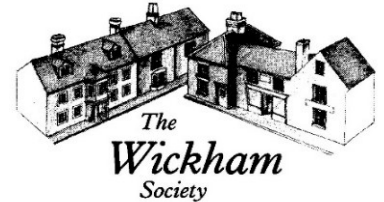


Wickham Society



Annual General Meeting Minutes 2024

Date: Tuesday 9 April 2024 at 7.30pm

Location: Wickham Community Centre

Apologies for absence

33 members and 1 visitor were present. Apologies were received from Chris and Melissa Judd, Ted Kemp, Geoff Philpotts, Geoff Page, Robert Goulson, Sue Pittam, Nic and Kathryn Holladay, Steve and Margaret Spencer, David Evans, Rev. David Isaacs, Brian and Heather Oswald.

Adoption of previous minutes

The minutes of the 2023 AGM which had been circulated to members in advance were adopted. Proposed by Rosemary Craine and seconded by Duncan Phelps. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's address

Prior to the meeting the Chairman and Treasurer's reports had been circulated to members – as detailed below. Wendy explained that she was aware, as she reflected on the on the past year, that she had not been as pro-active as she would have wished, however last year had proved to be a rather hectic one supporting her increasingly frail father, now in his 96th year.

However, Wendy highlighted how the Wickham Residents' Association had been active and vocal in their concerns about several issues, particularly those that relate to traffic and parking in this community. She did commend them for the steps that they were taking to consider potential solutions and engage with key stakeholders to bring about improvements. They were also instrumental in recruiting several volunteers to become part of a community speed watch team. In the last 3 weeks they had already registered over 350 cars speeding on School Road and Winchester Road during approximately 15 hours of duty – including a motorbike travelling at 89 mph going down Winchester Road.

Chairman's Report for 2023

In 2023, the committee had comprised of:

Chair: Wendy Greenish

Vice Chair: Paul Burlingham

Treasurer: Rosemary O' Leary

Secretary: Deborah Brown

Committee members: Chris Hoare, Jane Turner, David Peters

During the year, the committee met to consider future meeting arrangements and programmes, any planning concerns and issues and feedback from committee members from any external meetings or events relating to the Society's purpose and activities.

Society meetings

A variety of topics were presented to members during the year. In March, Sandy Phillips-Lee explained her role as a Registrar for 'hatches, matches and dispatches' as well as other ceremonies. In April Kate Turnball gave an update on the continuing activities of the Wickham Pantry, now supporting over 200 people each week. In May, at very short notice, Janet Evans stepped in to tell us about the Titchfield Theatre, and how it has become the largest amateur theatre in Europe producing up to 40 productions each year.

Last October, Cllr Kelsie Learney informed us about the strategies the council is taking about rubbish and how we could reduce, reuse or recycle. In November, we learnt how the Blue Lamp Trust can assist in improving home safety and security for vulnerable residents and in December we joined members of the History Society to hear of tales from the Tower of London from retired Beefeater, Anthony Strafford.

Planning issues

1. Titchfield Lane - In late December 2021, a planning application was submitted to HCC to transport inert waste to a site in Titchfield Lane, where 12 large lorries per hour would be manoeuvring along the lane and potentially travelling on through Wickham. Thanks to a concerted effort by many organisations and residents in the community, the applicants withdrew their proposal just before it was scheduled to be heard by the HCC planning committee in the autumn of 2023. They do have a further two years to resubmit their proposal and so we remain vigilant to this possibility.
2. The Glebe – the Society, through Paul Burlingham, continues to have representation on the working group that was formed in 2022 under the leadership of Mark Ashton to support the development of the north part of the Glebe into an open space for the community. Regrettably the necessary steps to enable the transfer of ownership of the Glebe to the Parish Council has not yet taken place and so any future plans for the maintenance and use of the area to be a benefit to the environment and community have been delayed.
3. WCC Local Plan 2020 – 2040 (emerging) – The Local Plan sets out how it is intended to accommodate the growth we need to plan for in the district, outside the South Downs National Park, for the period up to 2040.

There has been little public development or information on the WCC website, but the published revised timeline looks like this:

Key dates

- Publish the Regulation 19 Consultation - Q2 (July to September) 2024
- Submission of Local Plan to Planning Inspectorate, Regulation 22 - Q3 (October to December) 2024
- Local Plan Examination - Q4 (January to March 2025) 2024/2025
- Consultation on the proposed main modifications - Q1 (April to June) 2025
- Inspector's report - Q3 (October to December) 2025
- Adoption of the Local Plan - Q3 (October to December) 2025

We remain alert to any risk of a change to the position agreed in May 2022 that the parish does not need to accept more housing than the previously agreed 200 houses in the land north of Ravenswood in Knowle.

