

**Minutes of the Thirty Seventh Annual General Meeting
of the Friends of the Suffolk Record Office
held on the 22nd May 2019 at 6.30 pm
The Banqueting Room
The Guildhall, Guildhall Street
Bury St Edmunds Suffolk**

1-Introduction and Welcome The Chair was taken by Mrs Sarah Doig. Mrs Doig welcomed all those present and thanked everyone for attending. A list of attendees is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

2Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Clare Countess of Euston (President) Miss Amanda Arrowsmith (Vice President) The Marquess of Bristol (Vice President) Dr Paul Gurbut, Dr Sushil Soni, Mrs J Robinson, Mr M Hickman, Mrs C Buchanan, The Earl of Iveagh, Mrs F Gander, Mr I Gander, Major P Hope-Cobbold, Mrs P Steele , Mr S Mynott, Mr A Cobbold, Dr A Davies, Mrs A Davies, Dr A Berry, Professor M Lang, Dr P Simmons, Mrs M Duncan, Mrs V Irwin, Mrs J Sheehan, Mr V Grey, Mr R Whitehand.

3-Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 23rd May 2018.

The minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held in Ipswich were signed as a correct record. Proposed by Stephen Dart and seconded by Mrs Margaret Statham and duly approved by those present

4-Chairmans' Report

Mrs Doig presented her report a copy of which is attached to the minutes. She confirmed that FOSRO had a successful year in purchasing documents including an 18th century Court Book. This had been partly funded by a member's donation and by two local history societies. She thanked the committee for their support during the year and informed the meeting that a new secretary and treasurer would be required by the 2020 Annual General Meeting if not before.

5-Financial Report

Mrs Doig presented the audited accounts for the year 1/1/2018 to 31/12/2018 in the absence of the Treasurer. A copy of the financial statement is attached to these minutes. The income from all sources for the year was £4,491.72, and expenditure £ 2,173.42. The £150,000 Garfield Weston Grant had been obtained by FOSRO for the Hold. It was in a restricted reserve account and the amount plus interest earned was to be paid over to Suffolk County Council Hold on completion of the hold in the March of 2020 Proposed by Mr R G Thomas and seconded by Mrs P Mackie and duly approved by the meeting

6 Appointment of Honorary Auditor

Mr Stephen Cook had agreed to continue as the Honorary Auditor. Proposed by Mr M Taylor and seconded by Mrs M Statham and duly approved by the meeting

7 Election of -Appointment of President and Vice Presidents

Clare Countess of Euston President was appointed President.

The following had been nominated as Vice Presidents.

The Marquis of Bristol, Dr Jane Fiske, Miss Amanda Arrowsmith, Mr Tim Greenacre, Dr Paul Simmons.

Proposed by Mr S Dart and seconded by Mrs C Barker and duly carried en bloc and approved by the meeting

8-Election of Officers

The following nominations had been received

Chairman	Mrs Sarah Doig
Vice Chairman	Mrs Betty Milburn
Treasurer	Mrs Frances Gander
Honorary Secretary	Mr Robert Houlton-Hart

Mrs S Doig thanked the officers and committee for their work and support during the year. She commented that a new secretary and new treasurer would be required at the latest by the next Annual General Meeting as the current occupants were standing down. Mrs Gander had agreed to continue as membership secretary.

Proposed by Mr R G Thomas and seconded by Mrs M Statham and duly carried en bloc and approved by the meeting.

9-Election of the Committee

The following nominations had been received

Mrs Margaret Statham, Mr Gwyn Thomas, Mr Robin Burnett, Mr Stephen Dart.
Mr Ray Whitehand.

Proposed by Mr R Houlton-Hart and seconded by Mrs S Izod-Quay and duly carried en bloc and approved by the meeting.

10 Record Office Report.

Miss K Chantry presented a report on the Suffolk Record Office long journey towards service transformation outlining the changes that have happened and those yet to happen along the way. She outlined the firm foundations from the first stage HLF bid, the site and building procurement process and the award of provisional archive accreditation and the transformation of the Bury and Lowestoft Record Office Spaces. Staff consultation was underway and plans advanced for the move.

11 The Hold Update

Amy Rushton showed slides showing progress on The Hold and gave members an update. It was hoped that practical completion would be in March 2020 with an opening ceremony in May 2020. A lot depended on the drying out of the strong rooms which were being sealed.

The formal business concluded at 7.05 pm