

BITTERNE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of the AGM held on 11th October 2025

The Chair welcomed everyone to the AGM.

1. List of those present as written down on entering the meeting.

2. Apologies: Kevin Jenks. Peter Richards. Linda and Derek Kinchington. Alan Dyer.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM held in October 2024. These were approved.

4. Chair's Annual Report: The Chair reported on another busy year for the Society. He thanked Peter Richards for arranging speakers for the Society but was now stepping down; Carol Cunio had taken this on. The Charity shop continues to raise money to support the Museum and new ways of raising funds are constantly being investigated. The Heritage Centre and Museum are open Mondays through to Fridays and the Chair thanked the stewards for their continuing work. A permanent sign pointing the way to the Museum had been erected in the Precinct. The Southampton Heritage Federation which is up and running again held a very successful Heritage Fair at which we had a presence.

The Chair thanked the Editor, Steve Adams, and the printer John Butler, of our very successful magazine. The Chair also thanked Pam West for her work in looking after membership and magazine distribution. Nicola Jenks has relinquished her post of Minute Secretary and the Chair thanked her for her hard work. Katie Dyer, one of our shop volunteers, had agreed to take on the post of Treasurer and Mary Abrahams has been helping with the transfer. The Chair thanked the Web Group led by Peter Richards

The Chair thanked the Vice Presidents for their continued support and also thanked the members of the Committee. New members to the committee would be most welcome.

5. Membership Secretary 's Report: This year the Society membership has increased from 162 to 167 paid up members, not necessarily local to Bitterne but with addresses all over the country and beyond, with one member living in New Zealand. Sadly, we lost eight members of the Society. In addition, thirteen magazines are sent to other local societies advertising our group.

We are fortunate that with so many members, postage costs for the quarterly magazine have been reduced, with locally addressed magazines being delivered by hand leaving only a third of the envelopes having to be posted. Thank you to all those members who are able to play "Postman Pat" thus keeping the costs down. *Pamela West.*

6. Finance. The financial report was not yet ready but will be brought to the Society's meeting in the near future.

7. Election of Officers. All returned unopposed: Ian Abrahams (Chair), Mary Abrahams (Secretary), Katie Dyer (Treasurer), Pamela West (Membership & magazine distribution), Carol Cunio (Speakers), Kate Martin, Kevin Jenks.

8. Web Development Group: In the absence of the Group Chair, Peter Richards, Steve Adams gave a brief verbal report. "The group continue to make updates to the website to keep it current; i.e. details of the current magazine and next meetings. Minor adjustments and updates were made to the site to make it run more smoothly while we brought several long-term efforts to fruition which will enhance members' experiences."

9. The next AGM will be held in October 2026.