



MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on TUESDAY 10 January 2023, on Zoom video platform

Present:

Jean Letherby, Robyn Pender, Diana Rowsell, Sherry Bates, Alasdair Glass, Amy McAuley, John Hudson, Juliet Johnson, Karen Butti, Keri Dearmer, Matthew Williams, Paddy Elson, Richard Woolf, Virginia Wedgwood, Jackie Heath, Alex Valmarana, Michael Beare, John Fidler, Charles Wagner, Alan Johnson, Colin Kerr, D1john, R Mueller, Fiona Raley, Janice Gooch, Jenny Freeman, Luke England, Robert Law, Helen Axworthy, Jaideep Chakrabati, Janie Price, Keith Bennett, Anna Joynt

The ASCHB Chair, Sherry Bates, welcomed Michael Beare as our new President and handed over him to chair the AGM meeting. Michael welcomed members to the 2022/3 AGM and took the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

Paul Beckett, Chris Wood, Jocelyn Cunliffe, Robert Bowles, Rena Pitsilli-Graham

ACTION

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Subject to some typographical errors which have been corrected since the draft minutes were circulated, the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 21 September 2021 on video platform at, were accepted as a true record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023

Activities

Meetings and Visits since last AGM and Conference

Events List since last AGM 21/09/21:

Tuesday 21 October 2021 - Spring Path Burial Site: A symbolic way station in Olaudah Equiano's Jamaica, Linda Sturtz, - Zoom webinar

Tuesday 10 February 2022 - ASCHB Virtual Tour of the Venice Biennale - Alexandra di Valmarana - Zoom webinar

Tuesday 8 March 2022 - 54a High Street Barnet: Discovering an Early Timber-framed Building - Sherry Bates - Zoom Webinar

Tuesday 26 April 2022 - Conservation of the Teak Window Assemblies at the Salk Institute or Biological Studies - Susan Macdonald, Kyle Normandin, Kenneth Itle, and Deborah Slaton - Zoom Webinar

Tuesday 10th May 2022 - SPAB's Repair Projects: St Andrew's Chapel, Boxley Abbey and Kibworth Harcourt Windmill - Matthew Slocombe and Jonny Garlick - In-person meeting at Cowcross Street

Tuesday 14 June 2022 - Fixing Friable Fabric: brick and terracotta repairs to the 1915 First Congregational Church of Long Beach - John Fidler - Zoom webinar

Tuesday 8 November 2022 - Lewes Curtain Wall Collapse - Sarah Tattersall and Diccon Hart - Hybrid Zoom and in-person meeting

Tuesday December 2022 - ICOMOS Guidelines on Protecting Our Cultural Heritage from Fires, and a repeat of Jane Sidell's talk on The Mithraeum.

Visits

Wednesday 25 May 2022 - Visit to Turner's Sandycombe Lodge - Gary Butler

Friday 17 June 2022 - Visit - A New Life: Saving the Mansion, and the Future of the Stables and Camellia House at Wentworth Woodhouse - Sarah Mcleod, Gez Pegram and Dorian Proudfoot.

Future Events

We shall continue to include webinars in our future event programmes. Further webinars will be announced by email and on our website. So please ensure that we have your email address and do look at the website.

Meetings at Cowcross Street and other events are now being booked.

Future Events

24/01/23 Zoom - Matthew Webster - Bray School

14/02/23 Hybrid -Michael Beare - Standards and factors of Safety in Engineering, Relevance to the historic Environment?

28/02/23 Zoom - Robyn Pender -

07/03/23 Hybrid - Sarah Tattersall - Canterbury Cathedral

24/03/23 In-person - Conference: Solutions in the light of Climate Change

11/04/23 Hybrid - Forum: Embodied Carbon

25/04/23 Zoom - Amy McAuley - Mount Vernon - confirmed

16/05/23 Hybrid - Victoria Perry – Book presentation tbc

30/05/23 Zoom - Venice Brickwork tba

13/06/23 Hybrid - Clifford Tower, York tba

Visits in the process of arrangement by our northern group- York City Walls & York Minster, Beverley Minster and Clayton Hall Manchester

Transactions

John Hudson is *Transactions* editor assisted by Matthew Williams.

Volume 44 has been published since the 2021 AGM. Volume 44 is the last to be published by Cathedral Communications.

The contents are as follows:

The Orangery at Kensington Palace,

Lee Prosser

a Masterpiece of the English Baroque

Norwich Castle, a Royal Palace Reborn:
Inception, Design and Investigation

Erin Davidson

Inclusive Heritage: from Significance to Value(s)
In Critical Heritage Practice.

