



THE FRIENDS  
OF ABINGDON  
CIVIC SOCIETY

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE 75th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 17 JUNE 2019 IN THE UNICORN THEATRE

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from 21 members.  
There were 58 members present.
2. **The minutes of the 74th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 13 June 2018:** subject to one minor amendment, to change “Internal Examiner” to “Independent Examiner”, acceptance of these as an accurate record of the meeting was proposed by Michael Mathews and seconded by Bobbie Nichols and approved without dissent. The Chairman signed them as such.
3. **Matters arising** – none
4. **Chairman’s address**  
The Chairman gave an address highlighting the main activities of the Society over the previous year.
5. **Trustees’ Annual Report for the year 2018**  
The Executive’s formal report had been provided to members. The Secretary proposed an amendment, to add an additional bullet point in section 5 with numbers of school visits. Acceptance of the amended report was proposed by Peter Williams and seconded by Terry Boswell and was approved without dissent.
6. **Treasurers Report and Accounts:** these had been published on the website and circulated to those present. The Treasurer thanked Phil Addison for his work as Independent Examiner. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Monica Lovatt, seconded by Philip Kenrick and approved without dissent.  
  
The Chairman thanked Bruce Hunt for his sterling work as Treasurer since 2015.
7. **Election of Officers:** the election of the following was proposed by Rosemary Allan and seconded by Buzz Brown and approved without dissent:  
Chairman: Bryan Brown  
Treasurer: Kevin Senior  
Secretary: Hester Hand
8. **Election of the Executive Council:** Caroline Bullock and Peter Clarke, elected to serve until 2019, had indicated their willingness to stand for re-election. They were proposed by Olga Senior and seconded by Bobbie

Nichols and there were no dissenters. There were vacancies for 5 more Council members but no further nominations had been received.

**9. Motion to wind up the Society:** the Chairman introduce the motion, the background to which had been circulated with the agenda and had been discussed with members over the past 14 months. In response to questions he explained that:

- Life members of the existing society would (if they wished) retain life membership of both CIOs; annual members would remain members of both until such time as the Buildings Trust (BT) set up its own membership scheme, at which point they would cease to automatically be BT members, but could join if they wished. In both cases, BT membership would be on a non-voting basis.
- Each CIO would have its own logo and branding, but to demonstrate continuity and the close links between them, both logos would initially be variations on the existing FoA one. The existing website would be retained as a single page from which people would be directed to the websites of whichever of the CIOs they wanted.
- The basis of allocation of the Society's assets between the new CIOs would be agreed between the Trustees of the existing Society and subject to approval by the Special General meeting scheduled for 31 July 2019. Discussions were already under way and it was not anticipated that there would be any dispute over the allocation.
- Indications about the prospect of success with the NLHF grant application were positive; if however the application was not successful it would be for the Buildings Trust Trustees to develop an alternative plan, under the terms of their Constitution.

There being no more questions, the following motion was proposed by Bobbie Nichols and seconded by Glynne Butt:

“This meeting agrees that The Friends of Abingdon, Charity no 225880, shall be wound up at a date to be decided by the Executive Council and that its assets shall be allocated on an equitable basis between The Friends of Abingdon Abbey Buildings Trust, Charity number 1183398 and The Friends of Abingdon Civic Society, Charity number 1183397. This decision and the allocation of assets are subject to confirmation at a further General Meeting to be held on 31 July 2019.”

A show of hands voted overwhelmingly in favour of the motion, with one vote against and no abstentions.

10 There being no other business, the formal meeting was closed at 20.10.

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After the formal meeting, Bryan Brown and Hester Hand gave brief talks on the progress with setting up the new CIOs and their plans for the future.