



## BEAULIEU HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

### 1. **Chairman's Welcome and Introduction**

Emma Page welcomed the members and guests and thanked the approximately 70 members and guests for attending on such a wintry and wet evening. Ken Robinson was asked to report on behalf of BHS Secretary, Gillian Strathcarron who could not be present.

### 2. **Apologies for Absence**

Received from Lady Montagu (BHS President), Nick de Rothschild, Anne & John Coles, Bill Vance, Jan & Alaster Smith, Maureen Moseley, Nick & Lynne Hubbard, John Phipps, and Gillian and Ian Strathcarron

**Simplified Agenda format for BHS AGMs:** this was explained, and members were encouraged to ask questions if they wished, before formal votes were taken.

### 3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019:**

Members were asked if they had any questions on the Minutes which had been placed on the website and circulated. There being none, members approval was requested: Proposer: Lord Montagu, Seconder: John Pemberton  
Approved

### 4. **Chairman's Report**

Emma Page thanked all the committee members for their hard work and support during the year, and thanked the speakers for the excellent talks during the past year and acknowledged the hospitality we have received. Reports of the meetings and plans for the coming year can be found both in the newsletters produced by John Pemberton and on the BHS website.

### 5. **Secretary's Report**

Membership: Currently BHS has 150 active members. Sadly, four of our members died in 2019: Bunny Borthwick (marked at our last AGM), Margaret Jackson, Andrew Rawlings and Jane Downes – they were active supporters of the Society and they will be missed by us all.

Meetings: There were five very successful Members meetings in 2019:

- Utilities of Beaulieu: by Rupert Scott (January),
- The Mitford Family's Creation of the Exbury Estate: Emma Page (March)
- Exbury Gardens Centenary – Talk and Tour: Lionel de Rothschild (May)
- Visit to Titchfield – Tomb of the Earls of Southampton (September)
- History of the Montagu Arms, Tony Norris, Reception hosted by MA (November)

Publications – Books: The Older Houses of Beaulieu: printed 120, sold 114, stock 6

History of Beaulieu in Tudor & Stuart Times: printed 200, sold 110, stock 90

Thanks were recorded to the members who have kindly purchased books and donated them to Libraries.

Beaulieu Common Good Fund – a grant Application had been made for a project to be devised in 2020 to improve the public accessibility of BHS records and Newsletters currently stored on the website, so that valuable historic information and material can better benefit the general public, researchers, etc. £400 had been approved by BCGF in December 2019.

## 6. Treasurer's Report

Peter Marling-Roberts reported:

1. Accounts for 1919: The financial situation of the society had continued to be very sound. The committee wished to thank Adam Mills for reviewing the accounts which were on the website and were circulated to the meeting. Subscriptions were £881 in 2019 compared to £946 in 2018 and £816 in 2017. The main expense during 2019 was the coach for the trip to Titchfield but this was mainly covered by the generous donation from the Common Good Fund which is in the previous year's financial statement. Excess Income over expenditure was £462 compared to a shortfall of £391.50 the previous year. The Bank balance on December 31st 2019 was £5,202 compared to £4,739.50 at the previous year end.
2. Appointment of external Auditor for 2020: Adam Mills had kindly agreed to continue in this role.
3. Membership subscription for 2020: Committee proposed it should remain at £5.
4. Questions from members to Treasurer: No questions were raised.

Members approval was sought for these items.

Proposer: Peter Hayward-Broomfield, Seconder Andrew Dykes      Approved

## 7. Election of Officers for 2020

It was confirmed that all 2019 Committee members were willing to continue to serve. No further nominations had been received, but members were encouraged to volunteer to serve on the Committee in future. The office holders were proposed to be unchanged:

Chairman	Emma Page
Vice Chairman	John Pemberton
Secretary	Gillian Strathcarron
Treasurer	Peter Marling- Roberts
Members	Mary Montagu-Scott, Christina Dykes, Dene McCulloch, Ken Robinson

Members raised no questions, so the election was put to the vote en bloc:

Proposer: Jo Robinson, Seconder: Brett Johnson      Approved

## 8. Any Other Business

Meetings in 2020 planned to date:

"The Schneider Trophy Air Races" Speaker: Colin Van Geffen. Date: to be agreed (It was pointed out that the planned date 24<sup>th</sup> April clashed with a major Oakhaven charitable event which could prevent some members from attending, so it will be rearranged). Venue: Beaulieu Village Hall

"The myth, the Duke of Montagu's Adventure and the Building of Buckler's Hard"  
Speaker: Ken Robinson. Date: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Venue: The Master Builders House Hotel, followed by a hosted Reception.

New Forest Show Society:

Mary Montagu-Scott drew members attention to this year's Centenary of the New Forest Show Society, in connection with which they are keen to collect any memories, documents, photos etc. Anyone wishing to help should contact the Society.

(BHS AGM Minutes for circulation to members in advance of Feb 2021 virtual AGM)