Kate Clark

Beyond Notre Dame: Fire and Limestone

Steve Emery

Barholm Old Hall Dovecote:
a Case Study in the Use of Earthen Mortar

Peter Rawlings

Recollections of a Conservation Architect

Alasdair Glass

Enslavement, Truth-telling and the Pursuit of Stolen Identities at Good Hope Estate, Jamaica

Ke Vaughan Harding

No 54a Barnet High Street, London:
Discovering an Early Timber-framed Building

Sherry Bates

As Sherry reported last time, John Hudson led negotiations on a change of publisher following the announcement by Cathedral Communications that they would not be able to continue publishing our journal. The publisher for volume 45 will be Hall McCartney.

John and Matthew are preparing an edition comprising 7 articles. Those include a further article by Steve Emery on fire, another by Lee Prosser on Hatfield Wall Painting, Nick Wright on 31a Grove End Road, St John's Wood, studio for the sculptor Sir William Dick and adapted as a family home by architects Colin St John Wilson and MJ Long. Bill Bordass' overview of climate change issues will be the lynchpin of the volume.

Committee Matters

Committee: Karen Butti, Keri Dearmer, Paul Beckett, Robyn Pender, Anthony Fensome, Jackie Heath, John Hudson, Diana Rowsell, Alex di Valmarana, Matthew Williams, Richard Woolf & Sherry Bates.

Colin Kerr has resigned. I should like to take this opportunity to thank him for his contributions to ASCHB over the years. We trust that he will continue to offer suggestions for talks and share with us his investigations into the theory and philosophy of the conservation of the historic environment.

Karen Butti and Jackie Heath continue in their roles as treasurer and secretary.

Committee members will be standing for re-election at this AGM.

Sherry encouraged any members here who can to volunteer to join the committee too or to offer their help in a supporting role. The committee stands at 14. ASCHB as an organisation can only operate if its members step forward to help run it. He requested that anyone interested please talk to him or one of the other committee members.

Membership

Current members (at 9 January 2023): 292

11 honorary

Joined 2022: 9

Resigned/ lost members 2022: 16

Died

Reverend Canon Jeffery West died in December.

In 1974 Jeffery joined the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate at the Department of the Environment and became an Assistant Inspector (1974–79) and an Inspector (1979–81). He was then seconded as Principal, Local Government Finance, Department of the Environment (1981–83) and later became Principal Inspector of Historic Buildings at what was to become English Heritage (1983–86). He continued at English Heritage becoming Regional Director of Historic Properties (Midlands and East Anglia) between 1986 and 1997; Director of Conservation Management (1998–2002)[5] and Policy Director (2002–2005).

In 2005 he took the decision to train for the priesthood and was ordained in 2008. In 2012 he was appointed Rural Dean for Deddington in the Episcopal Area of Dorchester. From 2009 to 2014 he was Chairman of the Cotswold Conservation Board. In 2017 he became an Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

Wyndham Westerdale died in August this year. After studying architecture at Bath and Portsmouth, he took a masters degree in conservation at Manchester University. He worked variously with the London borough of Newham, the Inner London Education Authority and Crampin and Pring before joining Acanthus Architects. When they merged with Scott Brownrigg he became technical director. Among the projects he worked on were the repair and conservation of Hogarth's House in Chiswick and the old control tower at Hendon Aerodrome. He also adapted Hertford Brewery.

Peter Elliott, an engineer based in Scotland and John How and Bob McWilliam have also passed away.

Our membership drive continues.

We also have a number of subscribers largely North American and European Universities.

We are still short of email addresses but a lot of our communications are by email and our mail continues to reduce.

Many still pay by standing order but internet transfers are increasing. If you pay by standing order you should remember the subscription increased to £50.

Constitution

No proposed changes to the constitution, for next year but the committee will continue to review the constitution on a regular basis.

Insurance

During the last year we have again renewed insurance to cover members and third party liabilities and trustees indemnities. This is a special charity insurance package underwritten by Ecclesiastical Insurance Group.

Social Media & Communications

The Website

The web site has been up and running at www.aschb.org.uk for several years

We owe a deep gratitude to all the committee members who keep it up to date. This together with social media has greatly helped to raise the public profile of ASCHB and increase awareness of our activities. We shall continue to use these tools to disseminate what we do.

