

## **Committee report to AGM 7th July 2022**

The last traditional AGM was held before Covid struck. Last year we had a two year catch up by correspondence. Now we're able to meet again.

Throughout this time we have actively furthered all of our objectives thanks in part to modern technology but also thanks to the continuing support and encouragement of members and the ongoing efforts of all those on the Committee. We have expanded our oral and picture archives, aided heritage and community events in the town, refurbished blue plaques, commented on important planning issues and applications as well as organising the more public talks programme.

It was a first for us to have organised zoom talks and to see how popular they were. Once lockdowns ended, numbers quickly resumed attending the talks in the Cygnet room, culminating in an absolutely full to the brim house in March this year with Tim Howson's talk on the medieval High Street. The members survey last summer enabled the Committee to reconnect with what the membership wanted. New members continue to join each month and at June stood at 125 compared with 105 a year earlier.

Margaret Day, who was our President, is of course irreplaceable and that position remains vacant for the time being. Wendy Howell was always going to be a hard act to follow after so many years as Secretary, but we were pleased to welcome Virginia Playle to undertake our minutes. We would welcome anyone else committed to our aims to come forward too. With the prospective purchase of new equipment for example we know extra hands are needed to help with the transfer of our picture archives. If this or anything else might interest you let us know - you can be coopted at any time during the year and try us out.

Our treasurer Lindsey Wright has produced her report on our accounts and for this AGM includes a three year overview of our income and expenditure. She mentions that with our subscriptions we are aiming to move towards individual membership for everyone, but not in one go.

Meanwhile she has also updated our list of assets - mainly furniture and equipment at the Maeldune Centre and equipment used at home by those generating our archives. (*Copies of the asset list are available on request.*)

So, our work continues unabated and in good order and our expanding membership gives us confidence we are meeting member expectations. Of course do let us know if not! *Judy Lea Chairman, on behalf of the Committee*