



THE WENDOVER SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 258990

President: Dr Colin Riley

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That the **FIFTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of The Wendover Society will be held in the Memorial Hall, Wendover on Friday 23 February 2018 at 7.30pm for the following purposes: -

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To approve the Minutes of the AGM on 24 February 2017, a draft copy of which is overleaf.
3. To adopt the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017, a copy will be on the website and available at the meeting
4. To receive and adopt the Executive Committee Chairman's Report for 2017, a copy of which is also attached.
5. To Agree the amended Constitution, a copy of which is available on the website, or a paper copy will be sent on request.
5. To elect members to the Executive Committee.
6. To transact any other competent business.

By order of the Committee,

Jane Champion
Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE FIFTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WENDOVER SOCIETY HELD ON FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2017 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL WENDOVER

Present: The President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, one further member of the Executive Committee and a further 97 members.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming those members and guests, particularly Lord Stevenson, present.

1 Apologies for absence

Eleven members had sent apologies for absence. Their names are recorded in the Society's records.

2 Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting held on 26 February 2016

Jeremy Nicholson proposed that the Minutes, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting, be approved. This was agreed.

3 Accounts for Year to 31 December 2016

Copies of the audited accounts were circulated at the meeting. Treasurer Bob Lewis expressed his and the Society's thanks to Neville Morton for again undertaking their examination. The Treasurer reported that excepting HS2 donations income was broadly in line with the previous year. However, the total expenditure, after allowing for the donations, was some £5147 in excess of income leading to a reduction in reserves which now stood at £2340. Gift Aid is now being collected where possible, and this should add a small but useful sum in future,

Robert Phipps proposed, and Mike Spain seconded the motion that the accounts be adopted and this was agreed without dissent.

4 Executive Committee Chairman's Report for 2015

Mike Beard's written report had been distributed to members in advance of the Meeting. Presenting his report, he confirmed that, whilst 2015 had been a very busy year for the Society, our main priority would be to continue to seek much more mitigation of the effect that HS2 would have on Wendover, and that the Society's petition against HS2's additional proposals had been heard earlier that month.

The proposal that the Chairman's report be accepted was unanimously approved.

5 Election of Officers and Executive Committee

The Society's constitution requires that one third of the members of the Executive Committee retire by rotation at each AGM. Colin Riley (President) Jane Campion (Vice Chairman) and Bob Lewis (Treasurer) do not need to resign this year, and are willing to continue in post. Those retiring this year were Chairman Mike Beard, Secretary Graham Watts and Sandy Smith. John Mayhead, John Bryson, Jenny Senior and Martin Thomas were nominated as Committee Members. There were no objections, and no further suggestions, and the Chairman declared these members duly elected.

John Mayhead was then proposed and seconded as Chairman and there being no objections was duly elected. Jane Campion was proposed and seconded as secretary and there being no objections was duly elected.

Mike Beard, Graham Watts and Sandy Smith were thanked for their contribution to the Wendover Society Committee and presented with a token of appreciation by The President.

6 Any Other Business

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Signed

John Mayhead
Chairman

Date: 23rd February 2018

Chairman's report

In my March 2017 letter to members I reported that the Committee had set itself three priorities as follows

- Replenish our depleted reserves to enable the Society to operate on a wider base of activity than just HS2
- Develop a new member proposition to attract and encourage more people to join and also attract more younger family members into the organisation
- Be proactive on issues that affect the whole of Wendover

Why did we choose these and how have we done?

Given that four of out of six of us were new members of the committee it was a good opportunity to have a fresh look at what we should be doing. In 2016 the Society had concentrated on its HS2 work ably (and admirably) led by Bob Lewis. The all-consuming efforts here meant that many other opportunities had not been able to be pursued and we were keen to change that whilst still supporting Bob in his crusade. Society funds had been almost depleted on HS2 work and we felt this needed rectifying and that also communication should be improved to and from our members.

One of our first actions was to review the membership subscription – we knew how to make ourselves popular! This together with a good level of income from social events means that we now have greater financial stability.

