

Annual General Meeting of the Cumbria Local History Federation

Saturday 26 November 2016 at Shap War Memorial Hall

Apologies: David Bradbury, Sally Newton

Minutes of the previous meeting: no matters arising

Chairman's report: After last year's experiment with a different format joining up with Cumbria Family History Society, for 2016 we've reverted to the tried and tested formula we employed for many years with a renowned and popular speaker supported by a galaxy of local, and indeed, home-grown, talent. Our sincere thanks to Liz Kerrey for all her hard work organising this Convention, and for June Hall lending a hand.

We're doubly grateful to Liz for accepting the role of Treasurer, combined with Membership Secretary, again a reversion to an older model as some committee members no doubt recall. It is, however, with considerable regret, that we accept Robert Baxter's resignation as Secretary. He has been a model of administrative ability and a great support and we – especially me – can't thank him enough. We shall be looking for a new Secretary and the duties are not onerous – minutes and agendas for committee meetings about 4 times a year, so do please hurl yourselves into the breach. I am also retiring as Chairman, six years of me is enough for the strongest to endure!

In my spell as Chairman there have been changes in local history, more particularly in emphasis, but although we've lost a few LH Societies and others have shrunk a bit, or even a lot, we've found new members, both individuals and societies. There's quite a community of interest who prefer to engage with local history via social media – Facebook has a variety of groups such as Old West Cumbria and Cumbria Past and Present. Perhaps we should be joining them and encouraging a bit deeper interest in things historical. Any volunteers to run a Facebook page for the Federation? It may be an alternative route to Cumbria's historical heart!

Those of you who were at the 2015 AGM will remember we passed a resolution to again enable the committee to appoint the examiner or auditor of the accounts, following a well-meant but unfortunate change in the previous year where it was resolved the AGM should appoint them. This led to a situation where the accounts were presented unexamined, (because the examiner couldn't be appointed in a timely way) so this year we have accepted the auditor's advice to record that the committee resolved that the accounts presented previously should be accepted as presented, and I would like you to approve the committee's action.

Finally I would like to thank you, the members, for your friendship, support and enthusiasm over my years as editor, dogsbody and Chairman. I appreciate it all very much.

Membership Secretary/Treasurer's report (Liz Kerry): noted the loss of three societies recently but we had gained four as well as individual members and we had 51 paid up groups at present.

We had a healthy balance of £3110. There was a slight decline due to the loss of revenue from the convention being held with the CFHS. The Chairman's proposal that the presented accounts should be accepted was

passed. The accounts will now run from 1 July - 30 June so that they can be audited by the new auditor Michael Coen and presented as audited at the next AGM.

Bulletin editor's report (Nigel Mills): Continues to look for contributions of interest in the membership or around the county from societies and individual members. Confirmed that e-versions of bulletins are made available so that group secretaries can forward to their own memberships, but that paper copies will continue to be posted to individual members and member groups.

Web Editor (David Bradbury): A statement was read in absentia which noted that a basic version of the Speaker's A-Z was now available on the website Changes to web site. The Chairman proposed that funds should be made available to update the website and this was passed by the members.

Election of officers:

Chairman: Peter Roebuck

Secretary: Lyn Cole

Treasurer: Liz Kerry

Committee: Richard Brockington, June Hall, Jenni Lister, Nigel Mills

Any other business: Richard Brockington gave a vote of thanks in tribute of Jenni Lister's Chairmanship of the Society.

[Post meeting note: the CLHF archive of bulletins, papers relating to its establishment, minutes of AGMs and Committee meetings is now held on deposit at Carlisle Archive Centre under reference DSO 406].