

GLAMORGAN HISTORY SOCIETY CYMDEITHAS HANES MORGANNWG

Registered Charity Number 511498

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held at Glamorgan Archives on 11 May 2024 at 2.45pm.

25 members attended whose names are recorded on the attendance sheet.

1. Chairman's address

The Chairman, Professor John Tucker, welcomed members to the meeting. This year has seen a largely new team of officers in operation who are working well together, ensuring that we continue to be resilient and successful. He confirmed that the archives of the Society are held on deposit at Glamorgan Archives, and that they start at the Society's inception in 1950. This makes 2024 the 74th year of Society, with next year our 75th, and something special will be put in place to note the occasion.

The Chairman thanked Glamorgan Archives for hosting the AGM, and West Glamorgan Archive Service for supporting the distribution of Morgannwg. During the year the Chairman had attended the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative prize ceremony, held at the Waterfront Museum. The Society continues to support the Patricia Moore Prize, which he presented. He noted that he was struck by the number of schools represented, with so much activity on display.

2. Apologies

John Charles, Hugh Clatworthy, John Curtis, Elaine Davey, Wayne David MP, Peggy George, Peter Henry, Prof. Bill Jones, David Leron, Revd. Brian Lodwick, Dr John Morgan-Guy, Prof. Prys Morgan, Annie Owen, Malcolm Ridge, Hilary Thomas, Stella Thomas.

3. Minutes

These were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Secretary's report

This has been the Secretary's first year in her role. She thanked the officers and Council members for their supported, and thanked the members for bearing with her as she learned the ropes.

A successful Autumn Day School, with good attendance, took place on the theme of 'A World of New Ideas: Knowledge and Glamorgan in the Long 18th Century', to mark the 300th anniversary of the birth of Dr Richard Price in 1723. Thanks to our speakers, Mr Paul Frame, Dr Marion Loeffler and Prof. Mary-Ann Constantine.

Arrangements are in place for the 2024 Autumn Day School to be held on Saturday 2 November, at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend. The theme will be 'Exporting Innovations: Glamorgan's Industrial Diasporas'. Prof. Bill Jones, Mr Huw Williams and Dr Victoria Donovan have been confirmed as speakers.

Funding has been secured to support the costs of the Autumn Day, and we are grateful to the South Wales Institute of Engineers Educational Trust for their generous support.

A letter of support was provided to the Norwegian Church in Cardiff for funding for its new project to explore and record the history of the Norwegian Seamen's Mission in Glamorgan. The application was successful, and will result in at least one article for publication in Morgannwg.

The Secretary noted that the Society is happy to support projects and circulate notices etc. as a helpful partner.

The Secretary took the opportunity to make an appeal to members who have email addresses, but have not yet provided them to the Society, to do so. Communicating by email is quicker and easier, and also reduces postage costs which have increased significantly of late.

6. Treasurer

The Treasurer began by thanking Cecilia Ali for her work on the accounts.

He presented the financial report for the year ending 31 December 2023. Expenditure during the year had amounted to £3,935 against an income of £4,996, resulting in a surplus of £1,061. Total assets amounted to £6,529.21. Membership stood at 272 (217 personal members, 34 institutions and 18 local history societies). 18 new members had joined during the year as against 33 deaths and resignations.

There is a shortfall in income this year as 103 members have yet to update their subscriptions from £10 to the new fee of £15. There was a suggestion from the floor that we consider the lower £10 fee as a donation and suspend membership benefits until the payment is amended. This will be discussed by Council.

The costs of printing Morgannwg will be explored further by Council.

The Treasurer reiterated the Secretary's appeal for members to supply email addresses to help with reducing postage costs.

7. Editor's report

The distribution of Morgannwg at the Autumn Day proved very – almost too - successful. Extra copies were purchased on the day and, as a result, not enough were left to dispatch by post to members. Some Council members gave up their volumes to ensure copies could be mailed out.

The Editor thanked Kim Collis for his help over years in distributing Morgannwg from West Glamorgan Archive Service. Future arrangements for the dispatch of the volumes are under consideration, and contact will be made with the new West Glamorgan County Archivist, once appointed.

Preparation of the 2024 issue of Morgannwg is underway. Articles in hand include a study of the Parish of Llandaff based on parish magazines, the Norwegian Seamen's Mission, the Barry Railway and the first Indian doctor in the Rhondda. The Editor already has some articles in hand for the 2025 volume.

The Editor encouraged members to consider submission of short notes of 1000-2000 words exploring upcoming research and work in hand 1000-2000 words.

As the sole editor, some problems have been encountered. We have an ambitious portfolio for Morgannwg, including shorter book notices, a periodicals overview, and a websites review. The Editor can't undertake all this work alone, so has reduced the content, although formal book reviews and reports from the record offices continue, along with the archaeology notes.

The Editor is working hard to secure a wider portfolio of reviewers. Please contact her with suggestions for books for review, and potential reviewers. The Editor is very much a medievalist / very early modernist, and therefore intends to create an informal panel of individuals with expertise in different areas in order to support her. This will be discussed at the next Council meeting. Please put your name forward to Council if you would be prepared to become part of this advisory team, or would like to take on any of the smaller roles discussed in order to support the Editor in her work.

The Editor confirmed that the deadline for submission of content to Morgannwg is the end of May.

8. Election of officers and members of Council

Council nominations for officers and for additional Council members were:

Chairman:	Professor John Tucker
Treasurer:	The Very Revd Dr Sebastian M Jones
Secretary:	Mrs Rhian Diggins
Editor of Morgannwg:	Professor Madeleine Gray

Members of Council (2024–2027): Stephen Rowson, Huw Williams

No further nominations had been received. The above were therefore elected.

Agreed unanimously.

9. Any other business

The Chairman noted that the RISW Local History Book Fair will take place at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea on Sunday 29 September. If anyone is interested in representing the Society at this event please contact the Secretary.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.10pm. Following the meeting Dr Elin Jones spoke on 'From the Coal Face to the Eisteddfod Chair: The Life and Times of Evan Rees'.

Signed as a true record of proceedings

..... [Chairman]

..... [Date]