

ELSENHAM VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF MEETING 6th MARCH 2013

MEMORIAL HALL ELSENHAM

Those Present:

Ray Franklin Chairman	Paul Salvidge	Chris Bush
Heather Salvidge	Mike Rea	David Verlander
Valerie Austin	Tim Snow	Margaret Rea
Avril Braidwood	Janet Tulley	Brian Tulley
Christine Hall	Colin Smith	John Segar
Keith Merrifield	Pam Merrifield	Dorothy Dorman
Jean Platt	Kevin Wood	Colin Clarke
Carol Wylde	Caryl Benner	Margaret Shaw
Eileen Kay	Roger Clark	Phyllis Clark
Richard Moulds	Susan Moulds	Barrie Adams
Lillian Adams	Peter Clear	

Apologies:

Gordon Barker	Gordon & Ruth Fulton	Jean Beeston
Sue Johnson	Dennis Haslam	Jan Westcott

1. The Deputy Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present as well as Mr Bruce Munro, our guest speaker for the evening.

He explained that Gordon Barker had decided to resign as Chairman on grounds of poor health. Gordon was one of the founder members of EVHS and has done a lot of good work for the Society as well as recording the history of Elsenham over many years. The Committee and members of EVHS wish him well in the future and members were invited to sign a Thank You card.

2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting 7th November 2012**

An amendment is necessary as follows:

Add to Item 3 Guest Speaker: Alan Taylor gave a public vote of thanks to Shirley Palmer for her work contacting the Aylett family.

The minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. Annual General Meeting

The Secretary opened the Annual General Meeting part of the meeting.

I. It had been agreed at the last Committee Meeting that Gordon Barker should be given a Honorary Presidency of the Society. John Segar proposed Gordon for President and this was agreed unanimously on a show of hands.

II. Invitations were extended for nominations for the posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary.

Tim Snow proposed Ray Franklin for Chairman and Paul Salvidge proposed David Verlander for Deputy Chairman. These appointments were again agreed on a show of hands.

There being no nominations for Secretary or Treasurer, the incumbents agreed to serve for another year

III. Invitations were extended to fill the vacant committee posts.

There were no volunteers so the vacancy will remain open.

IV. The Chairman gave a brief review of the Society's activities over the past year.

V. The Treasurer presented the Society accounts for the last year. The accounts will be made available for inspection when audited.

There being no other matters raised by the membership present the Annual General Meeting segment was closed and business reverted to the main agenda.

5. Guest Speaker Mr Bruce Munro

Bruce took us for an entertaining and informative stroll through Saffron Walden highlighting the many items of interest along the way. With the town's buildings ranging in age from the mediaeval period to modern day, the secrets behind much of the town's architecture were revealed and showed how much we tend to take for granted as we walk by.

6. Open Forum and Any Other Business

6.1 Sarsen Stone

The Chairman reported that some while ago Stuart Pimblett had found what was believed to be a Sarsen Stone whilst ploughing. It was examined by an expert from Saffron Walden Museum who thought it to be unworked but worthy of preservation. Having decided to put the stone on display, the Parish Council have asked the Society where it would best be placed, either at the entrance to the village or Tye Green near where it was found. After discussion and a show of hands, it was agreed that Tye Green was the best place for display. The Secretary will write to the Parish council with this recommendation.

6.2 Visits

Having spoken to the Chelmsford Police Museum, it is proposed that we visit on Saturday 22nd June. The Museum is open from 10am to 4pm and entrance is free. Would anyone who would like to visit on that day please let the Secretary know so that the museum can be advised of numbers.

6.3 Mediaeval Elsenham

Given the amount of development that is likely to take place in Elsenham over the next few years it has been proposed that we should start looking into Elsenham's Mediaeval history. This is particularly pressing in light of the proposed major development on Hall Farm Road that is believed to be close to the mediaeval centre of Elsenham. At the very least a field walk should be conducted and the Society will be pressing for a proper archaeological survey prior to building. Anybody who is interested in researching this period of Elsenham's history is invited to get in touch.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday June 12th at 8pm when there will be a talk by Fred Feather entitled "Arsenic and Olde Essex", a review of policing methods before and after the formation of the Essex Constabulary.

ENDS