

THE WARWICK SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 2020

The Society's activities were necessarily very limited for most of last year. We had two successful 'Zoom' meetings in the autumn, and hope to arrange more for the spring. We all look forward to proper meetings, let alone the rest of normal life, resuming. I have repeatedly delayed organising the AGM for 2020, in the hope that a 'real' meeting could be held, but can do so no longer.

So we have made arrangements for the 2020 Annual General Meeting to be held by video conference, as permitted by the government's changes in statutory requirements. The formal notice of the meeting is below, the minutes of the 2019 meeting are on pages 2 and 3, and the Accounts for 2019 on pages 4 and 5. Members are receiving by post a note which explains the practical arrangements for the meeting and includes a Proxy Form for voting on the formal business. Proxy forms count towards the quorum which we must have for the meeting, so do please return it whether or not you will be 'on screen'.

The sixty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held by video conference at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12 January 2021

Agenda:

1 Apologies for Absence.

2 Minutes of the sixty-eighth AGM, held on 14 June 2019:

Attached, pages 2/3.

Approval.

Matters Arising.

3 Annual Report 2019:

Verbal report by the Chairman.

General Discussion

4 Accounts 2019:

Attached, pages 4/5.

Discussion.

Approval.

5 Election of Members of the Committee

Christine Baker and Christine Hodgetts retire from the committee in rotation. Both are willing to stand for re-election. Gill Smith, co-opted to the committee since the last AGM, stands down. She is willing to stand for election.

Any member of the Society wishing to propose another member for election to the Committee is asked to give notice of the proposal and of the willingness of the person proposed to be elected.

We draw attention to the opportunity which the Articles give to the committee to co-opt members during the year. If you might consider joining the committee, but are not willing to put yourself forward for election at this stage, please contact any member of the committee.

6 Any Other Business

Any member wishing to raise a matter of other business is asked if possible to give notice before the start of the meeting.

THE WARWICK SOCIETY
Minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting of the Warwick Society
held in the Unitarian Chapel, High Street
on Friday, 14th June 2019

Present: **Vice President:** Antony Butcher, **Chairman:** James Mackay, **Members of the Committee:** Hilary Holland, Christine Baker, Linda Butler, Peter Lamb, Julie Dent and Jerry Birkbeck. **Society Members:** Denise Godfrey, Noel Butler, John Holland, Noel Reeve, Dame Fiona Caldicott, Robert Caldicott, Gwenda Rowlands, Dr. Lesley Hall, Jenny Lamb, Archie Pitts, Marianne Pitts, Michael Morrison, Joan Clark, Valerie Grimmer, Jo Birkbeck, and Jolyon Hall.

James welcomed members to the AGM.

Apologies: Peter and Olive Kerr, Margaret Moore, Elizabeth Higgins, Heather Lynn, Jean Liggins, Marta Pittarello, Chrissie and Peter Young, John Fletcher*, Tim Clark, Jill Smith, Sue Butcher, Richard Chamberlain and Christine Hodgetts..

**John had informed the committee of his desire to relinquish the role of Membership Secretary for health reasons.*

Matters of the previous meeting:

The acceptance of the minutes of the 67th AGM was proposed by Lesley Hall and seconded by Noel Butler and carried unanimously.

Matters Arising:

James informed the meeting that a search for accounts with better interest rates had taken place and Linda would give further information in her report.

Annual Report 2019:

The Annual Report had been circulated to members. James drew members' attention to:

- The summary of meetings – Hilary had worked hard to organise the programme, for which she was thanked.
- Designation of a Conservation Area, within the WDC boundary, along both sides of the Grand Union and Stratford canals – James was heartened that WDC adopted this proposal following input by WS and others.
- River Avon navigation – James was pleased that the scheme had been dropped because there would be little economic benefit.
- The built environment – James had outlined a number of projects and their impact on the townscape. He explained the role of CAF, which is comprised of a mixture of statutory and voluntary groups, and on which WS is represented. James commended the newly employed WDC Conservation Officer, Robert Dawson, for his work with the Forum.

James requested questions from the floor.

- A member was interested in rumours about the ownership of the King's High School site. James informed the meeting that he would be attending a meeting with the developers and Warwick Town Council, at which proposals would be presented, in the next few days.
- A member was upset by planning battles lost as described in the Annual Report.

Acceptance of the Report was proposed by Archie Pitts, seconded by Jenny Lamb and carried by a majority.

The Society's Accounts:

The Accounts had been circulated previously.

- Linda informed the meeting about her search, on the committee's behalf, for better interest rates for our funds. The Shawbrook Account (interest rate 1.3%) was at its limit. In the current financial year (to appear on the next balance sheet) £30,000 had been transferred to Coventry Building Society to take advantage of the 0.75% interest rate on their easy access account.

Questions were invited from the floor.

- Society Vice-President, Anthony Butcher, asked the committee to address the need to disseminate funds from the Styles Bequest. The current funding deficit of the Lord Leycester Hospital was brought to the meeting's attention by a member who suggested that substantial funds would benefit a hugely significant building.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Antony Butcher and seconded by Archie Pitts. This was carried by a unanimous vote.

