



**Minutes of the Society's AGM on Wednesday 24 March 2010
Alvechurch Village Hall**

Items in order of agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman, Andy Humphries (AH), welcomed 54 members to the AGM and gave apologies on behalf of the following: Maisie and Simon Raine, Anne Hudson, John and Mary Sidwell, Pat Parker, Geoff Franklin, Jill Woolley and Elizabeth Aubury.

AH opened the AGM by recalling the minutes from the 1970 AGM where proceedings were much more formal ...first names were not used and virtually all of the Officers and Committee were male. Some of the village issues were very similar though to those today, such as housing developments and traffic calming. The 1970 meeting closed with a Brains Trust where members were asked to imagine what Alvechurch would look like in the year 2000.....no notes survive about what was envisaged ! He also mentioned that the 1971 AGM was moved at the last minute due to a gas explosion at the house next to the Village Hall....he hoped that tonight's session would be lively but not suffer the same fate.

A letter, along with a donation, had recently been received from Forest Hansen...AH said this was available to any members who wishes to read it.

2. Minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted unanimously. Matters arising were the sending of a card to Sylvia Cartwright (who subsequently had passed away) and a letter to the County Council reference speeding in the village and surrounding areas (especially Old Rectory Lane). Both issues had been addressed and some traffic calming carried out in Grange Lane – AVS would continue to urge the County Council to reduce speed limits near the schools.

3. Motion to approve 2009 Annual Accounts

AH referred to the years' accounts published in the AVS Annual Report. The Society made a slight loss during 2009 which was mainly due to late payment of Membership Subscriptions. The excellent Christmas party made a small profit.

Footpath account – this budget has been reduced to £500 by the County Council.

A motion to approve the accounts was proposed by Philip Aubury; seconded by Adrian Smith and passed unanimously.

4. Motion to approve 2009 Annual Report

AH introduced the Annual Report and mentioned the front cover picture of a Dellow car, intended as advertising for a forthcoming talk by a Dellow car enthusiast on 19th May. On 22nd May fellow Dellow car enthusiasts will drive around village and park up outside the Village Hall.

Phillip Aubury, AVS President, commented on how good the report looked. Forest Hansen (in his letter) had commented on the disappearance of the list of members in the report (mainly due to Data Protection legislation)

A motion to approve the Annual Report was proposed by John Alexander; seconded by Anne Thurrell and passed unanimously.

5. President's Address

Philip Aubury started his address by talking about finding a pewter cannonball in his garden when he moved to the village over 25 years ago. The tale was to help illustrate how times have changed and that the village is a lot more peaceful than during the Civil War, where the cannonball might have come from. PA apologised for not being involved as much as he would like to have done but continues to read and comment on AVS minutes and actions. PA mentioned the many successful events held for the Society's 40th anniversary.

Philip thanked Andy Humphries for his commitment and contribution over the past three years as Chairman. As Andy stands down PA welcomed Adrian Smith as the new Chairman, Sarah Courbet as Secretary and John Alexander as Treasurer. PA thanked all the committee members for their hard work particularly Eileen as Programme Secretary, Barry as Footpath Warden and Lorna for organising the walks. PA hoped that the bulbs planted by the Society would start to show their flowers very soon. The activities to promote the Society had helped raise the membership to nearly 300.

6. Election of Officers

Chairman: Adrian Smith

Proposed Ray Yarnell Seconded Kate Brennan

Secretary: Sarah Courbet

Proposed Lorna Sage Seconded Jim Parker

Treasurer: John Alexander

Proposed Jim Parker Seconded Barbara Waller

Independent Examiner Keith Rixon

Committee members

"The Committee" Names as on agenda

Proposed Philip Aubury Seconded Andy Humphries

The Committee and Officers above were elected unanimously.

7. AOB

As new Chairman Adrian Smith offered his thanks to Andy Humphries and presented him with a thank you gift of an engraved pewter tankard. Andy remains as Vice Chairman.

Eileen mentioned the planned BBC Tours at the Mailbox. 17th April – Saturday afternoon. Thursday evening – 22nd April – 5pm til 6.30. Those wishing to attend need to confirm and pay for their places.

As there was no further business Adrian Smith concluded the formal part of the meeting and invited everyone to stay on for refreshments; and to play curling courtesy of John and Jill Alexander.

Formal meeting closed at 8.00pm

After the meeting closed, Peter Higgins from Hopwood expressed a wish to join the Committee. This was agreed informally by the new Chairman and other Committee members present at the AGM but will be ratified formally at the next Committee meeting on Thursday 1st April.