

Glastonbury Antiquarian Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4th November 2022

in Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

- 1 Announcements: There were no announcements
- 2 Apologies for absence
Graham & Jane Tiley, Ann and Roger Parsons, Ian Rand, Charlie and Nancy Hollinrake
- 3 Minutes of the AGM held on 17th September 2021
These were approved.
- 4 Matters arising
4.1 Mary Claridge said that it had been too late to apply to the Town Deal Fund.
4.2 Tim Hopkinson-Ball said that information about access to the GAS book collection in the library is posted in the GAS book cases.
- 5 Chairman's Report
Tim Hopkinson-Ball spoke to his report and focussed on the work which has been carried out developing the Glastonbury Museum on behalf of the Society. He showed the meeting before and after images taken in the Tribunal showing progress which had been made for the museum's development. He also addressed additional developments including plans to reduce the walnut tree in the garden, the new museum website and a monitor being installed in the front room to show items in the Lake Village collection for visitors who cannot get upstairs. The safe in the building has been fixed and items formerly kept in the bank have been deposited there. Neill and Dawn Bonham are donating a C18 clock to the museum which was welcomed. In response to a question about ownership of the building, Tim said this is currently unknown, but it is in the care of English Heritage as a scheduled ancient monument.
- 6 Presentation of the Accounts to 31st August 2022
Mary Claridge briefly spoke to the accounts which had been prepared by Beth Walker.
- 7 Election of Officers and Committee
Francis Thyer took the chair and Tim Hopkinson-Ball was re-elected to this position. The meeting then approved the election of the committee as follows:

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| Vice Chairman | Neill Bonham |
| Hon. Secretary | Mary Claridge |
| Hon. Treasurer | Beth Walker as Acting Treasurer |
| Membership Secretary | Kay Wych |
| Committee | Dawn Bonham, Bill Wych, Desmond Miller, Chris Driver, Pauline Plant. |

- 8 Any other business
- 8.1 Paul Ashdown said the failure of the committee to provide a season of talks for the Society was disgraceful. (This matter was referred to in the Chair's report.) It was noted that the committee had actively sought volunteers, but none had been forthcoming.
- 8.2 Paul Ashdown suggested that the May coronation of King Charles should be marked with an especial link to St Dunstan. The local schools should be involved. This will be brought to the notice of the GAS Committee.
- 8.3 Paul Ashdown said that 2023 marks the centenary of the opening of King Tutankhamun's tomb. As former Committee member David Orchard had done work on heraldry for Highclere Castle, the home of Lord Carnarvon, it would be an appropriate venue for a GAS field trip. This will be brought to the notice of the GAS Committee.
- 8.4 Desmond Miller said we had bound SANHS proceedings in the Society's Library to mark one of the Queen's anniversaries and suggested that we could bind some more up to 2023 to mark the coronation next year. This will be brought to the notice of the GAS Committee.
- 8.5 Desmond Miller made the point that members should not be deterred from joining the Committee thinking it was a clique and they will find themselves very welcome.

The meeting closed at 7.35pm.

Richard Brunning from the South West Heritage Trust then gave a talk on the Godney Canoe, which is on display at Glastonbury Museum in the Tribunal which was greatly appreciated by the membership. He revealed that recent radio carbon dating on the canoe carried out by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre in Glasgow (which he had organised for GAS) had given a date for the canoe as early medieval. This was a surprise to everyone as previously the canoe had been assumed to be Iron Age, given its discovery site was close to the Lake Village field. The canoe is the only one of this date in Somerset.

He also gave an update on the monitoring of the Lake Village Field in the light of the dry summer.