

**Minutes of the Hadstock Society 2022 AGM
held in the village hall
on Thursday 1st December 2022 at 7.30pm**

Committee Members Present: Richard Dolby, Derek Bushell, Lorna Mufty, Gill Butterworth, Patricia Croxton - Smith, Maggie Hartley

Others Present: Brendan Burchell, Laura Corob Cook, Sue and Rick Albrow, Lynn Nuttall, Bill and Sally Richards, Irene Stapleton, Robin Betser, Moire and Peter Jarritt, Denise Wells

Apologies received: Peter and Susan Wiles, Tony and Jenny Handley, Paula Griffiths

1. RD welcomed everyone and explained the arrangements for the AGM 50th celebration meeting.
2. The minutes of the 2021 AGM (previously circulated to members) were unanimously agreed as accurate and two action points from that meeting were discussed:-

A.P.1 – Hadstock Village Facebook - this site was considered the best solution for acquiring old photos and memories for the archive website. KD, the Facebook administrator, has agreed to promote the idea with the Facebook Group.

A.P.2 - Ongoing cost of archive - Following a grant application by the Society to the Parish Council, £175 was received for website hosting costs in 2022. A further proposal had been made to the PC to cover costs for 2023 and future years. The PC is setting its final budget in January and the outcome will be known then.

3. RD presented the Committee report for 2022 and summarised the paper on the 50-year history of the Society (both previously circulated to members). He explained further events planned for the 50th Anniversary of the HS. RD thanked the committee and members for their support. Aspects of both reports presented included the following:

- A) What are we? A community amenity society, one of many in the UK founded in the 1960s/70s, aimed at stimulating public interest in the Parish, ensuring high standards of planning, and conserving features of historic and public interest.
- B) What has been achieved in the past 50 years? Some examples were given:
 - Len's Path negotiated with local farmer and named after Len Rawlinson, one of the last lengthsmen in Essex.
 - Hadstock Conservation Area proposal 1973, approved by Rural District Council in 1976.
 - Film: 'A Portrait of Hadstock - *Environment in Danger*' 1981, shown to the 1982 Stansted Airport Inquiry
 - 1989 Road Safety – new road signs in place to limit lorry size to 17 tonnes.
 - 2000 Millenium Book funded and distributed.
 - 2003 St Botolph's north door removed for dating, (1040-1070AD).
 - 2004 Archaeologists Seminar in St Botolph's - why such a big church?
 - 2005 Bantons field dig. Artefacts identified e.g. Roman, Saxon etc. and archived.
 - 2010 Inscriptions on all gravestones/memorials identified and recorded.

- 2017-22 Parish 19th century place names recorded and Hadstock's landscape history over 250 years illustrated. Several outputs published online.
- 2021 Archive website launched - includes 200 posts in 12 sections, comprising photos, films, and articles.

C) Achievements in 2022:

- Landscape History - 2 new online publications on *Houses and the Built Environment* and *Notable Buildings* (previously circulated to members).
- Quiz sheet on the Saxon elements of the outside of St Botolph's produced for Fête and other events, as well as new displays of archaeological finds and mounted photos.
- Essex Battlefields Trust Project on the Battle of Assandun – ongoing, 3 reports this year, and archaeologist, Simon Coxall, is helping the team.
- Master spreadsheet now available online showing all Hadstock place names in the early 19th century, before and after inclosure.

D) Plans for next year

- Gain more members and improve ways of engaging with the community.
- Continuation of research into location of Battle of Assandun
- Part 3 Landscape History to be completed detailing the Inclosure Act of 1801 and its effects on Hadstock Parish.
- Follow up of 2018 mortar dating on St. Botolph's south nave wall showing pre-800AD foundations.

4. Treasurer's report (previously circulated to members)

The committee expressed thanks to Tim Boyden for auditing the accounts as well as to the members for their donations and subscriptions. Thanks were also paid to the Parish Council for their grant towards the cost of the archive. Thanks were also expressed to RD for his 50% donation of display materials for events. Crocky proposed that the report be accepted and all approved it.

5. Election of Officers and Committee Members 2022 - 2023

The following people were approved en bloc:-

Chair: Richard Dolby

Secretary: Maggie Hartley

Treasurer: Gill Butterworth

Committee Members: Lorna Mufty, Patricia Croxton-Smith, Derek Bushell

6. Questions to the Committee.

PJ asked whether the Committee could consider contemporary and future issues such as climate change and sustainability, and their importance to the Parish.

RA noted that the Society could help develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Hadstock. The Parish Council had discussed the idea but had yet not taken it forward. Ashdon has recently produced its own neighbourhood plan which showed the quality and scope of work involved.

RD said the Committee would look at both issues.

SA was complimentary on the recent progress of the Society.

7. A.O.B

The subject of the King's coronation on 6th June 2023 was raised and what plans the village might make to celebrate it and record it. The Parish Council will discuss this early in the New Year and the Society will consider how best to support the arrangements.

RD thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was followed with refreshments, including the cutting of a celebratory cake by Crocky, one of the founding members of the Hadstock Society. The showing of the 2011 film of village celebrations for the wedding of Prince William to Kate Middleton concluded the AGM.