

FRESSINGFIELD LOCAL HISTORY AND ARCHIVE GROUP

Minutes of the AGM held on 25th March 2008

Those Present: Muriel, Eddie, Donny, Pennie, Hugh, Mary, Rosemary, Pauline, Olaf, Jennie, Roger, Ian Smith, Ian Cawston, Chris, Ann and Lynne

Election of Officers

Chairman Pennie (Proposed by Lynne Seconded by Mary)

Secretary Lynne (Proposed by Pennie Seconded by Olaf)

Treasurer Hugh (Proposed by Pennie Seconded by Muriel)

1. Events for 2007

Pennie gave her Chairman's report. From a membership of 11 we now have 30 members. She thanked Mary for scanning photos, approximately 2000, and logging information. Pennie has also received several E-mail enquiries from as far afield as New Zealand and been able to reply with information from our archives.

We have had reprints of all three village history books along with the Heritage map.

During the course of the year we had a walk around the village with Peter Vincent, a visit to Fressingfield Hall and Orford Castle, all of which were well attended.

A very successful exhibition was held in August along with a small exhibition for the Garden Festival and the Church Bells.

A talk was held by Don Andrews, along with a myriad of artefacts; a Film Show by Stuart Orr and an evening with Mike Readman, giving a fascinating slide show on how the Stradbroke History Group connect places, people and events for our future reference. Again, all these evenings were well attended.

It was agreed that, as we will be holding a display of photographs at the Fressingfield Fete in July 2008, there would not be an Exhibition in August this year. An exhibition will be held in 2009 to help celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Fox & Goose.

2. Programme for 2008

A evening walk in May from the centre of the village.

On 24th June, a visit has been arranged to Earsham Hall under the Invitation to View Scheme. The cost will be £16.50 per head including tea/coffee and home-made biscuits on arrival and full afternoon tea with sandwiches following the tour. The visit will last 2 – 1 /12 hours starting at 2.30 p.m. Enquiries were made about an evening visit but they could only accommodate us in the afternoon.

There will be no meeting in August but another Group visit to the Ipswich Records Office will be arranged for September when we could possibly use the visit for research into the 500th anniversary of The Fox & Goose.

It was suggested that The Knicker Lady be approached to give the group a talk leading up to Christmas. Penny and Lynne to look into the costing and possible booking at a future date.

A musical group for a Christmas event is being looked into.

3. Treasurer's Report

Hugh presented the Treasurer's Report, which showed a healthy balance of £1689, which excluded the purchase of Display Boards by Pennie which cost £300.

It was also suggested by Hugh that an external audit be made on the accounts every 5 years which was agreed by all present.

The matter of subscriptions was raised and it was agreed by everyone that they remain at £10 per year. Although there was a healthy balance, there would be extra expenses this year on top of the hire of the hall e.g.. cine films to be put onto discs, material for future exhibitions, etc. An external hard drive was requested by Mary to store all the FLHAG information and pictures she has accrued since the set up of the group. Roger has agreed to purchase the hard drive, which will be in the region of £80/£100. This was agreed by all present.

General

Pennie pointed out that the Group needed easy access to warm, dry, secure storage for our photos and photo boards. The new exhibition stands that have been purchased, also need storage space.

Membership to the Suffolk Local History Council has been proposed by Pennie for £10 per year. FLHAG would get access to any events organised by the council, regular publications and contact with various historical links. Hugh seconded the proposal and, again, it was agreed by all present.

Muriel volunteered to be in charge of refreshments for the normal monthly meetings and members would generally help at each meeting. In the past, Margaret has organised the refreshments for special events and it is hoped that she will continue to do so.

Help is always needed with research and setting up exhibitions and there was a good show of hands of people willing to help when required.

The next meeting is on Tuesday 28th April in Sancroft Hall, when Sue Webster and Graham Gibbs will be discussing the book they have produced "The History of Weybread" with advice on its production, if any grants are available, etc.