

BERKHAMSTED CITIZENS

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Wellcome Great Hall of Berkhamsted Town Hall on Thursday 16th March 2017.

1. The Chairman, Lindy Foster Weinreb, welcomed about 50 members and announced the programme for the evening: AGM business, a 20-minute break for refreshments, the Environment Award, a talk by Richard Backhouse, Head of Berkhamsted School, and ending with an open forum

Apologies were received from Susan Aldis, Jude Egan, David Gauke, Jenny Habib, Dan Marsh, Brian and Heide Norris, Jane Porter, Graham Spittle, Tony Statham and Mr. and Mrs. Waite.

2. The minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 17th March 2016 had been circulated, previously and at the meeting, were taken as read, and signed as a correct record. These were proposed by Benny Barth and seconded by Rita Jones.

3. **Chairman's Report**

This was circulated at the meeting. The proposal by Paul Crosland and seconded by Barbara Gainsley that the report be received was carried nem con.

Comments by the Chairman: Lindy gave a review of past and future events and noted that there were more members, new committee members and new posters. She particularly thanked Barbara and Mischke. The name of the Town Amenities Sub-Committee had been changed to Townscape and Gordon was given profound thanks for all his years on this committee. Many hours had been spent redeveloping the website. There is an interactive map of John Cook's photographs which were taken between 2001 and 2005. Members can take pictures now from the same place and we can then monitor changes that have taken place. Any help with this would be much appreciated.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Christine Manning, presented the accounts for the year. On the proposal by Jon Rollitt and seconded by Colin Garrett the accounts were adopted. She thanked Christopher for all his help.

5. **Election of Officers**

One nomination had been received for each office and the following were duly elected:

Chairman	Lindy Foster-Weinreb
Vice-Chairman	Paul Crosland/Barbara Gainsley
Treasurer	Christine Manning
Secretary	Miranda Cummins
Membership Secretary	Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby.

6. Election of Committee Members

Gordon Bluck has resigned from the main committee but will continue to serve on Townscape. Jenny Habib is resigning from both committees. Thanks to both for all their sterling work for the Citizens.

Rita Jones was elected last year and is therefore continuing for another year. Susan Johnson, Tony Statham, Dan Marsh and Kay Wraith were elected on to the committee.

There are still seven vacancies on the committee and we would love some more help.

7. Election of Auditors

On the motion of the Chairman, it was resolved that Colin Gray & Co. of Berkhamsted should continue as independent examiners of the accounts. This was proposed by Susan Johnson and seconded by Christopher Talbot-Ponsonby. Thanks were expressed for the work that they do.

Environment Award

Susan Johnson introduced the Award, commenting on the slides of the nine short-listed nominations. Sarah Caradec was thanked for her work in preparing the presentation. It was felt that none of the candidates merited a plaque. A Certificate of High Commendation was awarded to The David Cass Pavillion, Berkhamsted School Playing Fields, Chesham Road. This was received by Chris Grimsdale, Strategic Project Manager of Berkhamsted School and Gordon Innes, architect, of Conceptworld Ltd.

Talk:

Richard Backhouse, Head of Berkhamsted School, gave an excellent talk about Berkhamsted and its architecture, the history of the school and its current relationship with the town.

Open Forum:

Topics raised included the proposed multi-storey car park, street trees, street signs in the conservation area, pot holes and more flower planting in the town.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

..... (Chairman)

..... (Date)