

Frome Society for Local Study (Registered Charity 292340): Annual Report and Accounts

The 60th Annual General Meeting of the Society to be held in the Assembly Rooms, Frome on Saturday March 23rd 2019 at 2.00pm

Objects of the Society (shortened form)

- *To advance the education of the public in the Local History, Geology, Archaeology, Natural History and Architecture of Frome and the surrounding area*
- *To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of Frome and the surrounding area by promoting high standards of urban and environmental design*
- *To assist the restoration and preservation of buildings and artefacts in Frome and the surrounding area and to commission commemorative plaques.*

AGENDA:

- 1. Chairman's opening remarks and report**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Adoption of the minutes of the AGM of 2018**
- 4. Matters arising**
- 5. Treasurer's report**
 - a. Questions
 - b. To approve the accounts for the year ended December 31st 2018
- 6. Secretary's report**
 - a. Questions
 - b. To adopt the Secretary's report
- 7. Membership Secretary's report**
 - a. Questions
 - b. To adopt the Membership Secretary's report
- 8. To receive the report from Frome Talking Newspaper**
 - a. Questions
- 9. To receive the report from Frome and District Civic Society**
 - a. Questions
- 10. Election of Chair**
 - a. *Sara Morris nominated*
- 11. Election of officers and members of the Trustees for the forthcoming year.**
 - a. Nominations from the existing Trustees:
*Elizabeth O'Sullivan, Judith Macarthur, Richard Swann, Patricia Eames
Paul Truscott*
- 12. Election of new Trustees**
 - a. *Sara Morris, Ewart Baldwin nominated*
- 13. Election of Committee Members**
 - a. Nominations from existing Committee members:
*Vice Chair – Ewart Baldwin, Hon. Secretary – Pat Eames, Hon. Treasurer – Judith Macarthur,
Membership Secretary – Sheila Gore, Chair of Civic Society – Richard Swann, Museum representative
– Jennie OKane, Photography and liaison – Paul Truscott*
- 14. Any Other Business and close of meeting.**

Tea and biscuits will be available after the talk which follows the AGM
Publications will be available for sale

MINUTES OF THE 59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FROME SOCIETY FOR LOCAL STUDY AND OF THE FROME AND DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY HELD AT FROME ASSEMBLY ROOMS ON SATURDAY MARCH 24th 2018 AT 2pm

Chairman's opening remarks Julian Watson welcomed members to the AGM. He announced the deaths, during the year, of Dr Patrick Andrew, John Buckley, Ruth Coard, Brian Gill, Mary Pelly, Margaret 'Midge' Skene, Karen Woolford. The chairman then paid tribute to Alastair MacLeay who is retiring from the committee having served, in the past, as Treasurer, Chairman and Vice-Chairman while simultaneously running the Publications programme. Following a prolonged round of applause Alastair confirmed that he will continue to run the publications programme.

Apologies Apologies were received from Ruth Angel, Peter and Theresa Clark, Rose Heaword, Selma Lavender, Jacqueline McKee, Claire Merritt, Sara Morris and Victoria Turner.

2017 Minutes Their adoption was proposed by Glynis Tingay, seconded by Freda Webb and adopted unanimously.

Matters Arising There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report had been circulated previously. Its adoption was proposed by Dinah Bardgett, seconded by John Hyde and adopted unanimously

Secretary's Report: The report had been circulated previously. The adoption of the report was adopted unanimously.

Membership The membership report had been circulated previously. Janet Howard thanked those people who had returned their email consent forms and membership now stands at 460. The adoption of the report was proposed by Debbie Temperton, seconded by Marie-Louise MacLeay and adopted unanimously.

Talking Newspaper The report had been circulated previously and was received by the meeting.

Frome and District Civic Society The report had been circulated previously and was received by the meeting. Ric Swann put out a plea for additional members to join the scrutiny group which meets every month to review planning applications.

Election of Chairman Liz O'Sullivan took the chair. The nomination of Julian Watson was proposed by Blanche Farley seconded by Jean Gill and adopted unanimously. Julian Watson then re-took the chair.

Election of Trustees, Committee and Officers The list of those standing had been circulated previously. The trustees standing to serve in 2017 – 18 are Julian Watson (Chairman), Liz O'Sullivan (Vice-chairman), Judith Macarthur (Treasurer) Richard Swann and Paul Truscott. The committee members are Ewart Baldwin, Pat Eames, Janet Howard, Margery Hyde, Sara Morris and Jennie O'Kane. The election en bloc, of those nominated was proposed by Anne Wallis and seconded by Katy Duke. This was agreed unanimously.

Chairman's Report. Julian Watson spoke of the future of the society. 2018 will see the 60th anniversary of the founding of FSLs. FSLs held its inaugural lecture in 1968 at Selwood School and a celebration is planned at the school (which is also celebrating 60 years). A paper was circulated during the meeting summarising the research projects that had been initiated during the year and progress so far.

Any other business None.

Chairman's Report

I am pleased to report another very successful year for your Society with membership now running at over 460. Thanks to the marvellous band of volunteers, the visits and lectures and publications have continued to maintain their high quality. The Society celebrated its 60th birthday in October with over 100 members enjoying lunch and a short talk in Selwood School hall, the venue for our original lecture that was held there in 1958.

