

Helmdon Local History Group

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10th October 2023 in the Reading Room, Helmdon.

Present : 30 residents and visitors

Apologies : Mike Barnes, Ann Smith

1. Welcome.

Danny Moody , as the Chair of the Group, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes

This being the first AGM of the Group, there were no minutes of the previous meeting. Instead the minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Group held on 18th July 2023 were noted.

3. Chair's report

It was noted that the 'pre-committee' before the Inaugural meeting had continued to work as the Committee of the Group after the Inaugural Meeting, and had been meeting monthly. The Committee had approved the opening of a bank account, and had planned this evening's event.

In addition, the Group had compiled a list of projects which could be researched, and Danny invited volunteers either to work on these on their own or in collaboration with other members. The list would be made available on the website.

4. Treasurer's report.

As the Group's bank account had only just been opened, there were no accounts to consider. It was noted with gratitude that the Parish Council had made a grant of £250, that there would be some money from the remaining funds of the Helmdon History website, and there would be income from membership and visitor fees.

5. Elections.

The meeting approved the re-election of the following en bloc :

Chair – Danny Moody

Secretary – Hugh Walmsley

Treasurer – Mike Barnes

Committee members : Ross Vicars, Audrey Forgham, Faye Holloway , Cec Harrold.

6. Future Plans

The Chair emphasised that it was not intended to hold regular meetings with speakers, as this was a role amply covered by other local history groups, (eg those in Syresham and Brackley). The Chair expected the Group to focus on Helmdon, rather than on more general historical topics.

It was noted that the Group had planned Open Meetings for 6th February 2024 and for 11th June 2024.

The topic for the February meeting would be 'Helmdon's website: past, present and future'.

The topic for the June meeting had yet to be decided.

7. Members' questions

In answer to a question, the Chair confirmed that the Group's remit would include Falcutt and Astwell, and anywhere else within the civil parish of Helmdon .

8. Guest Speaker

The chair welcomed Deborah Hayter , chair of the Northamptonshire Record Society , who gave a talk on 'Researching Helmdon's History – a How-To guide'.