

COMBE DOWN HERITAGE SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Friday 16 April 2021 at 7.30 pm
via Zoom

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 24th April 2019
2. Chair's Report (including Financial Report)
3. Election of Committee for 2021
4. Election of Officers for 2021
5. Members' proposals

Role	Present Committee	Proposed Committee
Chair*	Brandi Hall-Crossgrove	Brandi Hall-Crossgrove
Hon Secretary*	Simon Burrows	
Hon Treasurer*	Jon Wrigley	Paul Reed
Membership Secretary	Tim Lunt	Simon Caldwell
Archivist	Dave Bishop	Dave Bishop
Member	Richard Irving	Richard Irving
Member	Val Lyon	Val Lyon
Member	Simon Caldwell	Tim Lunt
Member	Lynda Keepen	Lynda Keepen
Member	Dean Keepen	Dean Keepen

*Officers

Combe Down Heritage Society
Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 24th April 2019
7.30pm Combe Down Primary School

Draft Minutes

Apologies: Peter Davis

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Wednesday 18th April 2018. Michael Brown pointed out that he had queried the Society's policy on the appointment of its Accounts Examiner and that this did not appear in the minutes. The Hon Secretary undertook to correct this oversight. Subject to this being included a vote to approve the minutes was proposed by Janet Read, seconded by Jacqueline Burrows and passed unanimously.

2. Officers' Reports. Brandi Hall, as chair, gave a report on the society's activities during the year. There were no questions. A vote to accept and approve the report was proposed by Jacqueline Burrows, seconded by Janet Read, and passed unanimously. The Chair's report will be placed on the Society's website. Copies are also available from the Hon Secretary.

Jon Wrigley, Hon Treasurer, presented the accounts for the year 2018/9. Michael Earp asked whether there were plans to spend the available funds. Hon Treasurer pointed out that any future publications would take up a considerable amount of this as would archiving costs (National Archive approved materials and digitising for on-line access). Specific proposals for supporting projects would be considered. Michael Brown expressed the view that the level of available funds was above Charity Commission guidelines. Hon Treasurer undertook to review this with the committee in the near future. Alan Garrett was thanked for overseeing the preparation of the accounts.

A vote to approve the Officers' Reports was proposed by Jenny Coulson, seconded by Janet Read and passed unanimously.

Election of Committee and Officers. The members of the 2017/8 Committee agreed to stand for re-election. They are Brandi Hall, Simon Burrows, Jon Wrigley, Tim Lunt, David Bishop, Sophia Pandit and Peter Davis. There being no other nominations, a proposal to re-elect them en bloc was proposed by Michael Earp, seconded by Janet Read, and passed unanimously.

3. Election of Officers. There being no other nominations, Brandi Hall, Jon Wrigley, and Simon Burrows agreed to stand for re-election as Chair, Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary respectively. It was proposed by Jen Morgan that the Officers be elected en bloc, seconded by Janet Read and passed unanimously.

The 2019/20 Committee comprises:

Brandi Hall - Chair

Simon Burrows - Hon. Secretary

Jon Wrigley - Hon. Treasurer

Tim Lunt - Membership Secretary

David Bishop - Archivist

Sophia Pandit

Peter Davis

Professor Richard Irving remains President of the Society

Simon Burrows gave notice that he would not be standing for election to the committee in 2020

4. Members' proposed resolutions and other business.

There being no resolutions or other business proposed by members the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

S N Burrows April 2019

COMBE DOWN HERITAGE SOCIETY CHAIR'S REPORT 2020 - 2021

The Society has now completed its seventeenth year and we look back on a year dominated by the coronavirus pandemic which has forced an almost complete shut down of our normal activities. However, at the time of writing the NHS vaccination programme has reached more than 25 million people and Government lock down restrictions are planned to ease. I think we can say with some confidence that a form of normal service may resume towards the end of the year.

MEMBERSHIP

The global pandemic has not prevented the Society from increasing its membership during 2020/21. We gained 6 members and lost 1, bringing the total to 165 people coming from 125 households.

TALKS TO MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Sadly no talks have been possible in the year under review but we look forward to re-arranging with the speakers we were forced to cancel and to meeting once again at the school as soon as we are able.

TREASURER'S REPORT YEAR ENDED 26 FEBRUARY 2020

Under Jon Wrigley's continuing watchful eye the Society's financial position remains sound. See accounts attached.

For obvious reasons 2020/21 has been a year with little or no financial activity to report on, as we have effectively been mothballed, awaiting better days. With no meetings, we are grateful that a great majority of Members have continued their Membership Standing Orders which has meant we have been able to cover our standing costs such as insurance, computer costs, newsletters and archiving materials without using our reserves.

