

MUSSELBURGH CONSERVATION SOCIETY A.G.M. 2018

Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 11th October 2018 at 7.30 pm at St Peter's Church Hall, High Street, Musselburgh.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming 60-plus members to the AGM, to the talk and to refreshments afterwards.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Celia Coulson, Den Mather, David & Frances Monaghan, Inez Visser, June Herraghty and Tom Walker.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the A.G.M. held on the 12th October 2017 were adopted, proposed by Alan Stevens and seconded by Diane Mellon.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman commenced by welcoming all members to the meeting and was pleased to see such a strong turnout. He then made a brief comment about each of the previous year's lectures and how much they were enjoyed by those attending. He advised that the lectures organized for this Winter session were equally varied and should appeal to all. The Summer outing to Dumfries House was a great success and thanks go to G. McDowall for his organizing both this event and the visit to Cousland Smiddy. He congratulated Gavin on his work with the General Data Protection Regulation paperwork and also the collection of subscriptions. A. Stevens and B. Turner continue to work on behalf of the Society and are instrumental in highlighting matters of concern to East Lothian Council on planning matters. The information boards around the town are in the process of being updated and the Committee had carried out this work and the new boards were in the hands of the Community Council to be redesigned. Thanks were expressed to Jackie Wilkins and Janette Bonthron for their input through their years on committee, especially to Janette with the help of Frances Stevens in providing tea after each lecture. A. Coulson continued to act as Minute Secretary, faithfully recording the events of each Committee Meeting. These were posted on the web for all to read. He thanked G. Kinnaird for his 30 years of acting as Treasurer and said a locum Treasurer would be appointed during the meeting. It was the intention of the Committee to purchase new equipment for the lectures and would include a screen, projector, PA system and lectern. A cost of around £800 was suggested. It was intended to store these in a locked cupboard in the church hall but this was being discussed with the church vestry. There were no questions.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, G. Kinnaird advised the accounts had been duly audited by B. Wood and represented a true report on the financial actions of the Society over the year. A copy had been circulated to the members at the meeting. He was happy to report that a profit had been made but pointed out that part of the church hall rent and sundry

small items amounting to £100 were still outstanding and any additional payments would be carried forward to the following year's accounts. The increase in subscriptions had resulted in a drop in donations but overall there was an increase in income. The Summer outing had a surplus of over £100 as more members and guests came than budgeted for. The final balance on hand and at the bank totalled £3017.58, indicating the Society maintained a healthy position. There were no questions. The adoption of the Accounts was proposed by T. Taylor and seconded by I. Wood.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairman, Alan Armour put himself forward as Treasurer on the retirement of G. Kinnaird. He was happy to take on the post but regretted that there were no names put forward from the membership. His appointment was proposed by G. Kinnaird and seconded by B. Turner.

Re-election of Executive Committee Members:

The following retire after two years and have offered themselves for re-election:-
G. McDowall: proposed by B. Turner and seconded by J. Bonthron.
G. Kinnaird: proposed by A.M. Armour and seconded by A. Stevens
B. Turner: proposed by A.M. Armour and seconded by A. Stevens
Their re-appointment was agreed by the membership attending.

7. NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following put themselves for election to the Committee:-
Bryon Liddle: proposed by A. Hadden and seconded by B. Turner
Catherine Thom: proposed by A. Hadden and seconded by B. Turner
Their appointment was agreed by the members attending.

8. RETIRAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Janette Bonthron and Jackie Wilkins had indicated to the Committee of their wish to retire at this year's Annual General Meeting and these were accepted with regret. Both were thanked by the Chairman for their hard work on Committee. Jackie had completed two years but pressures of work had necessitated her retirement. Janette had served the Committee faithfully for 10 years and was always on hand to make the tea after each Winter lecture. Their input on matters local would be missed.

9. THE FUTURE OF THE SOCIETY The Chairman stated the future of the Society seemed secure when viewed from the number of members who were on the list and came to the lectures plus a solid financial statement. However, failure of members to volunteer for Committee work made the load spread amount the remaining Committee members an ever growing burden. He made a plea for members to take an active part in the running of the Society.

10. NEW TEA MAKERS Tea after lectures was always enjoyed by members attending but with those doing this task deciding to retire, it was essential for others to come forward to help. Failure to do so would result in tea no longer being served after the lectures. This would be a great pity as there would no longer be the opportunity for members to meet with one another afterwards.

11. PRESENTATION TO RETIRING COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Lord Cameron was called upon to present gifts to the two retiring Committee members as a mark of the Society's appreciations of their hard work over a large number of years. Janette Bonthron received a bouquet of flowers and G. Kinnaird a golf club. Lord Cameron thanked them for their dedication and service to the Society. Both Janette and George responded with thanks and how they had enjoyed working with the Committee.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting by thanking all those present for attending. He impressed on them once again, the need for volunteers for the Committee otherwise the Society would have difficulty in carrying out its duties. The work carried out by the Committee was not onerous but essential and a spread of the workload would ensure stability for the future.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

TALK BY Barry Turner

The meeting was followed by a most interesting illustrated talk given by Barry Turner and entitled 'Surprising Dubai'.