



## MINUTES OF THE 48th AGM

2:00 PM, 23rd APRIL 2017 - GORING HEATH PARISH HALL, WHITCHURCH HILL

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CHAIR Dave Carless  
MINUTES Michael Vincent

23 members of SOAG were recorded as present

### 1) Welcome from the President

Hazel Williams welcomed members to the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, and thanked everyone for all their support over the past year.

### 2) Opening remarks by the Chair of the Meeting

Dave Carless also welcomed all the attendees, saying what a good year SOAG had had, but, trusting that those present had read his Chairman's Report, would say no more so the meeting could move on without delay.

### 3) Apologies for absence

These had been received from: Sue Sandford, Jane Stubbington, Andrew Allum, Beatrice Pope, Chris Howlett, Barbara East, David & Diana Nicholls, Ruth Gibson, Ken Houston, John Scarborough, Keith Dallimore, Gail Eaton, Alistair Graham Kerr, John Moughton, Viv & Derek Greenwood and Roelie Reed

### 4) Adoption of the Minutes of the AGM held on the 24th April 2016

Proposed: Mike Fulton                      Seconded: Nancy Nichols                      Adopted without dissent

### 5) Matters arising from the minutes of the 2016 AGM

None

### 6) Adoption of Reports of Officers for 2016

#### 6.1) Chairman's Report

Proposed: Alan Hall                      Seconded: Mike Fulton                      Adopted without dissent

#### 6.2) Treasurer's Report

Mike Fulton asked why digger fees had varied so much between years. Kaz Greenham explained that the accounts, being prepared on a cash basis, sometimes show discrepancies

when bankings, as in this case, were made in the adjacent the financial year.

Proposed: Lindsey Bedford      Seconded: Mike Green      Adopted without dissent

**7) Adoption of the examined Accounts for 2016**

Proposed: John Hefferan      Seconded: Mike Fulton      Adopted without dissent

**8) Appointment of Mrs Sue Fogden as Examiner for the 2017 Accounts**

Proposed: Mike Green      Seconded: Mike Vincent      Adopted without dissent

**9) Election of Officers and of Ordinary Committee Members for 2017-18**

No other proposals to stand for the committee had been received and the current officers and committee members were willing to stand again.

Proposed: Mike Grinsted      Seconded: Becky Morrisson      Adopted without dissent

**10) Confirmation of Ian Clarke as Honorary Member**

Mike Vincent gave a heartfelt résumé (appended below) of Ian's activities in the field, on *SOAG Messenger* and for the committee and his continuing support to SOAG, its work and events He asked the members present to show their appreciation, and to adopt the proposal.

Proposed: Dave Carless      Seconded: Nancy Nichols      Adopted without dissent

**11) Any Other Business**

None

The meeting closed at 2:20 pm

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**COMMITTEE 2017-18**

President                      Hazel Williams  
Vice President                Ian Clarke

**Officers:**

Chairman                      Dave Carless  
Vice-Chairman                Nancy Nichols  
Hon. Secretary                Michael Vincent  
Hon. Treasurer                Kaz Greenham

**Ordinary Members:**

Michael Green  
John Hefferan  
Janet Eastment  
Lindsey Bedford  
Alan Hall  
John Moughton

## CITATION: IAN CLARKE



“It is with real pleasure and a deep sense of gratitude that SOAG today proposes awarding Honorary Membership to Ian Clarke.

Ian joined SOAG in 1999 and was immediately co-opted onto the committee, becoming Secretary in 2001 and then Chairman from 2006 to 2009. During those years, Ian actively promoted and was instrumental in leading the reorganisation and modernisation of SOAG to secure its long-term future as a thriving and successful archaeology group. He is currently Honorary Vice President of SOAG.

Between 2002 and 2008 Ian edited the SOAG Messenger, during which period he introduced colour, articles like “Tailings” and much more content – and the use of email to publish it.

In 2006 he set up the Brightwell Baldwin Community History and Archaeology Project (BBCHAP) drawing it into the SOAG fold and gaining Heritage Lottery funding (enabling the purchase of, I believe, our first resistivity meter, and digital projector). Over six years he led many BBCHAP/SOAG projects, including the site of Blooms Field 19<sup>th</sup>C farm, Cadwell Farm moated manor and Roman trackway, and the successful search for the lost manor house in Brightwell Park.

Work at Ascott Park, near Stadhampton, began when a project led by the Oxfordshire Buildings Trust to locate the short-lived 17<sup>th</sup>C house left many unanswered questions and Ian took up their invitation for SOAG to continue the work. Two seasons of geophysical surveying and desk-based research have led to different interpretations of the earlier fieldwork and revealed much new evidence, all of which provides a firm basis and clear direction for future research. It seems there is much more to Ascott Park than first meets the eye, and Ian is still determined to follow this up.

Ian has been inspirational – for example motivating the Brightwell Baldwin villagers into the BBCHAP project, and encouraging us as individuals into doing more for SOAG than we could ever have imagined (or intended!).

Ian is a consummate professional - instilling the discipline and application of good techniques and recording throughout. Ian once remarked that a SOAG motto could be ‘having fun digging professionally’ and he lived certainly up to that and always tried to ensure that his diggers felt the same.

We thank you so very much, Ian, for all your past work as Hon. Secretary, Chairman and Vice President of the group, for your instigation and participation in fieldwork on SOAG projects large and small over the past 18 years, for your continued and loyal support of SOAG’s events, projects and lectures, and for your wisdom and judgement ever available to the SOAG committee.”