

THE GODALMING TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19
and notice of Annual General Meeting



High Street from the Pepperpot

*Working
to maintain
our heritage
and quality
of life*

The Godalming Trust is an independent body, not funded by the Councils, and all activities are organised and staffed by volunteers. Its campaigning role needs the financial support and interest of all those who care for the Godalming of today and tomorrow.

info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk



Registered Charity No. 263033

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Annual General Meeting of The Godalming Trust will be held on Wednesday 4th September 2019 at The Masonic Hall, Ockford Road, Godalming at 7.30pm (doors open from 7.10pm)

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of the Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting
3. Chairman's welcome and introduction
4. Adoption of the Annual Report for 2018/2019
5. Adoption of Statements of Receipts and Payments for the year to 31 March 2019
6. Election of members of the Executive Committee for 2019/2020.
7. Election of new Committee Members*
8. Timing and date for future AGM
9. Any other Business

* The Committee would be pleased to hear from any member wishing to join the Executive. Please contact the Honorary Secretary prior to the Meeting

Following the Meeting we will celebrate 25 years of Heritage Open Days (only 24 in Godalming we think!) with drinks and nibbles and we will be inviting those who open their properties to join us at 8pm to say 'thank you' and to give you an opportunity to talk to them. There may also be some informal Heritage Open Days presentations.

The Godalming Trust
Officers and Committee

President	Christopher Robinson
Vice Presidents	Alan Brown Ron Musk
Executive Committee	Pam Talbot – Chairman Vacant – Vice Chairman Bridget Bagnall – Honorary Secretary Richard Gidlow – Honorary Treasurer Graham Kimber – Membership Colin Swait Pauline Scarsbrook – Web Manager Gareth Munro Caroline Hopkins
Planning Committee	Colin Swait – Chairman Gareth Munro Bridget Bagnall
Co-opted	Mike Poulter
Civic Design Awards Committee	Gareth Munro – Chairman Colin Swait
Heritage Open Days Committee	Pam Talbot – Chairman Colin Swait Caroline Hopkins

Can you help please?

One of our members is doing some research and is hoping to learn more about the Godalming Electricity Centenary Celebrations Committee, formed in 1981.

Were you on the Committee or involved in the celebrations at all? If you can help please let us know by email

info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk or in writing to

the Hon Secretary with any information you may have.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Godalming Trust held at The Masonic Hall, Godalming at 19.30 on Wednesday 5th September 2018

WELCOME BY THE CHAIR

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from: Ludi Lochner, Roger Humphrey, David Coombes, Val and Colin Venton

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes were approved unanimously and duly signed

3. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Copy attached. The Chairman did not repeat the contents of our Annual Report or the Minutes of the previous AGM but, in other matters she confirmed that, following the retirement from the committee of Jaqui Springsguth, Pauline Scarsbrook has been co-opted to help with our IT. She once again re-iterated the need to find new committee members, with more help required particularly over the Heritage Weekend, although the main venues had been covered by volunteers for this year. Generally this event now needed more organisation by The Trust than previously. The Chair thanked the Mayor for his attendance at the AGM and for his interest in the forthcoming Heritage Weekend.

GDPR had, this year, put extra pressure on the administration within the Trust. Gaining signatures and email addresses of members had certainly been a useful operation.

Of concern was the fact that the Trust website had been hacked although the matter has subsequently been rectified. It is known that the software requires updating and this will be further investigated.

The Chairman reported the sad death of Ron Head who had co-written the Town Walk leaflets and she thanked Jaqui Springsguth for all her work over a number of years on the Committee. Pauline Scarsbrook who has been co-opted onto the Executive Committee was formally welcomed

The Trust has updated its membership leaflets and has overseen the preparation and installation of a new blue plaque on Brook House Mint Street In conclusion the Chairman thanked the committee members for their work throughout the year and over heritage weekend and for the Masonic Hall for allowing the Trust to use their premises for their AGM

3.

4. ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017/2018

The Chairman called for comments on the Annual Report. There were none so this was adopted (Proposed by Tony Gordon Smith and seconded by John Talbot)

5. ADOPTION OF STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

The Chairman called for questions on the Statement of Receipts and Payments. There were none and these were accepted (Proposed by Angus Palmer and seconded by Colin Swait)

6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following agreed to stand for re-election: Pam Talbot (Chair), Colin Swait (Planning Committee), Bridget Bagnall (Hon. Secretary), Richard Gidlow (Hon. Treasurer), Graham Kimber (Membership), Gareth Munro, Caroline Hopkins. These Executive Committee members were re-elected unanimously (Proposed by Cathy Gordon Smith and seconded by Pauline Scarsbrook)

7. ELECTION OF PAULINE SCARBROOK TO THE COMMITTEE

PS has lived in the Godalming area since 1989, working in Human Resources in both the public and private sectors – she is a member of the Godalming Woolsack Rotary, the Surrey Care Trust and the Godalming Film Society (Her election was proposed by Colin Swait and seconded by John Talbot)

8. AOB

1) The timing of future AGM's was discussed as the Annual Report duplicates much of the Spring Newsletter. The alternative of moving the AGM had been considered but in view of the Civic Design Award presentations this was considered unavoidable and the AGM would be held in the early autumn for the foreseeable future. This proposal met with no objections from the floor.
2) PT announced that due to special circumstances, the Masonic Centre would not be opening for Heritage Weekend in 2018 and that the 2.30 bell ringing at St Peter's and St Paul's Church is likely to be cancelled. CS informed the meeting that there would be bell ringing in Dunsfold over the 8th/9th weekend and that Hascombe Church would be open over the 15/16th with bell ringing. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 19.45. This was followed by drinks and then the presentation of the bi-annual Civic Design Awards which had been organised by Gareth Munro and Caroline Hopkins. The Mayor, Nick Williams, kindly presented the certificates

CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION 2019

Our Annual Report follows which I hope you will find informative.

However, in this brief introduction as Chairman I wish to highlight the fact that the Executive Committee would really appreciate feedback from our members – it is your Society. Are we keeping you sufficiently informed? Could we do more? Are we doing what you would expect us to do? Please do let us know, at our AGM, by email or in writing to the Hon Secretary. Contact details are on page 10.

As you will see from the report by our Hon Treasurer our finances remain in good shape. This year we have received a generous donation but have yet to decide how best to use this money. We are considering several proposals and would welcome additional ones from the membership.

We are facing a problem with regard to recruitment to The Godalming Trust. This is not unique and many organisations are facing similar difficulties, some, in fact, are failing to survive. We really do not want this to happen to our Trust, so please do help us by giving us your feedback and recruiting new members. You might even consider helping on the Executive Committee or one of the Sub-Committees.

What we really need are additional committee members, in part to support the organisation of Heritage Open Days (HOD), but also help with other aspects of the Trust activities such as publications and publicity. The HOD national requirements (now run by the National Trust and operative throughout the country) are becoming ever more demanding. The only way we can continue to deal with this is to increase the Sub-Committee to cover these elements of the organisation.

The report by the Planning Sub Committee highlights the problems we face with some planning applications which, although we are not happy with, national and local policies mean there is little we can legitimately object to. We do, of course, support applications where we feel that the scheme enhances an area.

On a positive note, the summer walks continue to attract a good number of participants. Last year Hugh Turrall-Clark announced he would step down as walk leader. However, we persuaded him to continue for this summer and Graham Kimber will take over the walks in future, with help from other members of the Committee. We would like to thank Hugh sincerely for his support over the many years he has guided the walks.

The joint Godalming Museum/Godalming Trust summer lunch took place at Jordans this year by kind permission of Anthony and Jenny Isaacs. There was an opportunity to explore the beautiful gardens, which are not usually open to the public, before and after the lunch.

We are always sad to hear of the death of members and send our condolences to their families. This year I will note two in particular: Karen Bryant, who for many years was the Hon Secretary of the Godalming Trust and Michael Edwards RIBA, who many of you will have heard speak with enthusiasm on the work of Sir Edwin Lutyens.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their continuing and great support, along with all those who support Heritage Open Days, our main event of the year, in a number of ways.

Do please support the Trust - at its AGM, and the Heritage Open Days, as well as the lecture series beginning in the autumn. And finally, do please spend a few moments to consider if you, or someone you know, could spare a few hours a month by becoming a Trust Committee member and helping it, not only to survive but to continue to flourish.

