report. Gill Pawson highlighted some of the activities of the committee during the 6 months since the delayed AGM in September 2021. The financial year of the Society runs from March to February, so a return to an AGM in April will allow the resumption of annual meetings in line with the financial year.
 - Few planning applications had been submitted that required the submission of formal responses. Instead, enforcement issues were focussed on; it was possible to report some success in the removal or at least the reduction in size of external posters on shop windows, especially on Port Street. A new Enforcement Officer at Wychavon District Council is being very effective in achieving some results.
 - Efforts continued to highlight the problems of poor maintenance of Listed Buildings and other buildings in the town centre Conservation Area. Letters to owners/tenants has had a limited effect but some successes have meant that the Society could seek some publicity in the Evesham Journal. Efforts will continue during the next year. Jim Powell suggested asking Wychavon District Council to get involved; Gill Pawson agreed that this will be the next step.
 - It was possible to report that progress has at last been made to achieve improvements at Bengeworth fountain. Additional funding has been provided by Wychavon District Council and County Councillor Emma Stokes from her divisional fund, which will enable the cattle trough from the Almonry back garden back to a location close to its original position, plus a new seat. Ringway contractors, which now runs the County Council's parish team will be undertaking the groundworks during the week of 16-20 May.
 - Our Facebook page is regularly updated by Julie Haines and Gill Pawson manages the website.
 - Members talks resumed in the autumn, thanks to efforts by Sue Campbell to arrange speakers. Trips will resume this summer.
5. Hon Treasurer's Report was presented by Adrian Peake, who highlighted the following.
 - There was a slight increase in the number of members and thus the income from subscriptions.



- The costs of meetings was higher than 2020, as Covid had prevented member meetings in that year.
 - Room hire at Egwins Club now has to be paid.
 - A capital investment had been made by the purchase of a gazebo, with walls, for use at events. The cost included a banner with the Society's name on it, to attach to the front of the gazebo. Total cost of £387.
 - The Society sponsored a Battle Shield, as a way of supporting the Battle of Evesham weekend.
 - The Society paid the VAT element of the cost of the new information board at Bengeworth Fountain, the main cost having been met by a grant from Evesham Town Council.
 - The deposit has been paid for the hire of the room at the Rowing Club, for the 50th Anniversary party to be held on 18 June.
 - The loss this year is equates almost exactly to the cost of the capital equipment.
6. Officers were elected by agreement of all those present, as proposed by Ann Albright.
1. Chairman – Gill Pawson
 2. Vice Chairman – Brian Chilver
 3. Hon Treasurer – Adrian Peake
 4. Hon Secretary – vacant.
7. The Executive Committee members were elected by agreement of all of those present as follows, as proposed by Ann Albright: Pat and Ian Stanton, Sue Campbell and Julie and Tim Haines.
8. Appointment of Auditors; Peter Gay has agreed to continue to audit the accounts and this was agreed by the members present.
9. Any Other Business:
- Robert Hale informed members of the forthcoming review of the Evesham Town Plan, under the jurisdiction of the Evesham Town Council Town Plan committee. A discussion took place on replacing the Town Plan with a Neighbourhood Plan; it was agreed that the funds and effort are unlikely to be forthcoming at the moment.
 - Tim Haines has volunteered to prepare current photos of all of the Listed Buildings in town, to add to the files of photos taken in 1992, in celebration of the Society's 20th Anniversary.
 - Discussions took place about the problems of banners and posters put up around the town, on railings, lamp posts etc, but then not removed after the event that they were advertising. Gill Pawson agreed to find out if the Outdoor Advertising Regulations contain any measure to allow the District Council to take action on this.
 - Ann Albright offered a visit to her woodland for members; a date to be arranged for the summer.

The evening finished with a talk by Gill Pawson, on the First 50 years of VECS.