James thanked the Examiner of the Accounts, Joan White, for her work.

Elections to the Committee:

No proposals had been received.

James Mackay and Jerry Birkbeck were retiring from the committee on rotation. Both were willing to stand for re-election.

It was proposed that the committee be elected en-bloc and this was carried nem.con..

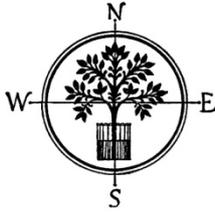
Any Other Business:

James invited members' contributions and gave a potted history of the Society's formation in 1952 as a result of planning decisions, then being taken, deemed detrimental to the Town but instigated without consultation:

- James summarised the current situation as one where development is agreed if it is seen to have an economic benefit and would cause less than substantial harm. He drew the meetings attention to the recent circumstance where the HM Inspector's decision had been overruled by the Planning Minister. He felt that the Society had little power in the current climate.
- A member suggested that society funds could be used to raise awareness/train the planning department in conservation issues.
- Other suggested use of funds:
Lord Leycester Hospital appeal.
Re-development of King's High Site – professional input at draft plan stage.
Part funding of a new bandstand in St Nicholas Park.
- Jerry Birkbeck, on behalf of Friends of Priory Park, drew attention to work needed to improve access for the disabled and he was encouraged to notify the appropriate bodies.
- A member informed the meeting that the Athenaeum was up for sale. No more information was available.

James concluded the meeting by thanking fellow members of the committee and passing on a commendation from Joan White, Examiner of the Accounts, for Linda's work as Treasurer.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6pm and was followed by the Society's Annual Gardens Evening.



THE WARWICK SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 2019

The Warwick Society
 Company Number 674392
 Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Gift Aid Subscriptions	2,739.00		2,798	
Ordinary Subscriptions	319.00		288	
HMRC Tax Refund	702.26		736	
Christmas Social Receipts	1,276.00		851	
Gardens Evening Income	262.50		384	
Donations	230.50		184	
Leaflet sales	325.00		175	
		<u>5,854.26</u>	<u>5,416</u>	
Legacies		-		-
Investment Income				
Shawbrook Bank	1,155.45		1,096	
Lloyds Business Account			11	
Coventry Building Society	160.82			
	<u>1,316.27</u>		<u>1,108</u>	
Coventry Building Society	73.97		5	
Lloyds Business Account	1.94		4	
		<u>1,392.18</u>	<u>1,117</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		<u>7,246.44</u>	<u>6,533</u>	
EXPENDITURE				
Committee Expenses				
Planning Issues	-			
Premises Hire	210.00		231	
Printing & Postage	727.12		453	
Other	23.00		-	
		<u>960.12</u>	<u>684</u>	
Membership Expenses				
Annual Report & Newsletters	42.00		-	
Members expenses	237.71		114	
Premises Hire	900.00		595	
Speakers' expenses	160.00		205	
Christmas Social Event	904.39		695	
Gardens evening	151.10		90	
Internet Service, Software Licences & web renewal	144.00		127	
		<u>2,539.20</u>	<u>1,826</u>	
Donation from Styles Bequest Fund		-		-
Other Gifts & Donations		2,000.00		1,759
Insurance & Legal expenses		283.33		283
Subscriptions		48.00		48
Projects		-		-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>5,830.65</u>	<u>4,599</u>	
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		<u>1,415.79</u>	<u>1,933</u>	
Transfer to funds				
Ordinary Fund		99.52		826
Styles Bequest Fund		1,316.27		1,108

The Warwick Society
Company Number 674392
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
Assets		
Current and Savings Account		
Shawbook Bank	87,028.77	85,873
Lloyds Business Instant	-	22,298
Coventry Building Society	22,458.46	0
	<u>109,487.23</u>	<u>108,171</u>
Coventry Building Society	9,278.67	1,502
Lloyds Business Instant	1,499.59	9,200
Lloyds Current Account	8,874.01	8,452
Lloyds Treasurers Account	-	0
	<u>129,139.50</u>	<u>127,325</u>
less Current Liabilities		
Creditors	<u>860.38</u>	<u>462</u>
	<u><u>128,279.12</u></u>	<u><u>126,863</u></u>
Ordinary Fund		
Balance 1st January 2019	18,692.37	17,867
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	<u>99.52</u>	<u>826</u>
Balance 31st December 2019	<u><u>18,791.89</u></u>	<u><u>18,692</u></u>
Styles Bequest Fund		
Balance 1st January 2019	108,170.96	107,063
Transfers in	-	0
Interest receivable	1,316.27	1,108
	<u>109,487.23</u>	<u>108,171</u>
Balance 31st December 2019	<u><u>128,279.12</u></u>	<u><u>126,863</u></u>

For the year ended 31st December 2019:

- (a) the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. The books and accounts have been independently examined and the examiner's report is attached to the accounts submitted to the directors of the company.
- (b) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
- (c) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- (d) these accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Signed

Chairman

Treasurer