

NORFOLK RECORD SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CHURCH OF ST PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH, ON THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2018, AT 7.00pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies

The president welcomed approximately 80 members and guests to the meeting. A number of members had sent their apologies, along with Mr Michael Begley, Dr Isla Fay, members of council, and the hon. treasurer, Mr Kristopher Harper, who had an unavoidable clash of commitments.

The president spoke briefly of the death, in June, of Mr Raymond Frostick, vice president, former secretary and chairman of the society and always a very active supporter of its work.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2015

Copies of the minutes of the last general meeting had been made available to members attending and could also be consulted on the society website. It was agreed that they should be signed as a correct record.

3. Report of the Council 2015-2018 (Chairman of the Council)

Professor Carole Rawcliffe presented the council's report on the work of the society over the last three years and on future plans. A copy of the report appears elsewhere in the minute book and will also be available on the website.

There were no questions.

4. Financial report (presented by the hon. secretary, in the treasurer's absence)

A written report had been prepared by the treasurer, including a summary of the society's finances over the last three years and a forecast for the current year. It was circulated to members attending the meeting. It also appears elsewhere in the minute book and will be available on the website.

The secretary explained that the forecast deficit for 2018 was likely to be considerably less than the figure shown in the report because of a small 'windfall' from successful sales of copies of *The Whirlpool of Misadventures* by the Castle Museum Shop (in association with the recent Paston Treasure exhibition) which had realised a profit of £240. The lower than anticipated production costs for the 2018 volume, which was slightly smaller than those of previous years, and would also be cheaper to send out by post, were also expected to improve the health of the balance sheet. He drew attention to the re-designed society website, which it was hoped would encourage sales of past volumes through online ordering, and also make it easier for new members to join online. The consistent decline in membership continued to be a worry, however, and the secretary urged all members to do whatever they could to attract new recruits.

There were no questions.

5. Election of President

Mr Richard Jewson, HM Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, was re-elected president of the society. Mr Jewson pointed out that he would be retiring as lord lieutenant during 2019, and the society might wish to elect the new lord lieutenant to succeed him as president. The council would take action on this in due course.

6. Election of Vice Presidents

The society had lost one vice president during the year with the death of Mr

Raymond Frostick, as noted above.

The remaining vice presidents had all been approached as to whether they were happy to be re-elected and none had indicated a desire to stand down.

It was therefore agreed that the following vice presidents be re-elected:

Sir Timothy Colman, Marquess Townshend of Raynham, the Bishop of Norwich, Sir Nicholas Bacon, Sir Henry Paston-Bedingfeld, Professor Sir David Eastwood, Mr Michael Sayer.

It was pointed out that the name of Sir Henry Paston-Bedingfeld had inadvertently been omitted from the list of vice presidents in the 2018 volume. We had apologised to Sir Henry for this oversight and he had assured the hon. secretary that he was not offended in the slightest.

7. Election of Officers – Secretary, Treasurer and Editors

The following officers were re-elected:

Secretary:	Dr Alan Metters
Treasurer:	Mr Kristopher Harper
Editors:	Mrs Elizabeth Rutledge (Medieval) Dr Jean Agnew (Early Modern) Professor Anthony Howe (Modern)

8. Election of Council (under the revised constitution of 1976 a Council of 12 members is elected at each General Meeting)

Dr Roger Ryan, who remained a member of council after he stood down as hon. treasurer, had resigned from the council earlier in the year, after moving out of the area. He had already been thanked for all his work for the society.

Dr Alan Mackley had also indicated that he now wished to step down, and he was thanked for his service, as both a member of council and as a volume editor, over many years.

The following continuing members offered themselves for re-election *en bloc* for the next three years and this was approved by the meeting:

Professor Carole Rawcliffe (the current chairman), Dr John Alban, Dr John Barney, Mr Michael Begley, Mr Charles Farrow, Dr Isla Fay, Dr Elizabeth Griffiths, Mr Patrick Palgrave-Moore, Mr Peter Stibbons, Mr Gary Tuson (county archivist), Professor Richard Wilson.

It was also proposed that Dr Joel Halcomb, the evening's lecturer, should be elected to the vacancy created by Dr Mackley's retirement. This was agreed by the meeting.

9. Subscription rate

No immediate changes were proposed, although the council would keep the issue under careful review and introduce any increases, should they become urgently needed (as they are authorised to do by the Rules of the Society)

10. Any other business

Dr Victor Morgan raised concerns over the arrangements for the production of future volumes of *The Papers of Nathaniel Bacon of Stiffkey*. The chairman pointed out that the Norfolk Record Society acted as publisher of suitable texts submitted to it, but that private arrangements concerning their creation were outside its remit.

After the meeting volume LXXXII was launched: *The Great Blow – Examinations and Informations relating to the Great Blow in Norwich, 1648* (Edited by Andrew Hopper, Jean Agnew, and Emily Wilbur Alley). The volume was introduced in a lecture by Dr Joel Halcomb (University of East Anglia)

GAM
15/10/18