

ST ALBANS CIVIC SOCIETY
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 17th October 2024 at 7.45pm
Jubilee Centre, Catherine Street

AGENDA

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Apologies for absence
- 3 Minutes of previous AGM held on 12th October 2023 (attached)
- 4 Trustees' report and accounts to 31st March 2024 ([available here](#))
- 5 Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2024/25
 - The committee propose the appointment of David Moore

6 Amendment to Constitution

Section 6 of the constitution currently states: The Executive Committee ... shall be responsible for approving the accounts prepared by the Treasurer and duly audited (under the requirements of the Charity Commission) for submission to the Members at the Annual General Meeting."

This wording dates back to 1993 when the constitution was produced, and auditing of accounts was the standard practice. The Society has had an "independent examination" rather than an audit for many years as the turnover is well below the level required for a formal audit. When the requirement for audits was removed, the Charity Commission issued guidance saying that constitutions did not need to be updated and that the wording on this point could be understood to allow an independent examination.

The Committee would like to update the wording to avoid any confusion, and so propose the following amendment to Section 6, paragraph 3:

- Delete "audited" and replace with "independently examined"

7 Election of Officers

Nominations have been received for:

- Chairman: Mary Conneely
- Secretary: Robert Osborne
- Treasurer: Jon Bulloch

8 Election of Committee

Nominations have been received for:

Freda Chaloner, Jan Cropper, Fred Goulden, Roger Morton. Peter Newby, Robert Pankhurst.

9 Any Other Business

- There are no items under this heading notified within the requisite timeframe.

The meeting will be followed by drinks and nibbles

St Albans Civic Society Annual General Meeting

Held on 12th October 2023 at the Jubilee Centre, Catherine Street

1. WELCOME

The Chairman, Freda Chaloner, welcomed members to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: These were noted as advised to the Secretary.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2022 were approved.

4. TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

Freda Chaloner commented that this had been the first full year of activities since the Covid restrictions were lifted. The Clock Tower had opened later than usual due to repairs to the viewing platform at the top and thanks were noted to the volunteers who helped keep it open. This year new information boards had been installed at the top which had been funded by the Tour Guides. Liaison with the Council had included the CCOSN development, possible changes to the Arena and the proposed cultural strategy. The draft Local Plan process was due to start again, and the Society would respond to that.

Refreshing the vision and strategy of the Society had taken up some time and thanks were recorded to those responding to the questionnaire. This showed that members attached great importance to commenting on planning applications. Michael Fookes who had led the planning advisory group for many years had stepped down from that role and he was thanked for his significant contribution to the Society. David Lloyd who previously served on the committee and both the planning and design groups had died suddenly in July and his input was sadly missed.

The Treasurer, Jon Bulloch, reported that the accounts for the year showed the Society an operational surplus of £2000. The report for the year ended 31st March 2023 had been circulated prior to the meeting and was unanimously agreed.

5. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF ACCOUNTS

Re-appointment of Moore Kingston Smith as independent examiners was approved.

6. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN, OFFICERS and COMMITTEE

The election was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed en-bloc of: Freda Chaloner as Chairman, Robert Osborne as Secretary, Jon Bulloch as Treasurer and Mary Conneely, Jan Cropper, Roger Morton, Peter Newby, Robert Pankhurst as committee members.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman gave an update on activities since the end of the last financial year. This included the restarting of the Awards, the Fight the Freight group, lapsing of the Article 4 direction in the city centre that had prevented conversion of offices to residential and the Society's focus on a communication strategy and developing a social media presence. She reminded members that help was need with a number of roles and offers of assistance were welcomed.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed and followed by social event.