

**MINUTES OF THE 122nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HELD AT CAUNTON
COMMUNITY HALL ON SATURDAY 27th APRIL 2019 AT 2pm**

PRESENT 58 members

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The President, Adrian Henstock, welcomed members to Caunton and said a few words on the focus of the meeting, Caunton and the involvement of Dean Samuel Reynolds Hole in the life of the village. Of special interest, he said, was the register of residents compiled by Revd Hole when he was the incumbent in Caunton which focused on their religious observance, noting who was affiliated to the various non-conformist congregations but which also included notable happenings in the village.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from 22 members.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the 121st AGM held at Calverton Village Hall on 28th April 2018, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair, Professor John Beckett.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

5. ANNUAL REPORT AND HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The Chair presented the annual report to the meeting. It recorded the activities and undertakings of the Society, its Council and officers over the past twelve months and it clearly demonstrated the amount of Society work and participation there was ongoing on the history and archaeology of the County. A number of those present commended the excellent presentation of the annual report.

In the Honorary Treasurer's absence Professor Beckett presented the accounts included in the annual report, and commented how well-kept and clear they were, thanks to the diligence and accuracy of John Wilson to whom the Society continued to be grateful.

IT WAS AGREED that the Annual Report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 be adopted and that Alan Hodges be appointed the Independent Examiner for 2019/20.

6. SUBSCRIPTION RATES

It was recommended by Council that there be no increase in subscriptions in 2020. This was accepted by the meeting.

7. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Professor John Beckett, the Chair, began his remarks by thanking those attending the AGM, and the officers for their hard work in ensuring that the business of the Society was well managed.

He then continued by remembering those members of the Society who had died during the previous year. In particular he mentioned Pauline Miller, a faithful member and one-time Council member; Stephen Wallwork, also a long-time member; and Dr Rosalys Coope, former Council member since the 1950s, Chair of Council, President and Vice-President: he noted that her research on Newstead Abbey would be consulted for many years to come.

The Chair then stated that Judith Mills was retiring from the role of Membership Secretary and that Philip Jones was also retiring from Council but it was hoped that he would continue to staff the bookstall, along with Margaret Trueman and Penelope Messenger. It was anticipated that Paul Baker, nominated for Council, would become in due course the Newsletter Editor, allowing John Wilson more flexibility to take on Membership Secretary in addition to continue as the Society's valued Honorary Treasurer. He thanked the Transactions editors in their absence for another excellent volume which he looked forward to reading. Professor Beckett noted that the first Transactions article written by Professor Stanley Chapman had appeared in 1962 and another of his was in this volume, 56 years later. He reminded those present to make sure they collected their copies from Rob James, the Distribution and Sales Secretary.

The Chair informed members that it was likely that a volume in the Record Series would be published in the current year - this would be the Church Notes of Sir Stephen Glynne from his church visits in the nineteenth century; he commented that Sir Stephen had visited Caunton Church on 23rd April 1874, two months before his death.

Professor Beckett reminded members of the Geoffrey Bond Research Awards, the next round being due in the next few months and urged that anyone engaged in research consider applying. The Research Group continued to meet twice a year. Those with concerns about planning or other heritage related matters were reminded that the Society made representations on such matters if informed, as

stated in the Annual Report. He mentioned the disposal of Laxton by the Crown Estate and that the progress of this was being closely observed. It was noted that a condition of acquisition would be to retain the status quo including the open field system and the Manor Court. Only one interested party remained in contention from a considerable number of applicants.

In conclusion he gave special thanks to the Honorary Secretary for her efficiency in organising the Spring Meeting and AGM and throughout the year.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The following were elected:-

- President - Adrian Henstock
- Vice-Presidents - Sir Neil Cossons, Keith Goodman and David Bagley
- Honorary Secretary - Barbara Cast
- Honorary Treasurer - John Wilson
- Honorary Editors - Martyn Bennett (History) and Christopher King (Archaeology)
- Consultant Editor and Records Series Editor - Adrian Henstock
- Honorary Newsletter Editor - to be confirmed at next Council meeting
- Honorary Distribution and Sales Secretary - Robert James
- Honorary Lecture Secretary - David Hoskins
- Honorary Excursion Secretary - Alan Langton
- Honorary Membership Secretary - John Wilson

David Crook, Trevor Foulds, Penelope Messenger and Margaret Trueman were re-elected to Council and Paul Baker and Judith Mills were elected to Council.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

The Annual General Meeting ended at 3pm and was followed by a most interesting account of the life and work of Dean Samuel Reynolds Hole, the bi-centenary of whose birth was being celebrated in 2019. It was given by His Honour Judge John Machin whose grandfather had been a friend of Dean Hole. As well as being the incumbent at Caunton for many years, Reynolds Hole (as he was known) was a noted expert and breeder of roses, having a number of roses named for him, and being a founder member of the National Rose Society. His circle of friends included John Leech, Charles Dickens and John Everett Millais. He became a popular preacher and orator, including preaching in St Paul's fifty times, his key themes being the perils of drunkenness and the vital centrality of family and home life. In 1887 he was made Dean of Rochester. He died in 1904 and was buried in St Andrew's churchyard, Caunton.

During tea a tape recording of an interview between Rosalys Coope and Steph Mastoris was played.

After tea members visited St Andrew's Church, a Grade I listed building of great interest and beauty. Members were given a most interesting account of the church's architecture and history by local resident, Brian Robins.