Treasurer's Report

We have again had a rather quiet year in terms of financial transactions. The main difference this year has been the decision, welcome by ourselves, by Godalming Town Council to take over directly the major printing costs of the Heritage Open Days Weekend. We therefore no longer receive their usual contributions. I say welcome by ourselves, in that we were unable previously to reclaim VAT that had been charged to us on the costs of publishing and advertising of the Open Day Weekend. So we have saved some money, in that the contribution received was never quite sufficient to cover all our costs. Godalming Town Council have also benefited in that they have been able to reclaim the VAT charged. Good news all round.

Our finances continue to remain healthy. We have been fortunate to have received a very generous one off donation this year. The Committee have yet to decide exactly how best to use this Donation. The main expenditure during the year again related to our Website, in that this year 2 of the committee had to go on a training course in order to be able to maintain the site following a change of personnel, our newsletters and other publicity material including a

re-design of our leaflet. Insurance and postage costs have risen this year as well. We did of course incur Civic Design Award costs for our Biennial Award scheme.

I must thank members for their continued support of the Godalming Trust through their membership fees and a special thank you to those who pay over and above that which is due.

Richard Gidlow
Honorary Treasurer

THE GODALMING TRUST

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Subscriptions	1,538	1,375
Gifts and Donations	1,000	234
Bank Interest	6	129
Town Council Grant	-	1,200
Sale of Publications	-	120
HMRC Gift Aid	294	927
	2,838	3,985
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Insurance	310	196
Postage and Stationery	351	169
Subscriptions	115	95
Heritage Open Day	-	1,593
Website	365	616
Newsletter	445	172
Band Sponsorship	-	200
AGM and Other Events and Costs	64	103
Blue Plaque Donation	-	308
Leaflet Design	462	-
Civic Design Awards	334	-
	2,446	3,452
2019 SURPLUS / 2018 SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	392	533
Bank Balance brought Forward	12,742	12,209
Bank Balance carried forward	£ 13,134	£ 12,742

Planning Committee Report 2019

Godalming Trust was invited, together with the Civic Societies of Haslemere, Farnham and Cranleigh in July 2018 to attend a Peer review of Planning Decision taking and stakeholder engagement. This was under the local government association's auspices. We were able to contribute our frustrations on the lack of involvement and resources available for adequate roads and infrastructure by local government with National Government allowing automatic conversion of office buildings to flats.

We have since met on a number of occasions which has been useful. We opposed the site at Broom and Lees on the grounds that it was in the Green Belt for good reasons. The development at Aarons Hill, we considered that whilst it was good for Green Oaks Primary School and therefore we did not object, unless the Developer could find a way of improving access to the A3 and also Ockford Road, we did not feel it was viable. For the same reasons, the site opposite Milford Golf Course did not have the right access to join Church Road unless the Developer came up with a solution.

Additional floors to offices in Catteshall Lane did not find favour with us and the virtual demolition of an existing building before all consents were in place resulted in strong words to Waverley for not acting on this. We highlighted this on our Facebook page!

There have been a number of applications for subdivision of modest plots into two separate dwellings which we have opposed.

We were pleased to support a well thought out application to enlarge a successful business at the Old Forge which involved consultation with employees to get the best working environment for them.

Colin Swait

Chairman – Godalming Trust Planning sub-committee.

Forthcoming Events

Heritage Open Days – Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September 2019

Godalming Museum and Godalming Trust Autumn – Winter Lecture Series

Wednesday 16 October 2019

Town and gown: Godalming and Charterhouse. By Catherine Smith, Charterhouse Archivist.

Wednesday 20 November 2019

Darwin and Huxley's dilemma. By Dr John Bennett, Geologist.

Wednesday 15 January 2020

Norman architecture in England. By Professor Eric Fernie CBE (Former Director of the Courtauld Institute of Art, London).

Wednesday 25 March 2020

Saxon life and death – a unique cemetery in Godalming. By Rob Poulton, Senior Archaeologist, Surrey County Archaeological Unit.

The lectures take place in the Octagon, (St Peter and St Paul's Church), Godalming at 7.30 for 8pm. Tickets £5 will be available in the Museum or at the door.

Should you wish to contact the Trust on any issue please write to Bridget Bagnall, Honorary secretary, 2 Brook House, New Pond Road, Compton GU3 1JL info@thegodalmingtrust.org.uk

The Godalming Trust is a Registered Charity No. 263033 and the Website is www.thegodalmingtrust.org.uk