

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Civic Trust held on Wednesday, 4th October 2023 at Burnley Town Hall.

The Chairman, **Mr. E. Walton**, occupied the Chair throughout the meeting.

PRESENT: Mr. E. Walton, Mr. R. Collinge, Mr. P. Hornby, Mrs. C. Stinton, Mr. & Mrs. N. Fawcett, Mr. D. Kilpatrick, Mr. G. Grimshaw, Mr. R. B. Frost, Mr. & Mrs. J. Livingstone, Mr. F. Bartram, Mr. A. Hollis, Mr. A. Lucas, Ms. C. Towneley and Ms. S. Barker.

APOLOGIES: Mr. N.G. Ashworth, Mr. R. Crossley, Mr. C. Shackleton, Mr. B. Hall and Mrs. J. Evans.

MINUTES: The minutes of the AGM held on 5th October 2022 were approved.

MATTERS ARISING: None.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: In his review of the past year, the Chairman welcomed the increase in not only numbers but attendance at the meetings. The last AGM, combined with the Awards Night, was well attended at the Finsley Wharf. In January, Mr. P. Hornby had arranged a very enjoyable and informative visit to the former Lowerhouse Chapel, an award winner, and in March we had marked the end of the Heritage Grant with a buffet lunch, once again at Finsley Wharf and attended by other societies in the town. In April we had planted three trees in the gardens of St. Peter's Church, one of which was to commemorate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and had just received permission from the Church authorities to plant informative inscriptions by them. We had contributed to a continuing display in the basement of the Central Library along with other photographs of Turf Moor and would be helping football writer, Dave Thomas, with photographs for his new book and for which we would receive financial payment. Two Canadian visitors whom we had helped had made a donation of \$300 (American). In September alongside the Historical Society we had mounted a continuing presentation of slides of the town. Along with the Vice Chairman, Mr. Walton had provided displays to be placed around the centre of the town, at present on hold. We had been approached to contribute to the Cultural Quarter to be developed in Burnley and the Awards evening would be held in the not too distant future.

ACCOUNTS 2022 – 23: Members were supplied with a copy of the Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2023, which Mr. G.Grimshaw explained in close detail. There were 36 members with 2 potential new members. The donations figure was the result of talks being given by the Chairman and other members.

It was proposed by Mr. E.J.Walton, seconded Mr. N. Fawcett and passed that the membership fee for the year 2024 be raised to £15. After a brief discussion, Mr. E.J.Walton proposed, Mr. N.J.Fawcett seconded and it was carried that the accounts be accepted.

Mr. G. Grimshaw was thanked for the meticulous way in which he had continued to manage the financial affairs of the society and he was assured that the members greatly appreciated all his efforts.

It was decided that the Chairman should write to Mrs. J. Evans to thank her for the many years she had worked for the society.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was proposed, seconded and passed that the present officers be re-elected *en bloc* for the ensuing year:

Chairman:	Mr.E.J.Walton	
Vice Chairman:	Mr. R. B. Frost	Committee:
Treasurer:	Mrs. G. Grimshaw	All present members had expressed a
Secretary:	Ms. S. Barker	wish to remain on the Committee.
Asst. Secretary:	Mr. R. Collinge	

PLANNING:

i. There were no significant new planning applications, but strong opinions were expressed about extensions to the industrial site close to the ancient settlement of Birtwistle.

ii. *Magnesium Way*: a controversial application, discussed at the November 2022 committee had gone to appeal and been turned down.

REPORTS:**ARCHIVES PROJECT:**

Two new volunteers had joined the project.
We had started work on Nelson matters.

TREES FOR BURNLEY:

Mrs. J. Evans had sent the following report:

“The previous Sunday, Trees for Burnley were once again rhododendron bashing at Towneley. The new standard trees that they planted are doing well but there are big trees to come out where the canopy is too dense. Other trees can then be planted when there is more space for them to grow. Thanet Lee Wood is much altered and improved. There are still a lot of rhododendrons to remove and himalayan balsam continues to be a problem, despite all their efforts to remove it. It is dying down now but their work to remove it will continue next year. “

WEAVERS' TRIANGLE:

Volunteers were still needed and anyone from the Civic Trust who would like to be involved would be welcome to join.

PADIHAM NEWS:

Shops were doing well with none empty but parking on the pavement continued to be a problem. The 50th Anniversary of the Friends of Gawthorpe would be celebrated soon.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 1st November at 7 pm. at Burnley Town Hall.

CHAIRMAN**BURNLEY CIVIC TRUST 2024 COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Edward J. Walton
Vice Chairman Roger B. Frost
Treasurer George Grimshaw
Secretary Susan Barker
Asst. Secretary Ramon Collinge

Peter Hornby
Carole Stinton
Geoff Ashworth
David Kilpatrick
Neil Fawcett
Marjorie Fawcett