Before we started a membership drive we decided that we first needed to be able to demonstrate our effectiveness so we have concentrated on following up various initiatives. Good examples here are supporting one of our members in lobbying the Parish Council to improve the Heron Path which, through neglect, had become impassable for wheelchair users meaning that there was no safe route to the church. We were pleased the PC listened and congratulate them on taking over responsibility here. We have also been active on pushing for action on traffic speeding and noise, parking and road safety. In our latest newsletter, you can read of the success we have had here and its only because of concerted efforts by Jenny Senior and Martin Thomas continuing to snap at the heels of anyone in authority, our thanks to them

Of course, one of the biggest challenges of the year was the publication of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) and the news of the proposed closure of RAF Halton. We decided that we needed to take a leadership role here in ensuring that Wendover's interest was fully understood, particularly the issue of lack of infrastructure planning to back up the proposed 1000 houses at Halton. We submitted a response early on in the consultation process and were pleased to see that the later responses of both the Halton and Wendover PC's backed up our views. Our stance was also followed up by the local radio station Mix96 who gave our view valuable publicity. Many members have commented positively on our VALP response, thank you to those that have - it's nice to know our efforts are appreciated.

Backing all this up has been the work by John Bryson in updating our database and renewing the website, as well as representing the Society on the Parish Council HS2 working group. Jane Champion has been keeping us 'legal' as Secretary and pulling together our membership communication. Thanks also to Sandy Smith for continuing to edit the newsletter. Without their collective efforts, you wouldn't be reading this.

So, we have been busy, writing this I can hardly believe that a year has almost passed since the new Committee was formed. My thanks to each of the committee members for their hard work, they are an active and dedicated bunch of volunteers working on your behalf and coping with me as a demanding Chairman! A special thanks to Martin Thomas who retires at the AGM, he has been a fantastic person to have on the committee and our only regret is not being able to persuade him to stay on – thanks Martin.

We are always on the lookout for additional people to help us so if you have some time to help please let us know. It is really satisfying to see the effect we can have, come and join us and we can achieve even more on behalf of our members. Drop us a mail and we will get back to you.

John Mayhead CBE

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE WENDOVER SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

Introduction

The Constitution of The Wendover Society was last adopted in 2008 and it is therefore 10 years old. The Committee has gone through this document and proposes that at the Annual General Meeting Members adopt an amended constitution. Most of the amendments proposed are either of a legal / more technical nature or to make the document more “reader friendly”, below is a summary of the most significant changes. The existing constitution and the proposed new constitution are both available on our website – www.wendoversociety.org.uk
Should you require a paper copy please inform the Society Membership Secretary before 5th February 2018 – contact details below - and one will be provided

EXISTING CONSTITUTION	PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION
Refers to the “objects” of the Society	Changed to “objectives” throughout
Paragraph 3d has been removed as unnecessary	Paragraph 3e has been added to clarify that the society can organise events for its members and others
Paragraph 5 requires 21 days notice of proposal to dissolve the Society	Changed to 14 days notice to make it consistent with another clause
Paragraph 7 Membership	Paragraph 7a amended to add a requirement that Members pay an annual subscription
Paragraph 8b allows the Society to refuse a member’s resignation	Removes this provision
Paragraph 9a requires AGM to be held in or about February of each year	Requires AGM to be held before 31 st March of each year
Paragraph 9d requires the Committee to call a Special General Meeting if requested to do so by 10 members or one tenth of the membership whichever is the greater	Given the increase in our membership this number is now 20 members Redrafted to confirm that the Society will conform to current legislation
Paragraph 10 Notice of General Meetings	Provides that this may be given by hand delivery, post or e-mail
Paragraph 12 voting	Clarifies members must be present to vote
Paragraph 15 requires the Society to have a President	Now paragraph 14 which makes it optional to have a President and provides the Society may elect a President Emeritus
Paragraph 14 Officers and Trustees. This was confusing and has been redrafted	Now paragraph 15 which has been retitled ‘Committee’ and clarifies how the Committee is made up and provides that someone can be co-opted to the Committee by the Committee until the next scheduled AGM
Paragraph 16 Appointment of the Committee. This has also been redrafted to clarify it	Committee members to be appointed at the AGM for a period of three years. The Committee may co-opt a member until the next scheduled AGM (avoiding the need for a General Meeting to be called)
Paragraph 18 Disqualification and removal of a Trustee.	Redrafted to confirm that the Society will conform to current legislation and to also increase the minimum number of Trustees required from 2 to 3
Paragraph 19 Proceedings of the Committee	Amended to provide that the Secretary calls the meeting. Deletes provision allowing the Committee to pass a resolution in writing without a meeting
Paragraph 25 Rules	Simplified by providing the Committee may make rules or by laws for the conduct of their business when it is not covered by this Constitution.

NOTE - To request a paper copy of the existing and/or proposed amended Constitution please contact the Membership Secretary before the 5th February 2018 or email thewendoversociety@outlook.com

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