4. The Mill Lane Forum – has not met since the Spring of 2023. However, a thorough review of the options identified by the forum has been undertaken within the Parish Council. This includes a financial analysis which shows that any option is likely to be unaffordable for this community, without significant outside grants.
5. Welborne - Wendy continues to represent the Society on the Welborne Stakeholder Liaison Group and also on the Fareham Borough Council (FBC) Welborne Community Forum that has met twice in the last year. She is working with others to ensure that Healthcare commissioners realise that healthcare provision on the site is an imperative. The impact of Welborne on the ground is now being realised by us all, particularly during the period of road reduction and closure on the A32. For Knowle residents there has been further disruption to Knowle road, internet access etc. For updates on what is happening please refer to www.welborne.co.uk/latest-updates.

All the correspondence from the Society in the public domain can be found on our website.

www.wickhamsociety.org.uk.

There were no questions raised about the items and topics covered in the report.

Treasurer's Report for 2023

2023 was a quiet year financially for the Society. We started the year with £698.61 in the Bank.

Membership subscriptions for 2023 were collected at the beginning of the calendar year and most members paid by Bank Transfer which is convenient for the Treasurer, and we hope for members too. For the future we are looking into using a Card Reader at meetings for new members joining and for visitors.

The main items of expenditure in the year were the speakers' fees and expenses and the hire of the Houghton Room for our five meetings and the Woodford Suite for the joint Christmas meeting with the History Society.

Income was £492.74 and expenditure £525.92, causing a small loss of £33.18. We had £665.43 in the Bank at the end of 2023 to take forward to January 2024. We have maintained our annual subscription of £6.00 for 2024 but will keep an increase in mind should expenses rise significantly.

During the year we welcomed 7 new members and 8 visitors and at the end of 2023 there were 68 members. Membership has fluctuated every year as follows:

Memberships paid

2021	70	
2022	74	
2023	68	
2024	55	To date

I am pleased that as I hand over to my successor the finances are in a healthy state. I am grateful to Brian Oswald for undertaking the audit of these accounts.

Rosemary O'Leary, Treasurer

The accounts were proposed by Martin Rogers and seconded by Mike Hollis, supported by all members present. (Statement overleaf)

Election of officers and committee members

Rosemary was standing down as Treasurer and Brian Oswald had been proposed as our new Treasurer by Martin Rogers and seconded by Geoff Philpotts. This proposal was carried by the members present.

Chris Hoare was also standing down this year. Between them, Rosemary and Chris had served many years on the Wickham Society committee. Wendy thanked them both for all their hard work and commitment to the Society, particularly acknowledging and thanking Rosemary for all her help in keeping us all on track and being the lynch pin for our communications. Wendy explained that Rosemary will remain involved as she had agreed to become our auditor.

Wendy then formally asked that as all remaining committee members were willing to continue in office in their current roles, she asked if there are any objections to the remaining committee members being collectively appointed? There were no objections to this proposal. She reminded members that if anyone else would like to join the committee to contact her.

This concluded the formal part of the AGM at 7.45pm. The meeting then resumed with a talk from Wendy about services at Rowans Hospice, and the impact of the pandemic for the charity.

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR
THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Funds as at 1 st January 2023		
Lloyds TSB account	698.61	747.54
Cash in Hand	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8.00</u>
	<u>698.61</u>	<u>755.54</u>
INCOME		
Membership subscriptions (2023 session)	408.00	444.00
Membership subscriptions (2022 session)	-	18.00
Visitors	<u>16.00</u>	<u>74.00</u>
	<u>424.00</u>	<u>536.00</u>
Contribution towards Cable Mat – Men’s Breakfast	-	12.00
Contribution towards Cable Mat – Wickham History Soc.	-	13.00
Donations from members	4.00	15.00
Donations for Tea & Coffee	41.83	12.21
Payment from Wickham History Society (May meeting)	-	61.12
Refund from Wickham History Society (Christmas)	22.91	4.25
	<u>492.74</u>	<u>653.58</u>
TOTAL INCOME		
EXPENDITURE		
Hire of Houghton Room, Wickham Community Centre: <i>14th Mar, 18th Apr, 9th May, 10th Oct, 14th Nov @ £15 per hour</i>	150.00	123.25
Hire of Woodford Suite for shared Christmas meeting <i>12th Dec 2.5hours @ £23.50 per hour</i>	58.75	-
Speaker’s Fees and Expenses	176.90	176.94
Shared Expenses for May meeting (<i>Park Place</i>)	-	170.25
Refreshments for shared December meeting	78.08	
To Wickham History Society for shared December meeting	-	85.37
Purchase of Cable Mat	-	34.79
Renewal of <i>wickham.org.uk</i>	51.99	71.99
Local Plan training fee	-	35.00
Tea & coffee expenses	10.20	12.92
	<u>525.92</u>	<u>710.51</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		
Profit / loss for the year	<u>(33.18)</u>	<u>(56.93)</u>
Funds as at 31st December 2023		
Lloyds Bank account	665.43	698.61
Cash in Hand	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>665.43</u>	<u>698.61</u>