Several exciting initiatives have been supported by Society funds which are in excellent shape, and grants have been made to other charities. A highlight of the year has been the full colour publication of the history of Woad. Numerous copies have been sold both nationally and internationally. The coming year looks set to be another fascinating one, with a full programme of varied visits and lectures. The committee now wish to extend an invitation for funding more widely to other individuals and organisations who are in accordance with our constitution.

Many of you will know that I am resigning from the chairmanship at this AGM and I am grateful for all the support and kindness I have received in the last three years. I am sure that my successor will receive the same sort of welcome I inherited and that many more volunteers will appear to keep the workings of this wonderful society up and running!

Julian Watson, Chairman

Secretary's Report

There is no report from the Secretary as the position is currently vacant.

Treasurer's Report

As your Treasurer I am pleased to report that 2018 has been a year of many successes. The sales of *Woad to This* have not only returned all of our printing investment costs of 2017, but the continued sales have enabled us to further our on-going Grants Programme for 2019. Our Accounts have all been Reviewed and Approved by Chartered Accountant, Andrew Liggatt, and all in all, we are well placed to look forward to 2019 with confidence.

Judith Macarthur, Treasurer

Membership Report

The membership of the society is closed at 460 and we are running a waiting list. Four of our members died during the year, they were Brian Gill, Nicholas Pemberton, Barry Young and Charles Wood. We thank them all for the support that they gave to Frome Society over the years.

Janet Howard, Membership Secretary

Frome Talking Newspaper

The Society continues to provide a team of readers to record items of interest from local publications – Frome Standard, Frome Times, Mendip Times and Country Gardener – for 39 visually impaired listeners.

In March 2018 Hilda Lee retired as Treasurer after 30 years. The new Treasurer is Jim Dowling, a reader from the Lions Club. Gill Fone, a Frome Society member, is stepping down as Chair from March 2019. We owe Gill an immense debt of gratitude for her tireless work since the start of Frome Talking Newspaper 38 years ago and as Chair for the past five years. The new Chair is Liz Andrew.

Joan Pattison

Frome and District Civic Society Annual Report

It has been another busy year for Frome and District Civic Society. We reviewed and commented on approximately 250 planning applications in 2018, about 10 less than in 2017. As always we are indebted to our committed panel of volunteers who gather every third week to discuss local planning issues. WE pass on our comments to Mendip and Frome Town Council. Our comments are often cited in reports from both organisations on specific applications.

The big planning news of 2018 in Frome was the acquisition of the whole Saxonvale area by Mendip District Council for a sum exceeding £6m. They have agreed to sell on the land to developer Acorn Property Ltd in phases as the site is developed. The Architect is Nash Partnership, who undertook the redevelopment of the Avon Rubber site in Bradford on Avon. A planning application for the whole site is expected in April according to an Acorn Property Ltd spokesperson.

The Local Plan Part II has been submitted to the Government Inspector and is expected to be ratified by Mendip this spring. This document will confirm the siting of 2776 new dwellings set by Mendip. This figure includes the 460 dwellings being completed at 'Edmund Park' beyond Asda, and 160 houses anticipated at the old Butler, Tanner, Dennis site expected shortly, also by Acorn Property Ltd.

Richard Swann, Chair Frome & District Civic Society

Frome Society for Local Study and Frome and District Civic Society Annual Accounts for 2018

BALANCE SHEET

	<u>31 December 2018</u>	<u>31 December 2017</u>
	£	£
Capital Employed		
Investments at Valuation	64,060	66,568
Current Assets		
Publications	2,587	2,974
Publications – Woad to This	4,713	5,467
COIF Deposit Account	12,248	12,192
Cash at Building Society	22,223	22,003
Cash at Bank	<u>9,432</u>	<u>15,266</u>
	51,203	57,902
Deduct Current Liabilities		
Creditors	<u>400</u>	<u>11,400</u>
	<u>50,803</u>	<u>46,502</u>
	<u>114,863</u>	<u>113,070</u>
Represented by		
Accumulated Fund Brought Forward	113,070	114,848
Gains of income over expenditure	<u>1,793</u>	<u>(1,778)</u>
	<u>114,863</u>	<u>113,070</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income		
Subscriptions	3,389	3,804
Outings, Lectures and Events	11,213	9,590
Sales	11,688	4,804
Gift Aid	678	626
Interest	275	264
Donation	200	-
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>40</u>
	27,543	19,128
Expenditure		
Outings, Lectures and Events	11,980	13,480
Publications	2,209	7,413
Author's Fees	1,049	-
Year Book	1,350	1,370
Administration	1,604	2,606
Plaque	-	783
Subscriptions	568	568
Donations and Grants	922	2,372
Professional Fees	2,225	400
Insurance	194	191
Miscellaneous	<u>-</u>	<u>331</u>
	<u>22,101</u>	<u>29,514</u>
	5,442	(10,386)
Loss on Revaluation of Publications	(1,141)	4,064
Loss on Revaluation of Investments	<u>(2,508)</u>	<u>4,544</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIENCY)	1,793	(1,778)