

# Trustees Report for 2019

## Membership

At the beginning of 2017 the Trustees set a target to rebuild membership of the Society to 300 members and by January 2018 we had 307 members. We then chose to take the more difficult approach to the General Data Protection Regulation by asking all members to positively sign up for membership even though this would risk losing us some members. At the start of 2019 we had more than 340 and despite the inevitable losses that each year brings, we are currently just short of 350 members. But we are not complacent. As always we would ask all existing members to continue to promote membership of the Society to their friends and acquaintances.

## Members' Meetings

We've had another successful programme of monthly meetings this year, with an average attendance of around 60-70 people. Some of the best attended were "Scurvy", "What the Butler Saw", "The History of Portsmouth" and "Spitfire". We were delighted that 60-70 members and guests joined the Christmas Party! A similarly full programme is planned for 2020 - details will be provided in the next newsletter, the February Parish News and are printed on a small card for wider circulation. Please use it to attract new members.

## Newsletters

Because of our newsletter editor's unexpected commitments this year we have only published two newsletters - one in January (8-pages) and one December (12-pages). As some of you may know, our chairman/editor stood in, at very short notice, as replacement chairman of the Bishop's Waltham Museum Trust from April to October and this simply took up too much spare time. We feel sure that Society members will understand.

## Planning

The number of significant planning applications during 2019 has been much reduced, possibly because of economic uncertainty. Churchill Retirement Homes appeal on its proposed Postmead plans was refused, the controversial Locks Farm Standby Generator application was also refused as were the last Malt Lane plans. Nothing new has come forward for the Abbey Mill site. We have commented/objected where appropriate.

## Finances and Donations

These are covered in the Treasurer's report, but we are pleased that we were able to continue to make appropriate donations again this year. The 2019 AGM's decision to hypothecate our Gift Aid meant that we were able to directly support Bishop's Waltham's Gateway Club and Minibus Group equally, with £215 each.

## Publishing

Our different publishing endeavours continue to contribute to available funds since everything is well passed its break-even point. The next project is likely to be a book on the history of Bishop's Waltham High Street. A number of other, shorter books/booklets are under consideration but, as usual, they depend on authors having time.

## Website

Our website, designed to continue attracting new members and to provide an easy place for current members to keep in touch with what we are doing, is being maintained ([www.bishopswalthamsociety.org.uk](http://www.bishopswalthamsociety.org.uk)). We have used emails to announce changes or special news during the year so please keep us informed of any changes to your email address.

## Trustees

The chairman again wishes to express his gratitude for the hard work and dedication shown by the Society's trustees during the year. We were delighted that both Pauline Mousley and Colin Palma joined us as adopted trustees and hope they will be re-elected. We would like to thank Pat Morris, who is standing down at the AGM, for her enthusiastic support and help over the last few years (not least in making teas and coffees for members' meetings!), and also Jonathan Simmons who stood down in May 2019, for his invaluable input on planning matters and also design and maintenance of the website. We now have 9 of our permitted 12 trustees but we always look forward to welcoming new trustees to help us in the future. Please let Eileen Rainey or Tony Kippenberger know if you are interested in serving on the Trustee Committee.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDING 30th DECEMBER 2019			BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDING 30th DECEMBER 2019		
	2019	2018		2019	2018
	£	£		£	£
<b>INCOME</b>			<b>ASSETS</b>		
Net subscriptions	2,077.88	2,009	Bank account	5,632.55	5,677
Donations	330.00	261			
Meetings	171.00	263			
Publications	112.00	317			
Gift Aid	428.76	400			
Changing Face of BW	420.50	1,134			
We Shall Remember Them	471.00	2,235			
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,011.14</b>	<b>£6,619</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>£5,632.55</b>	<b>£5,677</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
Administration	964.98	735	Brought forward	5,677.33	5,585
Newsletters	134.12	139	Excess of income/expenditure	-44.78	93
Meetings	1,641.79	1,679			
Purchases	200.00	293			
Grants	920.66	963			
Changing Face of BW	192.82	692			
We Shall Remember Them	1.55	2,025			
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,055.92</b>	<b>£6,526</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,632.55</b>	<b>£5,677</b>
<b>Excess of income/expenditure</b>	<b>-£44.78</b>	<b>£93</b>	<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>£5,632.55</b>	<b>£5,677</b>