

North Staffordshire National Trust Association
Draft Minutes of the 44th AGM at the North Staffs Conference Centre, 21st May 2024

Richard Adams welcomed 71 members to the AGM. There were 9 apologies.

Chairman's opening remarks: Ralph thanked the committee for all their hard work, Kay for maintaining our archives, Anthea and Hazel for organising and introducing our talks, and Marion for organising and co-ordinating our events programme. Thanks too to the many people who suggest and/or organise individual events and attend the planning meetings to discuss events.

Marion has advised that she wishes to step down within the next 12 months; anyone interested is invited to contact her or any committee member to discuss taking over.

Ralph thanked John Spriggs, who continues to do an excellent job as editor of our newsletter and as our webmaster on www.northstaffsnt.org.uk.

Ralph thanked Roger Cartlidge, who has now retired from the committee after many years' service to the association. Roger has organised and led numerous successful events, often with Shirley by his side, and has also acted as liaison between us and the conference centre.

The minutes of the 43rd AGM: were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

The minutes of the EGM in October: were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Richard said that the membership total is now 240, which includes about 10 people who are non-members of the National Trust. He extended a special welcome to them. Richard felt that we could be cautiously confident that the Covid years are now behind us and that we can look forward to the future, albeit with a reduced membership.

In the 12 months up to the end of March we enjoyed 25 different events. 7 varied and fascinating talks, the AGM and an EGM, 3 walks, 6 car outings and 3 coach trips. There were two social events, and not one but two holidays - 5 days in Northumberland and a long weekend in Salisbury.

Treasurer's Report: Huw presented the accounts for 2023-24, copies of which had been distributed. Our finances remain in good shape, with a surplus of £1,496 over the year bringing our reserves at the end of the year to £15,869. We made one donation, of £300 to Mompesson House, and expect to make a more substantial donation to Biddulph Grange shortly.

Huw thanked James Scott of Hardings Chartered Accountants for examining the accounts.

The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

Subscription level for next year: The meeting agreed to keep subscriptions for 2024-25 unchanged at £12 for individual members and £8 for further members at the same address.

Approval for re-election: The meeting was asked for approval to waive the requirement in our constitution for committee members to stand down after 5 years. Agreed.

Election of officers and committee: There were no new nominations.

The following were put forward for re-election, and all were elected:

Chair	Ralph White
Vice Chair	(vacant)
Treasurer	Huw Davies
Secretary	Richard Adams
Committee	Phil Alcock, Cynthia Dumbelton, Marion Lycett, Jane Mayer, John Pedrazzini, John Spriggs, Sue Till, Bob Winter

AOB: None.

The meeting closed at 7.22pm.