The website now has a members' area, which is an exciting new resource. We propose to place there all back issues of Transactions prior to the last three years. These will be readable, but low resolution for copyright protection reasons. This facility will enable members to look at back issues for interest or

research purposes to check the relevance of an article to their work. Higher resolution copies will be available as usual.

We are also refreshing the images on the website. So if any of you have good photographs of interesting conservation projects that you would like to be considered, do email them to us.

Our twitter account is now no longer used. You can search us on Instagram. We now have a Youtube channel too which we shall be using to show recorded talks and webinars. The talks from the last conference are currently in final edit.

Mail Chimp and Eventbrite

We use these for communication with members and for ticketing. Their use is increasing.

Webinars

They have been discussed under events above. These will continue and we will continue to experiment with the format.

Bequests and Finances

The Paul Calvocoressi bequest remains secure and we still wish to use it to endow a prize or bursary. Currently it is insufficient in itself to endow a significant prize or bursary.

We reported last time that Brian Young had died. Due to Covid his Memorial Service only took place in 2022. The collection from that service was donated to three conservation bodies of which ASCHB was one.

Karen will report in detail on the Association's finances.

As previously reported, the subscription has now been raised to £50 per annum.

President

Jean Letherby has been president for more than three years now and has played a very active role in the leadership of the Association. She has now stepped down and will, if elected, rejoin the committee.

The committee has asked Michael Beare to be our next president and he has kindly agreed. Michael has had a long and distinguished career as a structural engineer of historic buildings and has also engaged in significant research into the use of traditional materials particularly lime mortars. After running his own practice, he has joined another ASCHB member James Miller at CTP as a consultant.

Michael Beare asked whether we have a list of members in the members area. It was thought that consent may be required and agreed that the committee would look into this. Colin Kerr raised the issue that one concern might be that the list might leak into the public arena and be used for commercial purposes which would not be acceptable. Alex Valmarana highlighted that ASCHB has a LinkedIn group which contains members and non members, however it might be possible to set up a group that was members only.

4. REPORT FROM THE HONORARY TREASURER

The year has been a fairly straight forward year. The accounts were presented.

£21,801 total income, expenditure £21,901 so we have broken even.

We are not legally obliged to have accounts examined as our turnover is lower than the threshold and we have not had accounts examined however our intention is to have them examined from time to time.

The meeting received the accounts.

5	<p>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</p> <p>The President proposed the officers: Election of the Office of Chairman -Sherry Bates, Office of Honorary Secretary - Jackie Heath, Office of Honorary Treasurer - Karen Butti This was carried unanimously.</p>	
6	<p>ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE</p>	
	<p>The President proposed the committee Keri Dearmer, Paul Beckett, Robyn Pender, Anthony Fensome, John Hudson, Diana Rowsell, Alex di Valmarana, Matthew Williams, Richard Woolf Charles Wagner Jean Letherby were re-elected unanimously.</p>	
6.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Michael Beare noted that there is a Phd project at Bath university to develop a specification for new terracotta to match the production of variable appearance rather than uniform terracotta.</p> <p>Colin Kerr commented that in Manchester the Holy Trinity Church Platfields remained clean and was built from terracotta. He wondered whether the study included a study of a building built from terracotta.</p> <p>Jon Fidler noted that the Americans make a lot of blocks oversize and cut with diamond saw to size, meaning the fire skin is lost. He also noted that the church mentioned by Colin was cleaned with hydrofluoric acid which denuded its fire skin.</p> <p>MB noted that buff colour comes from the china clay kaolin, A brief discussion ensued on the constituents of terracotta.</p> <p>Richard Woolf is pleased ASCHB has a youtube channel and wondered where we will host the conference video which is funded by Historic England. It was agreed that the hosting will be on both Historic England Site and ASCHB channel.</p> <p>Alasdair Glass asked John Fidler for an update on revising Bernard Feilden’s Conservation of Historic Buildings book. JF is about half way through updating and expanding to two volumes and it should be ready next year.</p> <p>JF noted that early ASCHB meetings at the Institution of Archaeology were intimate and quite private gatherings allowing speakers to be willing to share errors and frank opinions. It was agreed that in the hybrid meetings there will topics that it may not be appropriate to record, keeping the Chatham House style</p>	
	<p>There were no further matters of any other business and this concluded the meeting.</p>	
	<p>Information@aschb.org.uk</p> <p>Signed..... (Chairman Sherry Bates) Prepared by Jackie Heath Hon Sec</p>	

