

THE HADLEIGH SOCIETY

Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting of The Hadleigh Society held in Hadleigh Old Town Hall on Wednesday 18th June 2008 at 8.p.m.

Apologies for absence were received from nine members.

Attendance. Thirty members of the Society were in attendance.

Minutes of the A.G.M. of 27th June 2007 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

Treasurers Report. Chris Drake presented the financial statement. The major event of the past year has been the resurrection of the Tesco planning application and this has had its effect on our finances; donations of over £5000 into the Fighting Fund have swamped other income. We have therefore opened a second current account in an effort to keep the monies separate.

Overall 2007/8 was a satisfactory year. Income was slightly down, expenditure up a little resulting in a surplus of over £200

There were no questions and the report was accepted.

History Group Report was given by Sue Angland. The Society's meeting last August was particularly well-attended the room being full to capacity, this being for the History Group's presentation of 'Hadleigh in 1836'. Another large crowd turned out on a very cold and blustery evening in February when we were invited to repeat the presentation to the Friends of St Mary's Church. It was very well received.

The group was invited last December to Elmswell to perform our previous presentation 'Highway Robbery in Hadleigh' which was thoroughly enjoyed by the local historical society.

For Part 2 of our work on Hadleigh in the 1830's and 40's we are currently putting together our research into the life of the Dean Henry Barry Knox, who kindly kept a diary of us to delve into. We have learnt about his Church duties, the various positions he held in the town, his everyday routines and a little gossip about the people of Hadleigh! You will be able to hear the results of our findings at the Society's meeting on December 1st.

Planning. With the exception of the work being carried out at Stone House there is little to report. A report on the Tesco application will be made in the chair's review.

Representation on other bodies. John Bloomfield continues to represent the Society on the East of England Associations of Civic Trusts and the Regional Historic Environment Forum.

Chair's Review. Over the last year the executive committee has followed the programme pattern which seems successful both from a speaker and audience point of view.

The society was again represented at the Hadleigh Show. Sue Andrews provided a display on the historical landscape, which attracted a lot of interest and for which we thank her most sincerely. The committee also decided to make a presentation to the President of the Hadleigh Farmers Club of an early map of Holbecks estate.

Tesco. The planning application was finally submitted in March 2008 and is scheduled to go before the development committee in late Summer. We have put in a 'holding' letter and intend making our full submission in July. We have been working closely with the Hands off Hadleigh group. A private benefactor has 'bankrolled' us for the time being. The Town Council is opposed to the proposals as are English Heritage, Natural England the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and some 1900 individuals who have

responded according to the Babergh website. The Hands off Hadleigh group occupied part of the Society's tent at the May Show and were quite a crowd puller.

Finally I would like to thank all of the Executive committee who all continue to pull more than their weight. To repeat comments I have made previously, nothing just happens in the Society, people make it happen. Jan Byrne has decided to step down as Secretary and I am sure that you would like me to thank her for all her hard work.

Roy O'Shaughnessy has agreed to join the committee, however it would be helpful if more members would consider becoming committee members. We have work to do to make the Society function, but we try to make it fun.

Co-opted committee member resignations.

Rosemary Schade has resigned as Membership Secretary and Jim Betteridge who has overseen the delivery of the News letters. They were thanked for their years of loyal service and a presentation made each to them .

Election of Officers and the Executive Committee

Chair: John Bloomfield.	Members Sue Angland
Vice Chair: Graham Panton	Jan Byrne
Secretary – Vacant	Daphne Jarvis
Treasurer Chris Drake.	Roy O'Shaughnessy
Membership Secretary Margaret Woods.	

The meeting closed at 8.20p.m. It was followed by a talk from Sue Andrews on the 1668 map of Hadleigh and closed with the serving of cheese and wine.