During the first lockdown there was quite a demand for the Society's books and publications which generated some income, and we claimed Gift Aid as usual.

We were able to support the work of the Friends of Bath Jewish Burial Ground with a grant of £500, the first such grant from our reserves to support local projects.

ARCHIVE

Our thanks go to David Bishop and Paul Reed who have continued (albeit intermittently and two metres apart) working on one of the largest parts of the collection which was that donated by Lynn Willies. This comprises mostly original paperwork and working maps resulting from a survey of the Firs and Byfield mines prior to their stabilisation. This collection is multi-faceted and extensive, but we are making progress.

Work has begun with the Museum of Bath Stone to find ways to make parts of the archive available via a computer link between the archive and the museum above.

VILLAGE WILDLIFE

The mines under the village are home to one of the most important colonies in the UK of the Lesser Horseshoe Bat. They thrive in areas left for them during the stabilisation project some years ago. The Society is supporting efforts to ensure continuity in maintaining these areas by Dr Roger Ransome, the expert who advised on bat habitats when infilling was planned, and BaNES.

COMMITTEE

The committee has considered how best to secure the future of the society. This has led to some discussions with the new team at the Combe Down Legacy Trust (Museum of Bath Stone). The committee concluded that although we will continue to work as closely as possible with them, the Society's interests will be best served by remaining independent.

Members who served on the Committee for the year 2020 - 2021 were:

Brandi	Hall-Crossgrove:	Simon Caldwell
Chair		Val Lyons
Simon	Burrows: Hon	Lynda Keepen
Secretary		Dean Keepen
Jon Wrigley:	Hon Treasurer	Peter Davis
Dave Bishop:	Archivist	Sophie Pandit
Paul Reed		
Tim Lunt		
Dick Irving		

Sophie Pandit and Peter Davis stood down at the beginning of the calendar year and I thank them for their work and support.

Paul Reed, Simon Caldwell, Val Lyon and Lynda and Dean Keepen were co-opted on to the committee in February and we welcome them. Paul Reed has offered to take over from Jon Wrigley as Hon Treasurer when Jon retires after the AGM.

Jon has been a stalwart member of the committee and I thank him looking after our finances for eight years.

Simon Caldwell has offered to take over as Membership Secretary from Tim Lunt. Tim remains on the committee and my thanks go to him for his work managing our membership contact. He will continue to edit the newsletter amongst his other activities on our behalves.

Brandi Hall - Crossgrove has relocated to Gloucester but will continue as Chair for the time being.

Simon Burrows is retiring at the AGM and at the time of writing no candidate has been identified to replace him as Hon Secretary and Vice Chairman.

FINALLY

All the committee are looking forward to seeing the Society's members 'in the flesh' as soon as we can. Although the pandemic has made our usual routine and project work impossible the village's heritage hasn't gone anywhere - in fact the past year has added another dramatic chapter to the history of Combe Down.

My thanks go to Alan Garrett who audits our accounts for us and to graphic designer David Taylor who very kindly works magic on our newsletters. Lastly my thanks go to the Committee and to all our members for their continued support.

Brandi Hall-Crossgrove
Chair

April 2021

Combe Down Heritage Society

Income and Expenditure Summary Sheet for the Year Ended 25/02/2021

	£	2019/20 Year £
Income:		
Subscriptions	508.87	645.83
Donations with subscriptions	85.00	100.00
Members meeting subs	0.00	385.00
Non-Members meeting subs	0.00	423.00
Other donations	4.76	176.00
Sales of books & Trail Leaflets	206.12	470.58
Other Grants, Legacies, Gift Aid	271.52	1,986.96
Float reduction	13.61	0.00
Total Income:	1,089.88	4,187.37
Expenditure:		
Office expenses	13.00	0.00
Newsletter production	69.56	90.00
Meeting costs	25.00	640.47
Postage & Packing	38.33	37.71
Insurance	260.12	260.12
Equipment purchase	0.00	0.00
Computer costs	175.20	172.80
Archiving costs	333.54	630.76
Grant to Friends of Bath Jewish Burial Ground	500.00	0.00
Total Expenditure:	1,414.75	1,831.86
Balance Sheet:		
Total Receipts	1,089.88	4,187.37
Total Payments	(1,414.75)	(1,831.86)
	(324.87)	2,355.51
Cash at Bank 25/02/2020	9,173.00	6,817.49
Cash at Bank 25/02/2021	8,848.13	9,173.00
Cash float	36.39	50.00
Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Available funds:	8,884.52	9,223.00

Jon Wrigley - Treasurer

Alan Garrett - Auditor