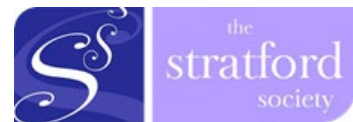


Minutes of Annual General Meeting

20 March 2023, White Swan Hotel



1. **Apologies** Taken “as read”.
2. **Minutes** of the previous AGM on 21 June 2022 were formally approved by a show of hands.
3. **Amendment to the Constitution** After an animated discussion, a motion was proposed by Lindsay MacDonald and seconded by Jann Tracy that: “Permission should be sought from the Charity Commission to amend Clause 2 ‘Status and Objects’ of the Society’s Constitution to read: ‘b) to educate and stimulate public interest in the geography, environment, history, natural history and architecture of the said area;’. Members voted unanimously in favour.
4. **Chairman’s Report** The retiring Chair reflected on a successful year in 2022 as we emerged from the covid lockdown. Significant achievements were the commencement of the four-year StratFire project, with a grant from Historic England, and the installation of a new batch of pavement plaques.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** The state of the Society’s finances remains healthy, with £8,439 in general reserves and £9,157 in three designated funds for the StratFire project, pavement plaques, and Marie Corelli commemoration. Membership receipts before gift aid totalled £2,418 – a modest 3.9% increase in receipts on the previous year.
6. **Acceptance of Trustees Report and Accounts** By a show of hands the Trustees’ Report and Accounts for the past year were approved. The Chair thanked the Treasurer for his excellent work in producing all of this in a timely fashion.
7. **Appointment of Independent Examiner** Jonathan Devereux proposed that Burgis & Bullock be re-appointed as Independent Examiners of Accounts for 2024. Seconded by John Scampion, with unanimous vote in favour.
8. **Officer and Group Reports** Much of the Society’s work is undertaken by the various officers and working groups. Each Officer has produced a brief report, circulated to Members and published together on the website. These were taken “as read”.
9. **Election of Officers and members of the General Committee:**

Chair – Jann Tracy	Events – John Freeland
Deputy Chair – Lindsay MacDonald	Transport – Steve Turner
Secretary – (vacant)	Planning – Margaret Cund
Treasurer – Jonathan Devereux	Publicity – Helen Elliott
Membership – Ian Fradgley	Historian – Robert Bearman
Governance – Ian Prosser	

There being no other business, the meeting was declared closed and an entertaining presentation was given by Dr Roger Pringle on “The Americans in Stratford”.